

## DANCER TRAINING SUPPORT PROGRAM

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### 1. Program Description

The *Dancer Training Support Program* is an indispensable tool for improving the socio-economic conditions of dancers. Since February 1994, the Program has assisted dancers by subsidizing the cost of regular training in diverse techniques throughout the year. This training is essential to the profession, whether the dancer be in a period of rehearsal, performance, unemployment or social assistance. This support takes the form of 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;
- to reduce the risk of injuries.

### 2. Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the program, dancers must:

- be a member of RQD;
- meet the admission requirements for their membership category (see 2.1);
- complete an [on-line application form](#)<sup>1</sup>;
- forward the required supporting documents to RQD (see 2.1).

**After initially applying to RQD**, dancers must wait four months before qualifying for the Training Support Program. Any classes, workshops or training memberships purchased during this waiting period are non-refundable.

**In the case of membership renewals**, the program eligibility takes effect on the date that RQD receives the payment of fees. All dancers must renew their memberships by July 1, 2016 in order to avoid any interruption in the processing of claims. If members renew on September 1, 2016, the classes, workshops and training memberships purchased between July 1 and August 31, 2016 will not be reimbursed.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.quebecdanse.org/adhesion/formulaire-demande-soutien/>

## 2.1 Admission Requirements

2.1.1 Apprentice Member	2.1.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Must have completed, within the last three years (2014, 2015 or 2016), initial training in dance at an advanced-level institution. <b>Supporting documents required:</b> copy of diploma or Attestation of Collegial Studies (ACS) or academic transcript confirming reception of the latter.</li> <li>› In the case of equivalent training, the applicant must be a member of RQD for at least three years. <b>Supporting documents required:</b> CV containing a detailed description of the courses and workshops taken.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Must have a minimum of eight paid performances<sup>2</sup> in Quebec or Canada in a professional context<sup>3</sup> for two consecutive years between 2014 and 2018. <b>Supporting documents required :</b> copies of letters of agreement or <u>signed</u> contracts.<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>

## 3. Special Cases

- Beginning in the fourth year of RQD membership, **apprentice members** must attain the status of professional individual members or corporate members to have access to the Training Support Program.
- **Individual or corporate members who do not have a minimum of eight performances** may qualify for the Training Support Program if they have accumulated a minimum of 300 hours of paid work. These hours must have been devoted to research and creation or the remount of a work as a dancer, and over a period of two consecutive years between 2014 and 2018. These activities, however, must not have been the object of paid performances.  
**Supporting documents required:** updated CV and copies of letters of agreement or signed contracts.
- **Individual or corporate members who receive support for their training on a regular basis from their employer** (financial support or training classes) are eligible for the Program solely during periods of unemployment. **Supporting documents required:** Signed contract or attestation from employer specifying periods of inactivity or unemployment.
- **Individual or corporate members who have been inactive over the last two years** because of a prolonged work stoppage (pregnancy, maternity leave, accident or illness) are eligible, subject to evaluation.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> The professional context includes organizations 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.

<sup>4</sup> Evening programs, posters, invoices and websites are not admissible as supporting documents.

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**Supporting documents required:** updated CV, medical certificate, birth certificate of child, or other pertinent documents.

**4. Reimbursed Training**

<b>4.1 Apprentice Member</b>	<b>4.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Classes in ballet, contemporary dance <b>AND</b> another optional genre</li> <li>› Pilates, yoga, gyrokinesis, gyrotonic, Qi Gong, Gym sur table TCP, Perfmax and fitness training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› All technical training related to dance.</li> </ul>

Only classes, workshops and training memberships taken in Quebec are reimbursable. However, dancers residing in Gatineau may obtain financial support for dance classes and workshops taken in Ottawa.

Classes and workshops funded by Emploi-Québec in Montreal, or multi-regionally, are not reimbursable.

The costs of physical fitness evaluation services, studio rentals, or training materials are not reimbursable.

**5. Sums Reimbursed**

<b>5.1 Apprentice Member</b>	<b>5.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Up to \$7 per class.</li> <li>› Workshops and memberships: 40% of cost</li> <li>› Up to a maximum of \$500 per year, subject to availability of funds.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Up to \$7 per class.</li> <li>› Training sessions costing more than \$30: \$15</li> <li>› Workshops and memberships: 40% of cost</li> <li>› Up to a maximum of \$600 per year, subject to availability of funds.</li> </ul>

RQD reserves the right to modify the reimbursement scales throughout the year, depending on availability of funds.

## 6. Reimbursement Procedure

- Reimbursements are made on a monthly basis, by mail or direct deposit. The maximum processing time for claims is 30 working days.
- To obtain a reimbursement by direct deposit, please complete the registration form available at <http://bit.ly/directrqd> and return it to RQD.
- Dancers have **three months from the date of their payments to forward their receipts**. Debit or credit card receipts are not accepted.
- To obtain a reimbursement, **members must submit a duly completed expense claim form, along with photocopied receipts**. Claims may be made by e-mail at [rqd@quebecdanse.org](mailto:rqd@quebecdanse.org).
- **RQD will not reimburse claims under \$35**. Claims below this amount will be processed at a later date, upon reception of other claims, until the total of the reimbursement reaches \$35 or more.

## 7. CNESST Coverage of Dancers in the Event of an Injury or Accident

As of January 2006, following the *Regulation Respecting the Implementation of the Professional Dance Training Program* in the context of occupational health and safety, members admitted to the Dancers Training Support Program are covered by CNESST in the event of an injury or accident occurring during supervised training not governed by a work contract.

To learn more about the procedure to follow in the case of injury, please consult <http://bit.ly/classescsst> or contact Dominic Simoneau at (514) 849-4003, extension 227. Requests for coverage will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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