



Frequently Asked Questions

What do I need to bring to my audition?

To audition for the Summer Intensive, you will need:

- a headshot
- an arabesque photo
- pointe shoes

An audition form will be provided on site, and dancers under 18 must have a parent or guardian sign their audition form.

What if I cannot attend a scheduled audition?

You may submit a video audition by DVD or YouTube link, accompanied by the Video Audition form on the Summer Intensive webpage. All submissions are **due by March 20, 2019**, and must include the completed application, DVD or YouTube link, arabesque photo and \$40.00 audition fee. You may send cash or check with your application (preferred), or include your Credit Card information. DVDs will not be returned. We recommend submitting your video audition as soon as possible.

Can I pre-register for my audition?

Yes! Follow the pre-registration link on our website. Pre-registered dancers will receive a discount on their non-refundable audition fee and should submit their photos on site. If your audition is cancelled due to inclement weather, a video audition may be submitted at no additional cost.

Can I be considered for the year-round Professional Division during my Summer Intensive audition?

We recommend that interested dancers attend a Company Audition, but if a Summer Intensive audition date or location is better, you may be considered for the Professional Division during a Summer Intensive audition. Dancers should bring a resume and letter of recommendation from a current ballet instructor. The letter can also be sent to Kathryn Warakomsky-Li, Professional Division Director, at 1540 Mall Circle, Fort Worth, TX 76116. Dancers may be asked to attend the Summer Intensive or a follow-up audition at Texas Ballet Theater for further consideration.

How soon will I find out the results of my summer intensive audition?

Summer Intensive audition results are sent via e-mail within 7 business days of the audition date. At that time, you will receive registration and deposit instructions. A deposit will hold your spot in the program.

What if I am younger than 12 years old?

The Texas Ballet Theater Summer Intensive is designed for students ages 12 and older. Students who are 11 years old at the time of the audition but will turn 12 on or before the start of the program may audition. Please visit our website to learn more about Junior Intensives at both our Dallas and Fort Worth campuses, which are designed for students ages 9 – 13.

How is level placement determined for the summer program?

Texas Ballet Theater Summer Intensive has five levels, and placement is at the discretion of the Artistic Staff. Our program is ballet focused, and therefore a student will not be moved to a different level for other classes offered such as jazz, modern, etc. Level placement is based on ability, and proper evaluation of dancers may take the first few days of the intensive. Students are placed where the Artistic Staff feels they will grow the most, and any changes are made solely at the discretion of the Artistic Staff. Regardless of level placement, students will always grow and learn with an open mind and a good attitude. Each summer, we receive positive feedback from students in all levels.

What is the difference between the University Program and the West Campus Program?

The University Program is five weeks in length and designed for students who have reached advanced to professional levels of ballet training. Female students should be highly proficient in pointe work. The West Campus Program is a three week program for students of at least an intermediate level of ballet training. One year of pointe work is required for female students. Students of both programs will have the opportunity to learn from Texas Ballet Theater Artistic Staff and Faculty, as well as renowned guest instructors from across the country.

How large are the classes during the summer?

Classes have approximately 25-30 students per level.

What is a typical day like?

Students usually start with ballet technique class each morning, followed by classes in Pointe, Variations, Repertoire, Modern, Jazz, Broadway, Pilates or Latin Ballroom. Additional classes may include Pilates, nutrition, character, and improvisation. Evening discussion style sessions are offered once per week with guest artists and TBT Artistic Staff. In general, the weekday schedule runs from 9:00am – 5:30pm for the University Program and 9:30am – 4:30pm for the West Campus Program. Class times and break times will vary slightly from day to day, and a schedule will be posted and emailed weekly.

Are classes held on Saturdays?

Saturdays begin with ballet technique class, followed by one or two additional classes. Each week will vary.

Are classes held on July 4th?

Classes are not held on July 4th. Activities will be planned for resident students, and commuter students are welcome to join the fun! Typically, Saturday classes are extended during this week.

What is the TCU Dance Building like?

Built in 1921 and renovated in 2011, the Dance building, renamed Erma Lowe Hall, is centrally located on the TCU campus. The building has high ceilings and lots of natural light with three large studios and ample space for the dancers to relax in between classes. One of the studios is able to transform into a studio theatre, complete with curtains, lighting and seating. For more information, visit <http://www.dance.tcu.edu/facilities.asp>.

Where are resident students housed?

Both University and West Program resident students are housed on the campus of Texas Christian University.

Do I have to live in the residence hall?

No, students may choose to commute from home or find alternate housing on their own. We recommend that students of age 17 or under choose to live in the residence hall.

Can I request a roommate?

A roommate request form is included in the registration packet. We will consider requests made through the registration packet but cannot guarantee roommate placement. Age and curfew group are considered when assigning roommates.

Are there extra fees other than tuition and housing?

Group activity outings are planned for each weekend of the intensive. A student may choose to pay the Activity Fee and participate in all activities, or they may choose to opt out of weekend activities and remain on campus with a chaperone. More information on specific activities and prices can be found in the Student Guide. Merchandise is available for purchase throughout the program, and University Program Final Performance DVDs may be ordered during the final week of the program.

Can I apply for a scholarship or financial aid?

Texas Ballet Theater Staff awards a limited number of merit scholarships for the summer program and consider all students during the audition process. If offered, these scholarships are announced at the time of the student's acceptance. If a tuition or dorm scholarship is not noted in your acceptance letter, there was no merit-based scholarship awarded. Limited financial aid is available based on need. Please email catherine@texasballet.org for a financial aid application.

Does TBT provide airport transportation?

At this time, TBT does not provide transportation to or from the airport. We recommend flying into DFW instead of Dallas Love Field, and we are happy to put students with similar arrival/departure times in contact with one another. We can also work with interested students to schedule a Bubbl (www.bubbl-dallas.com), a student-friendly group transportation option driven by off-duty Dallas Police officers, to and from the DFW airport. Please contact Catherine Roe if you are interested in this service.

Is there a performance at the end of the program?

The University Program concludes with a Showcase Performances in Erma Lowe Hall's Studio Theatre on the TCU campus. Students learn Ballet repertoire and Variations, as well as Modern, Latin and Broadway choreography. These performances are not open to the public and reservations are needed for entry. More information will be found in the Student Guide.

The West Campus Program concludes with a family observation day on Friday, July 12, and an informal showing on Saturday, July 13.

Does Texas Ballet Theater School have a year-round program?

Yes. The Texas Ballet Theater School Professional Division graduates advanced dancers to professional dance careers. Admittance to this program is by audition or invitation only, and Summer Intensive students will have an opportunity to be considered for this program. Professional Division classes are held five days a week followed by Pointe, Variations/Repertoire and/or rehearsal. TBT School does not provide housing during the school year, and students must make their own arrangements for housing, transportation and completion of high school courses. Both our Dallas and Fort Worth Schools offer after school year-round classes for all ages.

Can I get a job with Texas Ballet Theater?

The Summer Intensive is a great entry point into the Texas Ballet Theater Company. A position with the Company is by invitation only, and the Artistic Staff has historically chosen approximately 1- 5 students from the Summer Intensive for trainee or apprentice positions with the company, depending on what is needed for the upcoming season. Over 60% of current company members were selected from the Summer Intensive or Professional Division.

If I register for TBT Summer but am no longer able to attend, will I receive a refund?

Unfortunately, there are no refunds for the program. Travel and camp insurance are highly recommended. In most cases, we are able to credit payments toward a future program.

Can I leave the dorm/studio alone?

TBT Summer Intensive implements all Texas Christian University summer conference policies and procedures. Walking permission is given based on age, and all students under the age of 18, both residents and commuters, are to remain in the Dance Building in between classes. The Dance Building has a small kitchen with a sink, refrigerator and microwave for commuter students to prepare lunch. In the evenings, resident students ages 12 – 14 are permitted to leave the dorm with a chaperone. Students ages 15 – 17 are permitted to sign out of the dorm with a buddy, and students ages 18 and older are permitted to leave campus alone after notifying a chaperone. All students should return to the dorm at the designated curfew time. Regular group walking trips to the grocery store and nearby restaurants are planned so that all students have access to food, toiletry, and first aid items they may need.

Who will chaperone my student in the dorm?

Texas Ballet Theater carefully considers summer intensive chaperone applicants. Each selected applicant must successfully pass a background check and is interviewed by the Summer Intensive Director and the Director of Schools. The Dorm Supervisor and Resident Advisor lead the chaperone team and communicate with parents when needed. Both of these roles are filled by individuals with extensive experience in working with youth and backgrounds in dance and/or dance education.

Can I apply to be a member of the chaperone team?

Yes! Age and experience requirements vary by position and work-study options are available. Interested applicants should email catherine@texasballet.org for more information. At this time, TBT Summer does not allow parents of students to hold dorm chaperone positions.

If I am accepted, when will I receive the Student Guide and more information on the program?

Accepted students will receive a link for online registration. A Student Guide will be sent out as soon as all program details are solidified, usually in February, to those students who have registered. The Student Guide includes more program information, medical forms, activity registration, and the like. In the meantime, our website is a great place to gather more information!