



# **2024 NATIONAL TITLE COMPETITION GUIDELINES**

**([WWW.DANCEDEA.COM](http://WWW.DANCEDEA.COM), RULES, TITLE COMPETITION)**

**RULE CHANGES AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ARE IN RED**

## **ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS:**

- **Dance Educators of America, Inc. is a non-profit teaching organization that requires sportsman like behavior.**
- **Only Students of Dance Educators of America, Inc., Life Member or Member, whose membership dues are current are eligible to enter the Dance Educators of America, Inc. National Title Competition.**
- **Students cannot enter the Title Competition in an Age Category that they had previously won the National Title.**
- **Regional Title Winners in Small Fry, Junior, Pre-Teen, Teen, and Senior Age Division; and solo routines that adjudicated a score of High Gold or Platinum at one (1) of Dance Educators of America, Inc. current four year Regional Competition or Video Submission are eligible to compete.**
- **There is no qualifying event at the National Competitions to become eligible for the Title Competition.**
- **Registration must be completed by June 1 of the current Tour Season, with all fees paid, music, pictures, height, leotard, jacket, shirt sizes**

uploaded.

- Registrations not completed by June 1 will be rejected.

### **REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBER TEACHER AND THEIR STUDENT:**

- Teacher and student must register for the National Title Competition, using the Dance Educators of America, Inc. Online Registration System.
- If the Participant Waiver and Release” form has not already been submitted to the office for the current Tour season. 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 for the current year and return it to the Dance Educators of America, Inc. office. You can attach it to an Email and send it to Fran.Peters@dancedea.com.
- When registering for the National Title Competition, enter the student’s height, jacket size, and for females their leotard and shirt sizes; and for males their shirt size; enter the Student’s Head Shot in the “Upload Photo1” Box and Download; then enter the Student’s Dance Pose in the “Upload Photo2” Box and Download. Label each photo with name, studio, division they are entering.
- Purchase any additional banquet ticket needed for friends and family for the current tour year Dance Educators of America, Inc. National Convention and Competition National Awards Banquet.
- From the Dashboard Registration Box that contains the Title Competition Registration click “Upload Music” and upload the Title Music. 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.
- Pay all fees for the National Convention and Title Competition by June 1, or incur up to a 5-point deduction in score.
- Registered at the host hotel under the official DEA Room Block, for the entire Convention and Competition. No third party or hotel sites accepted for the National Convention and Competition.
- 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’ account with the name and date of birth that the studio registered them 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 student account.**

### **IF THE MEMBER TEACHER CANNOT ATTEND:**

- The member teacher must appoint a chaperone.
- The teacher must notify the Title Director of the name of the chaperone that will take the place of the member teacher.
- The Chaperone must attend required events that the member teacher must attend and stay at the host hotel under the official DEA Room Block. No third party or hotel sites accepted.
- Chaperone can use the teacher's banquet ticket, or you can purchase additional banquet tickets, if needed.

### **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:**

Dancers that are injured prior to or at the National Convention and Competition, with the proper documentation, "DEA Dollars" **may** be issued to the registering studio. "DEA Dollars" can be used at a Regional or National Competition. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED.**

### **REFUND / CANCELLATION / POSTPONEMENT POLICY:**

- **All competition & convention fees are NON-REFUNDABLE.**
- 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, Staff, Faculty, the housing facility, and competition locations are not responsible for personal injury or property loss.

### **FLASH PHOTOS OR VIDEO:**

All **photography and videography are strictly prohibited** and may result in a disqualification. Your Media Fee covers the cost of photos and videos. Parents and teachers have access to them through the Dakiki app.

### **AGE CATEGORY:**

The age for the title division for both Mr. and Miss are based on the age of the contestant as of January 1 of the current tour year.

- **Small Fry**                **5 - 8**
- **Junior**                    **9 & 10**
- **Pre-Teen**                **11 & 12**
- **Teen**                      **13 - 15**
- **Senior**                    **16 – 21**

### **ROUTINE:**

- The solo title routine performed must be the same as the routine that was performed at a Regional Competition or Video Submission that gained eligibility.
- The time limit is 2 minutes and 45 seconds.
- The routine that is entered in the National Title Competition may not be used in the National Performing Arts Competition or in any other Competition.
- Title Contestants will perform their title routine in the National Title Competition only.
- National Title Competition performance scoring will be 1-100 points per judge.

### **MUSIC:**

- When you have completed your registration for the National Title Competition, return to the Dashboard’s Registration Box that contains the Title Competition Registration, click “Upload Music,” and upload the Title Music (click Upload Music) in either MP3 or M4A format. These are the only formats that the system accepts currently.

- **After you upload your music, review, and listen to ensure that your music is correct. 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.**
- **Your routine ID will appear after the Title Schedule has been finalized.**
- **There is up to a two (2) point penalty if music is not received in the required format.**

### **PHOTOS:**

- **Head Shot and Dance Pose photos must be in color, 5 x 7, head shot portrait, on a white background only, and no outdoor photos, and uploaded in jpeg, jpg or png format.**
- **When registering the contestant on the Convention Module, you must enter the filename for the Dance Pose picture in the “Color Dance Pose 5x7, Portrait” box; enter the filename for the Head Shot picture in the “Color Head shot 5x7, Portrait” box.**
- **Pictures that are submitted on the wrong backdrop, not in color, or done outside will not be accepted.**
- **There is up to a two (2) point penalty if photos are not received in the proper format.**

### **REQUIRED ITEMS:**

- **There are dance items that each contestant will be required to bring with them, notification of what items will be sent after June 1.**
- **Any contestant missing any items for the opening number will not be allowed to perform the opening number. This will have up to a 2-point deduction.**
- **Female Contestant**
  - **Teen and Senior contestants are required to have beige heels for the opening number.**
  - **Small Fry, Junior and Pre-Teen contestants are required to have beige jazz shoes for the opening number.**
  - **Leotards and tights will be given to each female contestant using the sizes that were supplied by the teacher when the contestant was registered.**
  - **Instructions on what you can add to the leotard will be described in the Letter of Confirmation to the participants.**
  - **Leotards can only be changed after they are ordered for a \$50.00 fee and if time allows.**
- **Male Contestant**
  - **Black Jazz Shoes, Black Belt, Black Socks, and Black Slacks for the**

opening number.

- **Shirts will be given to all males in the contest.**

### **ORIENTATION MEETING AND REHEARSALS:**

- **Details of the Orientation Meeting will be sent in the Letter of Confirmation to the teacher from the Title Director after all their paperwork has been received and finalized.**
- **Teacher/chaperone and student participating in the National Title Competitions must be present and on time for the Title Contestants Orientation Meeting.**
- **Any contestant missing, late or not staying for the entire orientation, Opening Number rehearsals and/or Awards Banquet may be assessed up to a five (5) point penalty, which will be deducted from their final score.**
- **All rehearsals are closed.**
- **The title contestant and teacher/chaperone will be required to make room reservations at the host hotel under the official DEA room block. No third party or hotel sites accepted. You must provide the name of the host hotel staying, room number, and name room is registered under.**

### **WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE:**

- **Contestants must attend all their scheduled workshop classes within their Age Category, unless excused by the Title Director.**
- **Small Fry that “Bump Up” to the 9-year-old workshop, takes the 9-year-old workshop.**
- **Contestants are required to wear their Title Number Badge during the workshop classes.**
- **Contestant must notify the Title Director of loss Title Number Badge**
- **Contestants not wearing their Title Number Badge in class will be considered missing.**
- **The Title Directors will be spot checking to make sure all **Contestants** are in their classes.**
- **Contestants that miss the workshop class will be assessed a one-point (1) penalty for each class missed, that will be deducted from their final score.**

### **OPENING NUMBER PARTICIPATION:**

- **Each contestant will be required to participate in the opening number.**
- **Be at every scheduled rehearsal for the opening number.**
- **Be at every additional rehearsal, there are times that we will need to schedule additional rehearsals, every effort will be made to keep to the published schedule.**

### **INTERVIEW:**

- Contestants will have up to a three (3 - 5) minute interview with the judges. The maximum score is five (5) points.
- Dress for the females is a suit (pants or skirt) or dress.
- Dress for the male - long slacks, shirt, tie, and jacket.

### **PROFICIENCY CLASSES:**

- Proficiency classes in Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Acro and Hip Hop will be offered.
- Contestants may take all five (5) of the Proficiency Classes.
- Contestants must participate in at least two (2) of the Proficiency Classes.
- Contestants will be judged by a panel of judges, scoring their ability to pick up combinations, technique and understanding of the subject.
- Each judge will score the contestant from 1 – 15.
- Contestants that are late for the proficiency class will not receive a score for that class. The contestant that starts a proficiency class must finish the class.
- Contestants will take forward a cumulative total of their two higher scores from each of the judges.
- All proficiency classes are closed.

### **ATTIRE FOR THE PROFICIENCY CLASSES:**

- **Female Contestants:**
  - Black leotard for each of the proficiency classes.
  - Pink or skin toned tights for ballet and Suntan tights for Jazz, Tap and Acro.
  - Hair should be in a bun for all classes.
  - Proper shoes for each class.
- **Male Contestants:**
  - Black Jazz Pants/Black Jazz Knee Length Shorts (pants/shorts must be tight fitting).
  - White tee shirts. Black or white tights may be used in ballet class along with a white tee shirt.
  - Proper shoes for each class.

### **PROPS:**

- There is no storing of any props at any event.
- Clean up after prop removal. Dance Educators of America, Inc. staff are not responsible for set-up or breakdown.
- In the event of damage to the stage, riser, flooring, or facility as a result





availability for travel and which Regional events or National Title Competition they can attend.

- Register for the Regional Event and/or the National Title Competition attending. You are expected to return the following summer and give up your National Title

#### **AMBASSADORS AT A REGIONAL CONVENTION AND COMPETITION:**

- The routine that you will perform as a National Title Winner will be registered through the DEA Office and not by the studio that the Title was won under. If you compete in any other routines, you must be registered under that studio.
- Being an Ambassador, the cost of your workshop and routine that you will perform will be covered by the DEA Office.
- We will need you to email to the DEA Office at least 14 days prior to the event to [Fran.Peters@DanceDEA.com](mailto:Fran.Peters@DanceDEA.com):
  - The name of solo routine and music that you will be performing.
    - Music for routine you will be performing, in either MP3 or M4A format.
- **As an Ambassadors** at the Regional Event, you will:
  - Assist during the event weekend.
  - Demonstrate for the faculty.
  - Distribute awards.
  - Perform before Awards Ceremony.

#### **AMBASSADORS AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION AND COMPETITION:**

- **Information that is required of returning title winners to the to give up your title and be part of the Title Activities.**
- The routine that you will perform as a returning National Title Winner will be registered through the DEA Office and not by the studio that the Title was won under.
- The cost of your workshop, banquet ticket, and routine that you will perform will be covered by the DEA Office. If you compete in any other routines, you must register them under that studio.
- Bring a picture board showing your year in review as a National Title winner.
- **Email to [Fran.Peters@DanceDEA.com](mailto:Fran.Peters@DanceDEA.com) at the DEA Office is required to participant by May 15. After that date you may not be able to perform in the Title Activities.**
  - The name of solo routine and music that you will be performing.
  - Music for routine you will be performing, in either MP3 or M4A format.

- **Portrait Head Shot and Dance Pose photos, must be in color, jpeg format, 5 x 7, on a white background only, and no outdoor photos.**
- **Your height, jacket size, and for females their leotard and shirt sizes; and for males their shirt size**
- **Have a prepared speech to give up their Title and Perform a solo during the Title Competition.**

**AMBASSADORS AT NATIONAL TITLE COMPETITION:**

- **Be featured in the National Title Competition Opening Number.**
- **MC the Title Competition.**
- **Assist Title Director during the National Title Competition week.**
- **Distribute awards.**
- **Perform before Awards Ceremony.**