

1. Program Description

The *Dancer Training Support Program* is an essential tool for improving the socio-economic conditions of dancers, choreographers and rehearsal directors.

Since February 1994, the Program has been assisting active dancers – as well as choreographers and rehearsal directors until June 30, 2023 – to cover part of the cost of dance training, an essential condition for the practice of their profession, whether they are in a period of rehearsal, performance, unemployment or social assistance. This support takes the form of financial aid paid directly upon presentation of the training receipts.

The objectives of the Program, until June 30th 2023, are the following:

- ⇒ Value the profession of dancer, choreographer and rehearsal director.
- ⇒ Improve the social-economic status of dancers, choreographers, and rehearsal directors.
- ⇒ Maintain optimum employability conditions.
- ⇒ Improve and maintain fitness excellence.
- ⇒ Reduce the risk of injuries.

2. Eligibility Requirements

To have access to the *Training Support Program*, dancers, choreographers and rehearsal directors must:

- ⇒ Be a current member of the RQD and complete an [online application form](#) for Program eligibility **once a year**.
- ⇒ Meet the admission requirements for their membership category (see 2.1).
- ⇒ Send the required supporting documents to the RQD (see 2.1).

Even as a **first-time member of the RQD**, dancers, choreographers and rehearsal directors can benefit from the Program as soon as they are admitted.

Upon **renewal of membership**, eligibility for the Program takes effect on the date that the RQD receives the payment of the membership fee. Each member must have renewed their memberships by July 1st to avoid any interruption in the processing of claims. Example: when a member renews their membership on September 1st, the classes, workshops and training memberships purchased between July 1st and August 31st will not be reimbursed.

2.1 Admission Requirements

2.1.1 Apprentice Member	2.1.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member
<p>⇒ Must have completed, between 2018 and 2023, an initial dance training at a reputable, professional level institution. <u>Supporting documents required:</u> copy of diploma or Attestation of Collegial Studies (ACS) or academic transcript confirming reception of the latter.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>⇒ In the case of training deemed equivalent, be an apprentice member of the RQD. <u>Supporting documents required:</u> CV containing a detailed description of classes and internships followed.</p>	<p>⇒ Must have accumulated, between 2018 and 2023, a minimum of eight (8) paid^[1] and professional^[2] performances, including cancelled contracts.^[3]</p> <p>OR</p> <p>⇒ Must have accumulated, between 2018 and 2023, at least 200 hours of paid work as a dancer, choreographer, or rehearsal director, in a dance context of research, of creation or revival that did not lead to performances. <u>Supporting documents required:</u> copies of letters of agreement or signed contracts.^[4]</p>

3. Special Cases

- ⇒ 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 inactivity or unemployment. **Supporting documents required:** Signed contract or attestation from employer specifying periods of inactivity or unemployment.
- ⇒ An individual or corporate member who is **inactive** due to, for example, a prolonged work stoppage may be eligible for the Program following case-by-case evaluations.

4. Reimbursed Training

In addition to the usual criteria, other specificities apply:

- ⇒ Are eligible for reimbursement: classes, internships, subscriptions and training programs taken **in person, online**, from **Quebec, Canada** or anywhere **in the world**, EXCEPT those already subsidized by Services Québec (Emploi-Québec).

- ⇒ Receipts must be **official, detailed and validated** by the organization or professional offering them.
- ⇒ Fees for fitness assessments, studio rentals or training equipment are **not refundable**.
- ⇒ No voluntary contributions will be refunded.

5. Sums Reimbursed

5.1 Apprentice Member	5.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Classes: Up to maximum \$12 per class. ⇒ Internships and subscriptions: 50 % of the cost. ⇒ Up to maximum of \$600 per year, subject to the financial availability of the Program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Classes: Up to maximum \$12 per class. ⇒ Training sessions costing more than \$30 : \$17 per class. ⇒ Internships and subscriptions: 50 % of the cost. ⇒ Up to maximum of \$700 per year, subject to the financial availability of the Program.

The 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 completed [expense claim form](#) and send a **copy of their receipts by e-mail** to rqd@quebecdanse.org. Transaction records by debit or credit card will not be accepted.
- ⇒ Members have **three months** from the date of payment for their activity to submit a claim to the RQD.
- ⇒ Reimbursements by the RQD are made **by direct deposit only**. Members admitted to the program must pre-register by completing the [direct deposit form](#).
- ⇒ The processing time for claims is around **30 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 Agreement on the professional dance training program](#) in the context of the Act respecting occupational health and safety, **dancers admitted** to the Dance Training Support Program are covered by the CNESST in the event of an injury or accident occurring during training that is **not part of an employment contract**.

7.1 Conditions for Being Covered by the CNESST

CNESST coverage under the Program applies only to trainings that meet the following strict conditions:

- ⇒ **Specialized** dance training sessions.
- ⇒ **Supervised** training sessions.
- ⇒ Training sessions followed **in person**, in **Quebec**.

Therefore :

- ⇒ Choreographers and rehearsal directors are not covered by the CNESST in the context of the Program.
- ⇒ To be covered, dancers must first be admitted to the Program, after [applying for eligibility](#) online (see 2 - Eligibility Requirements).
- ⇒ Training sessions that are not **specialized in dance** or that are not **supervised** are not covered.
- ⇒ Training under the above conditions is therefore at your own risk. Consider purchasing insurance for yourself and be very careful!

Training under the above conditions is therefore at your own risk. Consider purchasing insurance for yourself and be very careful!

7.2 What to Do in Case of Injury

To know the procedure to follow in case of injury, please consult the [Dancers: Procedure for dealing with the CNESST](#) page or contact the RQD at info@quebecdanse.org. Requests for coverage will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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^[1] Activities that took place in an academic or amateur context will not be recognized in the calculation of eight performances.

^[2] A performance is deemed professional when it is presented by artists recognized as professionals by peers, in an event also recognized as professional.

^[3] Due to the closure of performance venues between 2020 and 2022, the RQD accepts performances over a 5-year period instead of 2 years, not consecutive.

^[4] Contracts cancelled due to COVID-19 remain valid and may be submitted as supporting documentation. Invoices and promotional content (party programs, posters, website excerpts, etc.) are not considered admissible evidence.