



2024 National Competition Guidelines

RULE CHANGES AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
ARE IN RED

(WWW.DANCEDEA.COM, Rules).

ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS:

- **Dance Educators of America, Inc. is a non-profit teaching organization that requires sportsman like behavior.**
- **To participate in the National Competition, teachers along with their competing students **MUST** be registered for the National Convention Workshop and National Competition using the Dance Educators of America, Inc. registration system.**
- **Please ensure accuracy of the dancer's age (as of January 1 of the Tour Season) and the spelling of their name, routine, and music.**
- **A teacher or student may register for only the National Workshop Classes and does not have to compete in the competition.**
- **Teachers and students using National Scholarships will be required to**

stay at the host hotel under the official Dance Educators of America, Inc. room block. No third party or hotel sites are accepted. The name of the host hotel staying in, name of the person that the room is registered under, and the room number will be collected for all those using Scholarships to the National event. If the teacher and the student are not registered at the host hotel the scholarship will become invalid and the student will be charged the workshop fee. Any student using a scholarship must compete in either the National Finals or the Title Competition.

- **Routines with the exact same dancers may compete at the Dance Educators of America, Inc. National Competition but are eligible to win only one (1) award in the same Age Category/Entry Type.**
- **Teachers and students are required to purchase a banquet ticket for the National Awards Banquet that the student is competing in.**
- **If the Owner/Teacher or Salaried Employee or Assistant Teacher is competing in a routine, the routine must be submitted on a Semi-Professional Level.**
- **Adjudication Only, Pre-Competitive and Semi-Professional Class Levels and Pre-Small Fry, Extended/Senior and Adult Age Categories routines are not eligible for DEA Dollars, Scholarships, and/or High Score Awards; but will be awarded a Medal and Pins.**

REGISTRATION:

- **All registration must be done using Dance Educators of America, Inc. registration system.**
- **Entries will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis, and will be limited to the amount of competition time available.**
- **Once a competition is announced as SOLD OUT, a **nonrefundable 50%** deposit fee will be required of studios who would like to guarantee their competition routines and the **registered** routines will be guaranteed at the time the deposit is received.**
- **From the Dashboard Registration Box that contains the National Competition Registration, click “Upload Music,” and upload the routine’s Music. **Music must be received 10 days prior to the event or a late charge of \$50.00 will be added to the registration.****
- **Download the “Dance Educators of America, Inc. Participant Waiver**

and Release” form (click “Download Waiver Form”) from the registration box. Everyone that is participating in a Dance Educators of America, Inc. event must complete the Waiver Form and return it to the Dance Educators of America, Inc. office to be eligible to take the workshop or compete. All waivers must be sent to the office in pdf format, 5 days prior to the start of the event. The file must contain the studio name and city in which they are competing. **A waiver is not necessary if the studio has a current waiver on file from another Dance Educators of America, Inc. event in the current year.**

- **Media Fee:** Every student that is registered for the competition will be charged a media fee. This fee includes all photos and videos from the event.
- **Dakiki App:** Parents and teachers need to download the Dakiki app. They will be able to access their students’ accounts with the name and date of birth that the studio registered the student under. **To access the pictures and videos the same name and date of birth that was used in the registration must be used for the students’ account.**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

You can register and pay up to 14 Days in advance of the event without a late fee added to your registration.

PAYMENT:

- Dance Educators of America, Inc. accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express credit card payment through the registration system, **a 3% handling fee will be added.**
- Payment by check or money order, the postal date stamped on the envelope will be the date that Dance Educators of America, Inc. will use as the “Paid Date.”
- Accounts that are not paid in full within the 14 days will be automatically recalculated at the Late Fee Rate.
- **DEADLINES WILL BE ENFORCED** for calculating Rebates, Early Bird, and Late fees.

INJURED DANCERS:

For dancers that are injured prior to or at the National Final Competition, with the proper documentation, may be issued “DEA Dollars” to the registering studio. **NO REFUNDS ARE ISSUED.**

REFUND / CANCELLATION / POSTPONEMENT POLICY:

- **All competition & convention fees are NON-REFUNDABLE.**
- **Dance Educators of America, Inc. may issue “DEA Dollars” to the studio for changes that they make to their registration.**
- **If a studio withdraws or cancels all or part of their registration for an event, no refund or “DEA Dollars” will be issued if done within 21 days of the start of the event.**
- **Dance Educators of America, Inc. reserves the right to cancel, postpone or change an event by Dance Educators of America, Inc. because of Force Majeure, production requirements, or location requirements.**
- **If an event is unable to be held, we will postpone the event to a future date, or the studio can compete using the “Video Submission” Location. Dance Educators will recalculate the registration for the new event. Any difference in fees calculated the studio will have the option of receiving either a refund or “DEA Dollars” to be used for future events.**

LOSS & INJURY:

Dance Educators of America, Inc., Staff, Faculty, the housing facility, and competition location are not responsible for personal injury or property loss.

FLASH PHOTOS OR VIDEO:

All **photography and videography are prohibited** and may result in a disqualification. A professional Videographer and Photographer will be at the National Event. Parents and teachers have access through the Dakiki app to access all pictures and videos.

AGE CALCULATION:

- The age of the student as of January 1 of the current four year will be used for the National Registration to calculate the age.
- The average age of all students in a routine, dropping the decimal is used to determine the Age Category.

AGE CATEGORY:

- The same Dancers cannot compete in more than one age division.
- The Pre-Small Fry, Extended/Senior and Adult Age Category routines are not eligible for DEA Dollars, Scholarships, or High Score Award; but will be awarded a Medal and Pins.
- Age Categories
 - PRE-SMALL FRY • 3 - 4 • SMALL FRY 5 - 8
 - JUNIOR • 9 – 10 • PRE-TEEN 11 – 12
 - TEEN • 13 –15 • SENIOR 16 – 19
 - EXTENDED/SENIOR • 20 –24 • ADULT 25 and over

BUMP RULE:

- Applies when there is a 2+ Age Category differential between a routines average dancer's Age Category and the oldest dancer in the routine.
- The Bump Rule will determine the Age Category that a routine competes in, based on the ages of the dancers.
- For routines that have older dancers that are dancing with dancers of a younger age, if it is determined that there is a 2+ Age Category differential, we will bump the Age Category of that routine up one Age Category.

CLASS/LEVEL:

- **PRE-COMPETITIVE LEVEL:** this is for first-time dancers with limited competition experience. Any level that contains 25% or more of competitive level dancers must be entered in the competitive level. Pre-Competitive Level routines are not eligible for DEA Dollars, Scholarships, or High Score Award; but will be awarded a Medal and Pins.

- **COMPETITIVE LEVEL:** this level is for the dancer that competes for DEA Dollars, Scholarships, or High Score Award.
- **SEMI-PROFESSIONAL LEVEL:** Owner/Teacher, Assistant Teacher, or Salaried Employee entry must be submitted as Semi-Professional and there are no exceptions. Semi-Professional Level routines are not eligible for DEA Dollars, Scholarships, or High Score Award; but can be awarded a Medal and Pins.
- **ADJUDICATION ONLY:** Current Dance Educators of America, Inc. National Title winners and any dancer that wishes to compete for an adjudicated score.

ENTRY TYPE:

SOLO	1	DUET	2
TRIO	3	SMALL GROUP	4 – 9
LARGE GROUP	10– 19	LINES	20 – UP
PRODUCTION	9 – up (any routine that use people in the setting up or taking down of props or sets)		

DANCE CATEGORIES:

- **ACRO** - Consists of a blend of Acro tricks and dance movements
- **BALLET** - Consists of ballet technique, including classical steps.
- **CHARACTER** - Any national or folk dance (i.e.: Mazurka, Polka, and Schottische)
- **CONTEMPORARY** - Consists of ballet, jazz, and/or lyrical movements used with modern elements.
- **ETHNIC** - Dance deriving from another culture (i.e.: Hawaiian, Filipino, and East Indian)
- **FLAMENCO** - Consists of Spanish dance with castanets etc.
- **HIP HOP** - Consists of street, funk & urban style jazz.
- **JAZZ** - Consists of classic jazz technique.
- **LYRICAL** - Consists of ballet, jazz and/or modern technique
- **MODERN** - Interpretive movement in a contemporary modern style
- **POINTE** - Showing pointe technique.
- **SPECIALTY / OPEN** - Routine demonstrating any style of dance or combination of styles.

- **TAP** - Consists of tap technique in tap shoes.
- **THEATRE DANCE** - Broadway show or movie musical dance

TIME LIMITS:

- | ENTRY TYPE | MAX TIME |
|--------------------|---|
| Solo | 2 Minutes 45 Seconds |
| Duet | 2 Minutes 45 Seconds |
| Trio | 2 Minutes 45 Seconds |
| Small Group | 3 Minutes |
| Large Group | 3 Minutes |
| Line | 3 Minutes |
| Production | up to 15 Minutes (any routine that use people in the setting up or taking down of props or sets must Compete in Production Entry Type) |
- **EXTENDED TIME** may be purchased for \$5.00 per 30 seconds per routine.
 - **Up to a 5 point deduction** in the score will result for routines over the “Time Limit” for the Entry Type.

MUSIC:

- Music must be uploaded using the Dance Educators of America, Inc. Registration system in either **MP3 or M4A format**. These are the only formats that the system accepts.
- After you have completed your registration for an event, return to your Dashboard and upload your music (click Upload Music).
- After you upload your music, listen, and review it, to ensure that your music is correct.
- Your routine ID will appear after the Event Schedule has been finalized.
- Music can be uploaded after the registration is completed.
- **Studios that do not upload their music 10 days before the start of the event will be charged \$50.00 to add the music to the competition.**
- **You should have a backup of your music. You will be required to re-upload the music to your Dance Comp Genie account if there are any issues with your music.**
- Teachers must use judgment when selecting music. Concerning lyrical content: vulgar, derogatory, or sexually suggestive words and

inappropriate dance moves are causes for disqualification.

TEACHER SCHEDULE:

- Students with makeup or costume changes that require additional time to prepare between performances **MUST** note this when registering.
- Upon completion of the Competition Schedule, all Participating Teachers will be able to print the National Finals line up from their Dance Comp Genie studio account.
- Teachers are responsible for confirming its accuracy up to 10 days before the event.
- Unconfirmed line ups are interpreted as correct and will perform as-is.
- Dance Educators of America, Inc. does not print programs. Teachers have the option to print the lineup for the event from Dance Comp Genie for all their parents.

PROPS:

- There is no storing of any props at any event.
- Props that require assistance by people in the setup/performance/removal must compete in the Production Entry Type and not to exceed 15 minutes "Time Limit".
- Routines that exceed the "Time Limit" for its Entry Type may have up to 5 points, deduction from the routine score.
- Dance Educators of America, Inc. staff are not responsible for the set-up or breakdown of props.
- In the event of damage to the stage, riser, flooring, or facility as a result of the movement, set-up, or breakdown of props, it shall be the monetary responsibility of the applicant teacher.

SCORING:

- **Judge's Score**
Performance Score 1-100 points per judge
Choreography Score 1-15 points per judge
Costume Score: 1-5 points per judge
- **Overall Top 5: Combine judges score for Performance, Choreography and Costume**
- **Medal Adjudication: Medal award is based on Performance Score only.**

MEDAL AWARDED JUDGE 3 JUDGE COMPOSITES

Platinum	95.0 to 100	285.0 to 300 Points
High Gold	92.0 to 94.9	276.0 to 284.7 Points
Gold	88.0 to 91.9	264.0 to 275.7 Points
High Silver	87.9 & below	263.9 Points or Below

AWARDS:

- **Students must be present at the Gala Awards Banquet to receive any High Score Awards or Scholarships.**
- **Adjudication Only, Pre-Competitive and Semi-Professional Class Levels and Pre-Small Fry, Extended/Senior and Adult Age Categories routines are not eligible for DEA Dollars, Scholarships, and/or High Score Awards.**
- **DEA Dollars, and/or High Score Awards are awarded to the Top 5 by Age Category/Entry Type, except for Production Entry Type that is awarded by the Production Entry Type. **Categories that have over 35 entries, the Top 10 will be announced.****
- **Routines that have the exact same dancers can only receive one (1) award in an Age Category/Entry Type.**
- **Duo, Trio, Group (Small and Large), Line and Production Categories with the exact same dancers cannot place more than once in a Top 5 Category.**
- **Solos through Production will have the Top 5 places announced. **Categories that have over 35 entries, the Top 10 will be announced.****

MEDAL AND PIN:

- **Solo, Duo, Trio: Routines each participant will receive a Medal and a Pin**
- **Group, Line, Production: Routine will receive one Medal for the routine and each participant a Pin.**

DEA DOLLARS:

- **“DEA Dollars” are awarded to the Small Fry to Senior Age Category, to the top 3 places which have 10 entries in an Entry Type. A routine can only win one “DEA Dollars” Award; the routine with the next highest score, which has not received a DEA Dollars, will be awarded “DEA Dollars.”**

- **National Director's Award: the Competitive "12 and Under" and "13 and Over" Age Categories that have 75 solo, duo, and/or trio routines for the National Director's DEA Dollars to be awarded.**
- **President's Award: the Competitive "12 and Under" and "13 and Over" Age Categories that have 25 group, line, and/or production routines for the President's DEA Dollars to be awarded.**
- **President's Award - \$2500 Overall Highest Score Group, Line or Production, for the Competitive "12 and Under" and "13 and Over" Age Categories, Entry Type.**
- **National Director's Award - \$1500 to the Overall Highest Scoring Solo, Duo, or Trio, for the Competitive "12 and Under" and "13 and Over" and Over Age Categories, Entry Type.**
- **DEA Dollars awarded to the Overall Solo, Duo, Trio**
 - 3rd Place - \$50.00 Age Category/Entry Type Entry Type**
 - 2nd Place - \$75.00 Age Category/Entry Type**
 - 1st Place - \$100.00 Age Category/Entry Type**
- **DEA Dollars awarded to the Overall Groups, Line Entry Type**
 - 3rd Place - \$100.00 Age Category/Entry Type**
 - 2nd Place - \$125.00 Age Category/Entry Type**
 - 1st Place - \$150.00 Age Category/Entry Type**
- **DEA Dollars awarded to the Overall Production Entry Type**
 - 3rd Place - \$150.00 Regardless of Age Category**
 - 2nd Place - \$175.00 Regardless of Age Category**
 - 1st Place - \$200.00 Regardless of Age Category**

PHOTOGRAPHY OR VIDEO WAIVER:

Participants give permission for any photograph or video taken by Dance Educators of America, Inc. or the Video Group selected by Dance Educators of America, Inc. to be used in its promotions. This includes, but is not limited to, newspapers, brochures, ads, television, video sales, the internet, newsletters, and any other form of marketing on behalf of Dance Educators of America, Inc.