



Dear Parents and Students,

Thank you for your interest in joining the award-winning El Dorado Dance Team! The El Dorado Dance Team is a competition team. We compete at local, state and national level competitions. The team also performs at school assemblies, sporting events, community events, and produces a show in the spring.

The purpose of this packet is to familiarize you with the try-out process for the EDHS Dance Team and also to explain the EXPECTATIONS for each dance team member and family. .

- As a member of the team you must commit a great deal of time and energy throughout the entire school year.
- We practice during the summer and attend a four day overnight camp.
- You must be able to register for zero (6:50am) and first period. You will receive a grade for these classes, **PE credit** for 0 period and **Fine Art** credit for 1st period. You must be available as early as 6:20 am for some rehearsals.
- You must attend all competitions and performances. We generally attend five to seven competitions during the year which fall on Saturdays with some Fridays and Sundays. Competitions begin in December and conclude in March.
- We also host a competition at El Dorado as a fundraiser where all team members and all parents are expected to work.
- We produce a Spring Show typically in early May. The show is two nights, Friday and Saturday, and parents are expected to work one of those nights.
- Social plans, vacations, job schedules, and your studio cannot interfere with these requirements.
- Incoming freshman, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the commitments for summer, please feel free to email or call me to discuss.
- Parents are also expected to commit time to the team, including driving carpools for competitions, participating in all fundraisers, and working hosted events.

AT THIS TIME WE DO NOT KNOW IF WE WILL HAVE AN IN-PERSON TRYOUT OR VIRTUAL TRYOUT. BOTH SCENARIOS WILL BE DESCRIBED BELOW. THIS WILL BE DECIDED BY MARCH 26.

Requirements for Auditioning for the 2021-22 Dance Team In-person

1. Complete the attached application and Dance Team Contract and return it to Shan Lawson at El Dorado by April 5 via the following options:
 - By mail to El Dorado - Attn. Shan Lawson, 1651 N. Valencia Ave. Placentia, CA 92870
 - By dropping it off at El Dorado HS in the school office
 - By email to slawson@pylusd.org
2. Attend Dance Team try-outs on **April 12-April 16** in the New Gym at El Dorado HS
 - We are holding five days at this time but will only use three.
 - Two days to learn tryout dances and across the floor combo 4:00-6:00pm
 - One day for the actual tryout 6:00pm -9:00pm
3. Applicant must carry an unweighted GPA of 2.0 to be eligible to audition for the Dance Team.
4. Turn in a **physical** or have a current physical on file in the El Dorado office **BEFORE** tryouts begin. Physical forms are available at edhs.org (Click on Athletics and then “physical form”). The complete Athletic Packet is not due until summer practices begin.
5. Attend informational meeting on Wednesday, March 10, at 7:00pm via zoom. This is the link for the zoom meeting. [Informational Dance Team Meeting](#) (Attendance is not required but highly recommended.)
6. Applicants will learn two dances at try-outs: one lyrical and one jazz. Dancers will also be evaluated on an “across the floor” combination. Independent judges are hired for scoring. Judges scores will be based on technique, style and showmanship.
7. Those who make the team will be eligible to participate in all school performances and will be on at least **two** competition dances.
8. Auditions for additional competition dances and solos will be held in August. We will have a total of 5-7 competition dances. These styles will include, but are not limited to: jazz, lyrical, contemporary, hip hop, and pom.
9. The number of soloists is determined at the August auditions.

Requirements for Auditioning for the 2020-21 Dance Team Virtually:

1. Complete the google form and attach necessary videos using this link [Virtual Tryout Form](#) (this link is not active yet)
2. Video submissions are due by April 14.
3. Applicant must carry an unweighted GPA of 2.0 to be eligible to audition for Dance Team
4. Attend informational meeting on Wednesday, March 10, at 7:00pm via zoom. This is the link for the zoom meeting. [Informational Dance Team Meeting](#) (Attendance is not required but highly recommended.)
5. Applicants will submit three videos; an “across the floor” combination, a lyrical dance and a jazz dance. You must submit your application and videos by 11:59 pm, April 14.

- Across the floor combination: Include a kick on each leg, a double or triple pirouette, a front leap, side leap, and chaine leap (any type; calypso, both legs straight, etc)
 - If you do not have room to go "across the floor" you may demonstrate the requested technique center floor.
 - Lyrical dance or combo: 30 seconds to a minute in length. You can use any dance you already know. If you do not have a dance you can use, an instructional video will be provided to you. Varsity is providing us with free tryout materials and judges.
 - Jazz dance or combo: 30 seconds to a minute in length. Please include a turn sequence with a minimum of three a la seconds and a double pirouette.
6. Those who make the team will be eligible to participate in all school performances and will be on at least two competition dances.
 7. Auditions for additional competition dances and solos will be held in August. We will have a total of 5-7 competition dances. These styles will include, but are not limited to; jazz, lyrical, contemporary, hip hop, and pom.
 8. The number of soloists is determined at the August auditions.

Team Commitment

1. Team members must attend morning practices held during 0 and 1st period Monday through Friday. Failure to do so will affect your grade in the class and your status on the team.
2. Team members are required to participate in all performances, including assemblies, sporting events, shows, etc.
3. All team members must be able to commit to every weekend December through March for competitions. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!** Team members are also required to stay through awards at all competitions. We will set our competition schedule as early as possible so you will know which weekends you have a commitment. Until then please keep all weekends open.
4. All team members are expected to take dance classes to improve their skills throughout the year in addition to dance team practices.

Summer Commitment

Being a member of the dance team is a year-round commitment. This commitment begins in the summer. All members are expected to adhere to the following schedule:

1. **Dance Camp** July 21-24 at California State University, Fullerton. Back up location and dates are Knott's Berry Farm July 26-29. This is an overnight camp. The contribution towards camp is approximately \$425 per dancer. For returning members, if you miss camp you will not dance in up to the first four school performances. (If you miss all 4 days you will sit out the first 4

performances, 3 days, the first 3 performances, etc.) If you must leave camp early, the last day, you will sit out for the team's first performance.

2. **Week of Excellence** will be either Monday-Friday August 16-20 or August 23-27. The hours will be approximately 8:00am-12:00pm, Monday through Friday.

3. **Summer Practices**

- Dancers must complete the online Athletic Clearance packet BEFORE the first day of practice. More details regarding this packet will be provided at a later date. Returning members must have a new physical on file by the first day of practice.
- Practice Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 6:30am-8:30 am beginning June 22, 2021. This is tentative at this time until we get confirmation from our Athletic Director.
- Summer practices include learning choreography for competition routines. These will be on the summer schedule. It is extremely important that team members attend these practices.
- We will take a little over two weeks off from July 30 -August 15. Please try to schedule family vacations during that time.
- Dancers can miss a total of three practices (for compelling reasons) without a consequence.
- **NEW THIS YEAR:** Returning dancers will be allowed to miss 3 practices (in addition to the two weeks off) with no consequence. For every practice missed beyond the three, the dancer will not be allowed to dance in a school performance. (If a dancer misses 5 total practices she will not perform in the first 2 school performances, ie. Welcome Back Assembly and first football game.) Dancers are still required to attend the event in uniform even if not performing. If a dancer needs to leave a summer practice early, the minutes will be totaled and if they reach 90 minutes, that will count as one absence of the 3 allowed.
- The contribution towards summer coaching and summer expenses is approximately \$150 - \$200 per dancer.

Team Trip

The dance team traditionally travels to one competition each year for an extended overnight stay. The team will fundraise to defray the cost of the trip for the dancers; contribution per dancer is approximately \$400-\$1400, depending on the destination, length of the trip, etc. In the past we have traveled to Florida, San Francisco, Las Vegas and San Diego.

Financial Contributions

There are many necessary expenditures associated with running a competitive, award-winning dance team. Members of the team will be required to participate in all fund-raising activities. Some possible fund-raisers are: online fundraiser campaign, clothing drive, In and Out Burger campus event, Disneyland Raffle tickets, candy bar sales, and Bingo. In addition, we host a dance competition at El Dorado to raise funds to support our program. All dancers and two of his/her family members will be expected to be available and work the competition for the entire day. Any financial concerns should be brought to the Director's attention. We don't want anyone excluded from participation due to financial difficulties. In the past, the booster club has been helpful in offsetting any differences.

The following is an estimated breakdown of some financial contributions the team will need per dancer:

Expenses	Info	Approx. Amt
Varsity Order*	team sweats, performance dress, and and backpack *Payment due April 26	approximately \$400
Misc Items	shorts, tanks, leggings, hoodie, cover up, team shoes, duffle bag, and poms*	\$300-\$400
Costumes	up to \$150 per dance (2-7 competition dances)	TBD
Camp**	**A down payment of half will be due May 11	\$425
Summer Coaching		\$150-\$200
School Year Coaching	approximately \$70 per month	total amount?
Nationals Competition Trip	Based on location and fundraising efforts	\$400-\$1200

The following table shows the approximate costs per month for a **new member**. Returning members have a lower cost because we reuse many items for more than one year. This table is based on traveling to Florida which is considered a "big trip" year. We have not determined if this will be a big trip year or a small trip year.

- **The below cost estimate does not include costs for competition makeup, dance shoes or parent travel costs that dancers/families must purchase on their own.**

- For those that make the team, we will ask you to pay for your Varsity (online vendor for dance clothing/accessories) order by April 26 so production of our team gear can be started immediately.
- Half your camp balance will be due May 10 and the other half on June 7. Other costs will be spread out over the summer and fall.

Month	Parent Payment
April	\$400*
May	\$300**
June	\$300
July	\$400
August	\$400 (included \$300 trip deposit)
September	\$450 (included \$300 trip deposit)
October	\$450 (included \$200 trip & costumes)
November	\$350 (included \$100 trip & costumes)
December	\$100
January-March	\$100 per month
TOTAL:	\$3,450 (approx.)

EL DORADO HIGH SCHOOL DANCERS MUST BE INDIVIDUALS WHO STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS, IN PERSONAL CONDUCT AND IN PERFORMANCE! THEY MUST BE INTERESTED IN PERSONAL GROWTH AND IMPROVEMENT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, AND INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. WE TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN WHAT WE DO!

Please feel free to email if you have any questions at slawson@pylUSD.org or call me at (714) 501-0195. Please do not leave a voicemail message, text messages only. (Please continue reading for the last two documents.)

Sincerely,

Shan Lawson - Dance Team Director

2021-2022 EDHS Dance Team Contract

Policies and Expectations

1. All students must attend all days of clinics / try-outs if we are having an in-person tryout.
2. All students must submit a physical in order to try-out BEFORE clinics begin; all team members must athletically clear BEFORE summer practices begin. *For returning members, new physicals are due before the first day of summer practice.*
3. All team members must register for 0 and 1st period dance and be available for practices before school each morning. All team members must also maintain good attendance to morning practice. You will not be excused from practice to make up assignments for other classes or participate in other activities.
4. All team members must attend summer practices, camp and Week of Excellence in the summer.
5. All team members must participate in fundraising events.
6. All team members **must attend all competitions (including awards) and performances.** Competitions and performances will be scheduled in advance and dancers will be expected to arrange **all other commitments** around this schedule. All team members must attend practice the day before a competition. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
7. All team members must ride to and from **all** competitions and performances in assigned carpools.
8. All team members must wear specified uniforms to competition and when asked to at school and other events.
9. All team members must agree not to possess or use tobacco, alcohol, or other dangerous drugs **AT ANY TIME.** There will be a zero tolerance policy with regard to these substances – any infraction may result with immediate removal from the team.
10. All team members must agree not to behave in any manner that brings dishonor or shame to the school or the community.
11. All team members will sign a social media contract.
12. All team members will set a good example on campus and in the classroom. All team members will maintain a “C” (2.0) grade point average.
13. I understand that the only excuse from any dance team activity is illness or serious family business, per the Director’s approval.
15. Attendance is MANDATORY at all tech rehearsals for our spring show. Failure to attend will result in removal from your dances at the discretion of your Director and Coach.
16. **All team members must respect the decisions of the coach and director. Team members must understand that they are not guaranteed the opportunity to perform with the team, and may be “benched” at any time at the discretion of the coach/director.**

I have read these statements thoroughly and agree to abide by them. I understand that failure to comply with the above guidelines may result in a lower academic grade and/or removal from performance routines and/or the Dance Team. *Dancer and parent signatures will be collected on this document once an applicant has made the team.*

El Dorado High School

2021-2022 Dance Team Application Form

(This form only needs to be filled out if we are trying out in person. For virtual tryouts, information will be collected on the google form.)

- 1) Please fully complete all parts of the application below in legible writing.
- 2) Please attach a current picture and a copy of your current report card to your application.

APPLICANT'S INFORMATION			
NAME	First	Middle	Last
CURRENT GRADE LEVEL	Circle one: 8 9 10 11	BIRTHDATE	
CURRENT SCHOOL		T-SHIRT SIZE	
ADDRESS			City
HOME PHONE		CELL PHONE #	
EMAIL	<i>(not a PYLUSD email as songs & videos cannot be sent to school emails)</i>		
Have you had any dance experience? If so, when and where?			
Have you ever been a member of a school or studio dance team? If so, when and where?			

PARENT'S INFORMATION		
	MOTHER'S INFO	FATHER'S INFO
NAME		
CELL PHONE #		
EMAIL		

Please attach a current picture and a copy of your current report card to your application.