

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, performance¹, 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 *training support 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](#);
- 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 in order to avoid any interruption in the processing of claims. Example: if members renew on September 1, the classes, workshops and training memberships purchased between July 1 and August 31 will not be reimbursed.

¹ The RQD uses the term performance to describe any paid dance show on stage, in a public space or in a media art work.

2.1 Admission Requirements

2.1.1 Apprentice Member	2.1.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have completed, at least three years ago (between 2017 and 2019), an initial dance training at an advanced-level institution. Supporting documents required: copy of diploma or Attestation of Collegial Studies (ACS) or academic transcript confirming reception of the latter. or In the case of equivalent training, the applicant must be a member of RQD for at least three years. Supporting documents required: CV containing a detailed description of the courses and workshops taken. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have accumulated a minimum of eight paid² professional³ and created (or produced) dance performances in Canada over two consecutive years between 2017 and 2021. or Must have accumulated at least 300 hours of paid work as a dancer research, creation or remount context over two consecutive years between 2017 and 2021. These activities, however, must not have been the object of paid performances. Supporting documents required: copies of letters of agreement or signed contracts⁴.

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 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, parental leave, return to dance studies, accident or illness) may be eligible to the programme, after evaluation. **Supporting documents required:** updated CV, medical certificate, birth certificate of child, or other pertinent documents.

² Activities that took place in an academic or amateur context will not be recognized in the calculation of eight performances

³ A performance is deemed professional when it is presented by artists recognized as professionals by peers, in an event also recognized as professional.

⁴ Invoices and promotional content (evening programs, posters and websites excerpts, etc.) are not admissible as supporting documents.

DANCER TRAINING SUPPORT PROGRAM

4. Reimbursed Training

4.1 Apprentice Member	4.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three kinds of dance at the member's choice. • Types of training: Pilates, yoga, gyrokinesis, gyrotonic, Qi Gong, Perfmex and fitness training (Gym). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All technical training related to dance.

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 are not reimbursable.

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

5. Sums Reimbursed

5.1 Apprentice Member	5.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$ 10 per class. • Workshops and memberships: 40 % of cost • Up to a maximum of \$ 500 per year, subject to the financial availability of the program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$10 per class. • Training sessions costing more than \$ 30: \$ 15 • Workshops and memberships: 40 % of cost • Up to a maximum of \$ 600 per year, subject to financial availability of the program.

RQD reserves the right to modify the reimbursement scales throughout the year, depending on the financial resources available.

6. Reimbursement Procedure

- To obtain a reimbursement, **members must submit a duly completed [expense claim form](#) and send a copy of receipts** (debit or credit card transaction records will not be accepted) **by e-mail at rqd@quebecdanse.org.**
- Dancers have **three months from the date of their payments to forward their receipts** to the RQD.
- Reimbursements are made by direct deposit only. Members admitted to the program must pre-register by completing the [direct deposit form](#).
- Reimbursements are made once a month basis. The maximum processing time for claims is 30 working days.

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 [Health and security CNESST](#) or contact Virginie Desloges at (514) 849-4003, extension 228. Requests for coverage will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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