



Escalate Dance & Theatre Studio

2019-20 Handbook

Important Dates

Fall Classes Begin.....	Monday, September 9 th
Parent Viewing (last 10 min of class)	Tuesday, September 24 th – Monday, September 30 th
MEA – NO CLASS.....	Wednesday, October 16 th – Saturday, October 19 th
Parent Viewing (last 10 min of class) & Halloween parties.....	Thursday, October 24 th – Wednesday, October 30 th
Halloween – NO CLASS.....	Thursday, October 31 st
Costume Fees Due.....	Friday, November 1 st
Parent Viewing (last 10 min of class).....	Wednesday, November 20 th – Tuesday, November 26 th
Thanksgiving Break – NO CLASS.....	Wednesday, November 27 th – Saturday, November 30 th
Parent Viewing (last 10 min of class) & Holiday parties.....	Monday, December 16 th – Saturday, December 21 st
Winter Break – NO CLASS (class resumes Monday, January 6 th).....	Monday, December 23 rd – Saturday, January 4 th
Class Resumes after Winter Break.....	Monday, January 6 th
MLK Day – WE DO HAVE CLASS.....	Monday, January 20 th
Parent Viewing (last 10 min of class)	Saturday, January 25 th – Thursday, January 30 th
President’s Day - WE DO HAVE CLASS.....	Monday, February 17 th
Parent Viewing (last 10 min of class)	Monday, February 24 th – Saturday, February 29 th
Pictures at Escalate	Friday, March 6 th – Sunday, March 8 th
Parent Viewing (last 10 min of class)	Wednesday, March 25 th – Tuesday, March 31 st
Spring Break – NO CLASS.....	Monday, April 6 th – Saturday, April 11 th
Class Resumes after Spring Break.....	Monday, April 13 th
Parent Viewing (last 10 min of class)	Saturday, April 25 th – Thursday, April 30 th
Parent Viewing (last 10 min of class).....	Monday, May 18 th , Thursday, May 21 st , Tuesday, May 26 th & Wednesday, May 27 th
Memorial Day – NO CLASS.....	Monday, May 25 th
Recital dress rehearsal.....	Thursday, May 28 th
Recital.....	Saturday, May 30 th

Communication

Email is our primary source of communication, please confirm we have your email address on file. The first week of each month keep your eyes out for our monthly newsletter, “The Escalate Extra”. The newsletter provides a lot of important information to keep everyone up to date, so please be sure to read each month!

We also use social media to post timely information as well as photos of fun studio events! This information is NOT e-mailed, so please follow our accounts:



Tuition & Fees

There is an annual registration fee of \$35 per student or \$45 per family.

Tuition is charged monthly and is due the first week of every month. Tuition is charged on a flat rate basis, paying the same amount each month regardless of the number of weeks in a month. We do not prorate tuition or offer refunds for missed classes. A dancer may attend another class to makeup for any missed class.

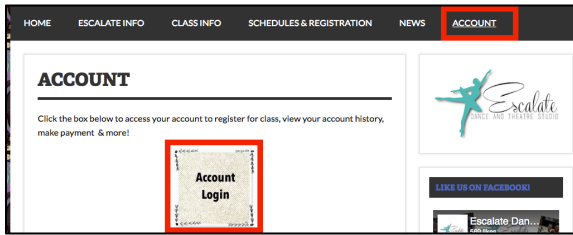
NEW THIS YEAR All accounts must be paid by automatic tuition payment. Tuition payment will be processed with the credit card on your family account on the 1st of each month. We accept Visa, Mastercard and Discover. A \$20 fee will be added to accounts for a declined or expired credit card. Cash or check payment will not be accepted unless prior arrangement has been made.

Please note, registration is not complete until registration fee and first month’s tuition is paid. Automatic tuition payment processing begins with October tuition.

Creating your account

Make sure you have created an account online. This account allows you to register, view your balance, and more!

To create or access your account visit escalatedance.com and select "Account".



Auto Tuition Payment Details

Your monthly tuition will be automatically processed with a card on file the **first** of each month. Any additional charges on your account (i.e. shoes, private lessons, Escalate merchandise, etc) will also be processed along with tuition on the first of the month.

Costume fees will be divided into **TWO** equal payments and processed along with October and November tuition. **Competition team families:** competition entry fees will be divided into **FIVE** equal payments and processed along with October, November, December, January and February tuition payments.

Dress Code & Shoes

Dancers are expected to come to class in dance appropriate apparel **including shoes!** Competition team dancers, please see the competition team handbook for your dress code.

We have a limited supply of shoes that can be borrowed in the event a dancer forgets their shoes at home. However, these are NOT to be used on a regular basis in place of having your own shoes.

Toddlers in Motion

- Clothes that are comfortable to move in
- Pink ballet shoes for girls and black ballet shoes for boys

Ballet, Tap & Jazz Combo Classes

- Leotard and tights OR dance shorts/leggings and fitted dance top or t-shirt
- Hair in a ponytail or bun
- Pink ballet shoes and black tap shoes

Irish

- T-shirt or tank top and capris or leggings (please no jeans, denim leggings or sweat pants)
- Hair pulled up and off face
- Shoes
 - New beginners: ballet, jazz or socks. No bare feet!
 - Soft Shoes (ghilles) may be purchased at Irish on Grand in St. Paul or through Ballinvilla Products. Shoes will initially feel small, but will stretch to fit. See Liz to check shoe fit!
 - Boys may start in jazz shoes and will eventually wear a reel shoe, per teacher discretion.
 - Hard shoes will be purchased after a dancer's first year or by Liz's direction. These may be purchased at Irish on Grand in St. Paul or through Ballinvilla Products. Due to cost, a used pair is appropriate for new hard shoe dancers, you can check at the studio for used stock. Please consult Liz for sizing.

Musical Theatre

- Clothes that are comfortable to move in & jazz shoes
- Hair in a ponytail or bun

Aerial Silks

- Leggings or capris & a fitted top
- Hair in a ponytail or bun
- Bare Feet

Boys

- Ballet classes: black shorts or pants and white t-shirt, black ballet shoes
- All other classes: clothes that are comfortable to move in. For ballet, tap, jazz classes boys will need black ballet shoes & black tap shoes. For hip hop classes boys will need black jazz shoes or any color tennis shoe (please make sure to have a pair of tennis shoes that are only worn indoors).

Lyrical/Jazz, Contemporary & Tap

- Leotard and tights OR dance shorts/leggings and fitted tank top or t-shirt
- Hair in a ponytail or bun
- Jazz shoes or turners for lyrical/jazz and contemporary
- Tap shoes for tap class 😊

Jazz/Hip Hop

- Dance shorts/leggings and fitted tank top or t-shirt
- Hair in a ponytail or bun
- Jazz shoes or tennis shoes (please make sure to have a pair of tennis shoes that are only worn indoors)

Ballet Technique

- Black leotard & pink tights
- Hair in a bun
- Pink ballet shoes

Year End Recital

We end each year with a recital to showcase the dancers hard work throughout the year! Each class will have the opportunity to perform in the show and we do encourage each dancer to participate as it is always a ton of fun, but we do not require participation in recital.

There will be 3 recitals in total Saturday, May 30th held at Osseo Senior High. Dress rehearsal will be held on Thursday, May 28th at Osseo Senior High. Most classes perform in 1 recital; the recital that each class performs in will be announced in April.

Toddlers in motion classes will not perform in the recital, but will have their own special performance at the studio! More information on the Toddlers in Motion performance to come soon!

Recital tickets will go on sale in May and are \$16 each for adult and \$12 for children 10 & under. Please note your studio account (including May tuition) must be paid in full in order for dancers to participate in recital and to be able to purchase recital tickets.

Recital Costumes

We work hard at Escalate to pick out fun and age appropriate costumes for all of our dancers! Each dancer participating in the year-end recital will purchase costumes for the show.

Costume fees are charged to your account in September, but are not due until Friday, November 1st. Costume fees will be split into 2 equal payments and will be processed along with your monthly tuition on October 1st and November 1st.

The recital costume fee depends on the class and number of dances. The costume fee includes the costume, accessories & tights. Students will be responsible for purchasing shoes. See below for the costume fees by class.

Class	Dances	Costumes	Total Cost	Class	Dances	Costumes	Total Cost
Toddlers in Motion	1	1	\$50	Hip Hop ages 4-5*	2	2	\$90
BTJ 3-4 yr olds	2	2	\$120	Hip Hop ages 6-9*	2	2	\$90
BTJ 4-5 yr olds	2	2	\$120	Hip Hop ages 9-12*	2	2	\$95
BTJ 5-6 yr olds	2	2	\$130	Hip Hop ages 12+*	2	2	\$100
BTJ 6-9 yr old	2	2	\$130	Boys Hip Hop*	2	2	\$75
Pre-Competition**	2	2	\$165	Musical Theatre ages 6-9	2	2	\$90
Lyrical/Jazz ages 12+	2	2	\$150	Musical Theatre ages 9-12	2	2	\$100
Ballet ages 6-12	1	1	\$70	Rolling to the Beat	2	2	\$75

* Hip-hop classes will perform 2 dances in recital. They typically have 1 pair of pants they wear for both dances and switch tops or accessories for the second dance.

** Pre-competition costume fee includes ballet & tap shoes.

Pictures

Pictures will be held at Escalate Friday, March 6th – Sunday, March 8th. We bring in the amazingly talented relevéPHOTO to take pictures! Both individual and group pictures are taken in each costume. About a week after the pictures are taken, they are available for viewing/purchasing on the relevéPHOTO website.

More information to come closer to picture day!

Parent Viewing

We typically do not have open viewing each week as we find this distracts dancers. We open doors for the last 10 minutes of the last class of each month and invite families to view class to see what the dancers are working on!

Class withdrawals

While we hope that your dancer is able to stay in class the entire season, we understand that sometimes things come up and withdrawing from class is necessary. Escalate requires written notice of a withdrawal from any class. Until the written withdrawal notice is received, the dancer is considered an active student and the parent/guardian will still be responsible for tuition. No refunds will be given for mid month withdrawals. If a dancer withdraws from class after December 1, 2019, there will not be a refund as the costume will have already been ordered.

Holiday celebrations

Halloween

Dancers are invited to wear their Halloween costume to class Thursday, October 24th – Wednesday, October 30th. Families are invited to come in the last 10 minutes to perform a spooktacular short Halloween dance! If dancers so choose, they are welcome to bring a treat to share (please do not bring anything with nuts). We do not have class on Halloween, Thursday, October 31st.

Holiday Gift exchange

Have your dancer dress in their holiday best the last week of class before Winter Break, Monday, December 17th – Saturday, December 22nd. Join us the last 10 minutes of class for a short holiday themed performance! Dancers can participate in an optional gift exchange (most dancers participate 😊) bring a wrapped \$5-10 gift that will be exchanged at the end of class!

Birthdays

Dancers are welcome to bring a birthday treat to celebrate their birthday! If bringing treats, please avoid anything with nuts!

Inclement weather policy

We avoid cancelling class due to weather whenever possible, but always keep safety of our students and staff first in mind. We generally follow the Osseo School District 279 weather cancellations.

If classes are cancelled due to weather, we will post on our Instagram and Facebook accounts and notification will also be e-mailed.

**We are so excited to have you at Escalate! Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions!
Contact us at Escalatedance@comcast.net**