



DANCER TRAINING SUPPORT PROGRAM

2013-2014 POLICY

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM

The *Dancer Training Support Program* is an indispensable tool for dancers whose economic conditions are as precarious as they were when the program was set up in 1993. Each year, the Program assists dancers by subsidizing the cost of regular training in various techniques throughout the year. This training is essential to the profession, whether the dancer is in period of rehearsal, performance, unemployment or social assistance. This support takes the form of a financial aid paid directly to the dancers upon presentation of their training receipts.

The objectives of the program are the following: to develop the profession of dancing; to improve the dancer's socio-economic status; to maintain optimum employability; to improve and maintain complete fitness and reduce the risk of injuries.

The Program Committee composed of Johanna Bienaise, Nathalie Blanchet, Catherine Viau and Jamie Wright recommended that the Policy be renewed for the year 2013-2014. This recommendation was unanimously adopted by the RQD Board of Directors at the May 16, 2013 meeting.

2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

2.1. PROFESSIONAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

To be eligible, the Professional Individual Member must:

- › **be a member of the RQD for at least four months** (this applies only in the first year of membership);
- › **be active as a dancer and have a minimum of eight paid performances¹ in Quebec or Canada in a professional context² over a two-year period.** Each dancer must fill out a registration form and attach copies of contracts or letters of agreement as proof. Programs, posters, tour calendars, websites, and invoices are not acceptable.

If a dancer does not have a minimum of eight performances, the RQD may consider other paid professional activities, such as participation in research or the creative process, (an up-to-date CV and copies of contracts must be attached). These activities must total a minimum of 300 paid work hours over two years, and have taken place in a context of research and creation.

Dancers who receive support for their training on a regular basis from their employer (financial support or training classes) are eligible for the Program only during periods of unemployment (upon presentation of an official letter from the employer indicating the break periods or periods on social assistance).

Dancers who have been inactive over a period of two years because of a prolonged work break (pregnancy, maternity leave, injury, accident or illness) are eligible, subject to evaluation (attach an up-to-date CV, medical certificate, birth certificate or other pertinent documents).

¹ Corporate events and activities that took place in an academic, amateur or semi-professional context will not be recognized in the calculation of eight performances.

² The professional context refers to organisations primarily involved in creation or presentation. It can include dance companies or collectives, theatres or venues recognized by one's peers. Included in this definition are events in which the dancers are chosen by other dance professionals.

2.2. PROFESSIONAL CORPORATE MEMBER

To be eligible, the Professional Corporate Member must:

- › be an RQD member delegate;
- › be active as a dancer, and fulfil the requirements of article 2.1.

2.3. APPRENTICE MEMBER

To be eligible, the Apprentice Member must:

- › have completed, within the last three years (2011, 2012 or 2013), initial training in dance in an advanced-level institution or the equivalent (attach copy of diploma or Attestation of Collegial Studies (ACS) or, for equivalent training, a CV specifying the courses and workshops taken). Academic transcripts are not accepted.

After three years, apprentice members who wish to benefit from the Program must hold the status of professional individual member.

3. REIMBURSED TRAINING

Only classes, workshops and training memberships taken in Quebec are reimbursable.³

- › **For the Apprentice Member:** classes in ballet, contemporary and another optional genre of dance; the following training techniques: Pilates, yoga, perfmex, *gym sur table TCP*, gyrokinesis/gyrotonic, Qi Gong; and fitness training.
- › **For the Professional Member:** all technical training related to dance.

All eligible dancers can obtain a Complexe Guy-Favreau YMCA card, 50% of which will be reimbursed by the Program. Under this agreement with the Guy-Favreau YMCA, a monthly card is available for \$35, which may be obtained at the membership desk of the YMCA. Keep the receipt and attach it to your claim.

4. AMOUNT REIMBURSED

4.1. PROFESSIONAL MEMBER	4.2. APPRENTICE MEMBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Up to \$7 per class.› \$14 for each session costing over \$30.› Intensive workshops: 25% of the cost.› Memberships costing less than \$300 and with an unlimited number of classes: 50% of the cost.› Memberships costing more than \$300 and with an unlimited number of classes: 40% of the cost.› Up to a maximum of \$600 per dancer per year, subject to availability of funds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Up to \$7 per class.› Intensive workshops: 25% of the cost.› Memberships costing less than \$300 and with an unlimited number of classes: 50% of the cost.› Memberships costing more than \$300 and with an unlimited number of classes: 40% of the cost.› Up to a maximum of \$500 per dancer per year, subject to availability of funds.

³ Members whose permanent residence is in Gatineau may obtain financial support for dance classes and workshops taken in Ottawa.

5. REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE

- › To be admitted to the Program, each participant must submit a duly completed registration form accompanied by the supporting documents. Registration form should be filled online at <http://www.quebecdanse.org/adhesion/formulaire-demande-soutien/>. Upon evaluation by the Professional Development Coordinator, the participant will receive a letter of acceptance to the Program and a Claim Form. To receive a reimbursement, the participant must fill out the claim form and return it to the RQD with photocopied receipts attached. A new form will be sent with each reimbursement.
- › Admission to the Program takes effect on the date of reception of the membership renewal form or, in the case of the initial membership, four months after the reception of the RQD membership form.
- › **All members must renew their memberships by July 1, 2013 in order to avoid any interruption in the processing of claims.** For example, if you wait until August 1, 2013 to renew your RQD membership, the classes, workshops and gym or yoga memberships purchased between July 1 and 31, 2013 will not be reimbursed.
- › **The participant has three months from the date of payment indicated on the receipt to make the claim.** The maximum period for the settling of claims is thirty business days. The RQD sends the reimbursements by mail.
- › **The RQD does not issue cheques for claims under \$40.** Claims below this amount will be dealt with at a later date, upon reception of other claims, until the total of the reimbursement reaches \$40 or more.
- › **Dance classes and workshops financed by Emploi-Québec are not reimbursed.**
- › The RQD reserves the right to modify the 2013-2014 Policy at any time, subject to availability of funds.

6. CSST AND MCC COVERAGE OF DANCERS IN THE EVENT OF INJURY

As of January 2006, members admitted to the Dancers Training Support Program are covered by CSST in the event of an injury or accident occurring during supervised training not governed by a work contract. This is the result of an agreement between the CSST and the ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec (MCC).

To learn more about the procedure to follow in the case of injury, please visit <http://bit.ly/classesCSST> or contact Dominic Simoneau at (514) 849-4003, extension 227. Your request for coverage will be treated in strict confidentiality.

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