

SDSU Dance Team Frequently Asked Questions

- **What are you looking for in your dancers?**

We are looking for energetic, talented, and spirited dancers who have strong academic goals and time management skills. Prospective dancers should also have a positive work ethic, respect for self and others, and be dedicated to representing the university and the dance team in a professional manner. We ask that you be able to commit to ALL team practices and performances, as well as community service events and additional appearances.

- **What are the dancer's schedules like?**

A SDSU Dancers time is dedicated to school work and classes, dance team practice, games and other events. Some dancers find time to hold part time jobs, however, SDSU views academics and dance team responsibilities as top priorities. All of the following listed events are mandatory:

*At least one dance camp during the summer for a week

*2 weeks before school starts is Band Camp in San Diego

* Dance team rehearsals begin in August and extend through April

*Rehearsal Times: Monday 7:30-10:00pm, Wednesday 7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Sunday 5:00-9:00pm (All subject to change)

*Choreography projects

*All home football games

*Clinics and Fundraisers on non-game Saturdays

*Men's and Women's Basketball games

Practices and performances are extremely important. If you feel that you cannot make the commitment to be at every practice, performance, and our post-season games, then please re-evaluate if you should audition

- **Are dancers able to go home for Thanksgiving/Christmas break?**

Dancers are able to go home during the Thanksgiving/Christmas break; however, specific dates will be given once the football/basketball schedule is released. Dance team members should not make flight arrangements for the holidays without consulting the Head Dance Coach first.

- **Is there a certain look that is required of dance team members?**

Yes, dancers must maintain a professional collegiate dance image and be in good physical condition.

- **What should I expect at auditions?**

Auditions are held over a one day process. Audition date is April 18, 2009 (tentative)

*Day 1 - Registration will begin am. Audition will begin with across the floor combinations and first cuts will be announced. A jazz/hip-hop combination will be taught for a final round of cuts.

The dance combination, across the floor, and skills will be judged. SDSU Dance Team members must be able to perform triple pirouettes, switch leaps, a la seconde turns, kicks, splits, and other techniques of this caliber. Dancers will also be required to answer interview questions and the final team is announced at the end of the day.

- **What should I wear to auditions?**

Please wear jazz pants, or boy cut shorts and a half top or sports bra. You will be auditioning in the dance room, so dance shoes are required (NO socks). Those auditioning should wear costuming that displays their stomachs, legs, or both. Please plan your audition attire accordingly.

- **How many spots are open for next year's team?**

The team consists of 12-20 dancers at coach and director's discretion. Each year, returning members are required to re-audition.

- **How do I prepare for auditions?**

Take Jazz, Hip-Hop or Ballet classes, increase flexibility and stamina, and continue working on your dance skills.

- **Why should I try out to be a SDSU Dance Team member?**

The SDSU Dance Team dancers are known as a prestigious and highly advanced dance team around campus and in the community. This is a once in a lifetime experience and is a great way to get involved at San Diego State University! The dance team is a place to continue learning and performing new dance routines, and is a venue to make lasting friendships with many memories.

- **What does the SDSU Dance Team do?**

The dance team performs at all home football games, men's and women's basketball games, competitions, pep rallies, and other various performances. We are a part of the Marching Aztecs and perform numerous times with the band at exhibitions, competitions and parades. The dancers also participate in fundraisers for the team, community appearances. The dance team continues to be nationally ranked at the USA Collegiate Nationals in Las Vegas since 2002. The SDSU Dance Team plans to continue the tradition of college level competition.

- **What is the financial commitment?**

The SDSU Dance Team has many financial commitments to consider. Camp fees, New Member/Returning Member Fees, and warm-up fees are due immediately after auditions to insure that we are prepared for camp. This can be expensive, approximately \$500. We do fundraise through corporate sponsorships, clinics, and community appearances, but these may not meet initial financial deadlines.

- **Do you have alternate positions and what do they do?**

Alternates are considered at auditions, but we do not always offer alternate positions.

- **What happens if I live out of state?**

Many out of state dancers travel to San Diego for dance team auditions. At last year's audition, 75% of those that auditioned were from out of town. Please make arrangements to stay in a hotel.

For specific dance team questions, please contact
Head Dance Team Coach:
Jessica Walz
sdsudanceteam@yahoo.com

SDSU Dance Team
Attn: Jessica Walz
ARC – 55th Street
San Diego State University
San Diego CA 92128