



DANCER HANDBOOK

2025–2026

(Miriam's Dance Academy)



WELCOME TO (MDA)

Welcome to the official handbook of Miriam's Dance Academy! We're so glad to have you as a dancer with us this season! This handbook is meant to be your go-to resource whenever you have questions about dress code, class etiquette, communication, and general studio guidelines and expectations. Our goal is to foster a positive dancing environment for growth and part of that process is making sure we're all on the same page so we can grow together!





OUR PROMISE

We're so glad you've joined us!

At Miriam's Dance Academy we're proud of the environment we've created to train dancers in excellence and promote a positive studio culture in a faith based environment.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide quality dance education in a loving faith based environment. Our vision is to populate multiple dance studios in other cities so that others can experience the joy of faith based dance training.



REGISTRATION

How long is my registration good for?

When you register you are signing up for an entire 9 month period from September to recital date, which is held in June of the following year. We do offer mini sessions for younger students who don't want the long term commitment but shorter class sessions.

A one time non-refundable registration fee of \$30/\$60 per family is due when enrolling plus first month tuition. Please note: Classes may be canceled due to low enrollment numbers. In the event of this happening we sometimes combine classes to ensure students may still participate in a class closer to their selected class.

A student should register according to their age level, however the Director has the right to move a child if they feel a different level would be more suited to their abilities and strengths.

Registration does not include practice wear, any costumes, shoes, etc. Those items are a separate cost.

HOW DO I ADD CLASSES?

All classes should be added on the parent portal, which will direct you to register on our online parent portal. Once you create your account you may add classes. If you are having trouble, please contact us.



HOW DO I DROP CLASSES?

To cancel or switch classes with our studio, you may do so by contacting the office at 336-937-0422 or email at miriamsdanceacademy@gmail.com.

What does registration include?

Registration includes one gift per year. You will also receive a digital packet with everything you need to know from calendar of events to costumes and where to purchase apparel.

Miriam's Dance Academy has the right to drop a student from a class if:

- There have been four consecutive absences with no communication from the student's family. It is encouraged that we are informed if a student will be absent by submitting the absence in the portal.
- Tuition has not been paid for a 45 day timeframe. In the event that tuition has not been paid, the student can return to class AFTER tuition has been caught up.

Make-up Classes:

We do not prorate tuition for missed classes or holidays. A make up class for illness may be requested as a private lesson, at the private class rate. In the event of inclement weather or emergencies, zoom or Google meet classes are held for all classes.

Getting a Dancer Early

Parents - if you need to get your dancer from class, please notify the teacher or Director in advance. The Studio Assistant will assist in removing your dancer. Parents should not go into a class already in session to pull their dancer as it is very distracting to other students.

Refunds:

We do not give refunds of any sort. If a dancer withdraws, we will not refund for costumes or tuition that has already been paid. Fundraisers are given in the form of dance credit only. Credits may be transferred to other dancers if desired, however the request must be sent in writing.

Parents Sit In

Parents are not allowed to sit in classes as it is a distraction for students. We have a drop off and pick up policy. Parents may sit in the hallway, their car or leave and return.

Fundraisers

We hold fundraisers throughout the year as a credit towards costumes and additional fees. Fundraisers cannot be returned to a parent in form of cash or any monetary funds. Fundraiser monies must be applied in the current season and cannot rollover into another season.

Methods of Payment:

We accept many forms of payment including:

- Logging into your online portal gateway
- Cash/Debit/Credit in studio
- Cash app \$mdadance (apply 3% fee)
- Venmo @mdadance1 (apply 3% fee)
- Zelle: miriamsdanceacademy@gmail.com (apply 3% fee)

Electronic receipts will be emailed for any payment made towards any amounts paid.

Parental Support

We depend heavily on parental support for our snacks lists, bottled waters, classroom helpers, parent committee, and more.

We ask that parents help us as much as possible.

Practice wear

Students should arrive to class in practice wear according to their class schedule.

Purchasing practice wear is the parent's responsibility. Practice wear may be purchased from Amazon, Carolina Dancewear, Walmart or Target (younger dancers only), or any dance store online.

POLICIES

COMMUNICATION

How do we communicate?

Weekly bulletins are emailed every Sunday. The bulletin is also placed in the Studio Announcements on your parent portal. We also text important updates.

We post pictures, videos and updates weekly on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

BEFORE/AFTER CLASS

All dancers should use the bathroom before class begins. They should have no jewelry (only stud earrings if so). Hair should be pulled back out of the face of the dancer.

Upon entering class, dancer should utilize our cubbies for all belongings. Please do not bring toys, or any extra belongings in class. Please do not enter class prior to 5 minutes before classes due to class switches occurring.

If you arrive to class late, please change your shoes quietly and join class. Do not talk while the teacher is talking. Listen first and then ask relevant questions. Refer to each class's specific dress code to make sure you dress accordingly for practices and performances.

After class, dancer should quietly gather things and exit the classroom. Younger dancers will not be dismissed without a parent.

DANCER EXPECTATIONS

In every practice and performance, dancers will conduct themselves with self-control and treat facilities and venues with respect, leaving them in the same condition, if not better than when we arrived. Dancers should treat all instructors, and peers with respect and keep their hands to themselves. We will address unkind words, cursing words, bullying, etc that comes to our attention directly. In the event of consistent inappropriate behavior the following will occur:

1. Speak with dancer and inform the parent. If behavior continues...
2. Speak with dancer and parent together in one meeting. If behavior continues..
3. Dismissal from the academy.

PRACTICE DRESS CODE

No gum, smart watches or jewelry during class or performances.

All leotards should be plain, short sleeved

MDA colors: purple, turquoise, silver, black, white

Ballet I

- Plain Ballet pink short sleeve leotard
- Skin toned footless tights
- Black bottoms of any sort: this can be ballet skirt, biker shorts, leggings.
- Flesh toned ballet shoes

Ballet III

- Royal blue leotard (added to your portal, purchased by staff)
- Skin toned footless tights
- Black bottoms of any sort: dance skirt, biker shorts or black leggings
- Flesh toned ballet split sole ballet shoes

Hip Hop

- Can wear any loose fitting clothing. This may include joggers or sweatpants. (no jeans)
- Black hip hop shoe (Amazon)

Boys Hip Hop

- Any loose fitting clothes.
- Black hip hop shoes (See costume tab in portal)

Acro/Tumbling

- Any color leotard or gymnast style leotard with shorts. Please ensure bottoms are covered
- Biker shorts, leggings, or Acro shorts

Ballet II

- Grape purple leotard (added to your portal, purchased by staff)
- Skin toned footless tights
- Black bottoms of any sort: dance skirt, biker shorts or leggings
- Flesh toned split sole ballet shoes

Teen Class

- Any loose fitting clothing (no jeans)

Tap

- Any loose fitting clothing
- Black tap shoe with no shoe strings.

Cheer/Dance Pom Pom

- Any loose fitting clothing, this may include joggers, sweatpants, cheer shorts, biker shorts
- Pom Poms (added to your portal, purchased by staff)
- Cheer Shoe (see link from Amazon from staff)

Pre-Ballet

- Any pink leotard, dance skirt, or ballet dress combination.
- Skin toned footless tights
- Pink Toddler ballet shoes

Creative Movement

- Any loose fitting clothing

TUITION POLICIES



You may input a debit/credit card on your online account when registering for an auto draft payment.

Tuition is due on the 5th of the of the month, and late 7 days after in which a \$20 late fee is assessed.

Should you choose to withdraw your dancer, please notify the office through email. No refunds will be applied when withdrawing a student. Any fundraising funds will be forfeited or can be transferred to another dancer upon exiting.

Accounts must be at zero balance to participate in the Christmas show and recital.

COSTUMES

If we are in any parade students should wear any Miriam's swag OR Miriam's colors. Students walking in any parade should wear black shoes such as tennis shoes or jazz shoes.

Christmas show costumes are red leotard and black dance skirt for any class other than hip hop and tap. Black dance skirts should be purchased in Amazon with pictures located in the costumes tab in Dance Studio Pro.

In addition to the Christmas parade parents are expected to purchase recital costumes for each class your child is registered in. All recital costumes are priced at \$75 per class. We try to utilize costumes from previous years to cut costs, therefore costumes should never be discarded after the recital. Each class performs two numbers in the recital. The second costume is a less expensive costume from Amazon or a similar store. The second is shared in January.

Costume fees do not include tights, leggings for the closing dance, MDA t-shirts or any additional props. A \$75 costume fee per class deposit is posted in October for costume fees. We do not distribute costumes until tuition is up to date and costume fees are paid in full.



PERFORMANCES

Please take a look at our annual calendar located on your dance portal for dates. You will also receive a monthly calendar for the month and you can also utilize the bulletin board located in the studio for information and our monthly wishlists.

We perform at the following:

- Greensboro Christmas Parade (1st Saturday of December) at 12 noon.
- Christmas Show (generally held the second week of December)
- Annual Recital. Held once per year in late May or early June. Each class will showcase two dances per class.

Community Outreach Team

This is a team in which students age 7 and up may sign up to perform out in the community a minimum of 2 times per year. This is an extra commitment but an awesome opportunity to grow in dance. One dance is performed the entire season and one extra costume has to be purchased. There is no extra cost to perform on the team, however the student must be fully dedicated the entire season, committed to two hour practices on days the entire team can practice before a performance.

To apply click here <https://www.miriamsdanceacademy.com/performance-team>



WHY ARE DRESS REHEARSALS MANDATORY

The purpose of a dress rehearsal is to see the choreography in the performance space for the first and final time before performing. To maintain the professionalism of our performances, we must have every dancer present in order to ensure that all elements are working together for a beautiful final product. Dancing is very much a team sport and each dancer deserves to have their fellow dancers present to get a successful final practice before the show.

Your dancer may have quick changes, partner choreography, last minute placement changes on stage due to space, lifts, costume issues that need to be worked out, or any other number of technical components that must be practiced before they are allowed to perform. For that reason, if a dancer does not attend dress rehearsal, they may be removed or their part changed in a piece.



PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons are available for dancers who desire one on one assistance with choreography, technique or extra help. A cancelation of a private lesson requires a 24-hour notice of a planned absence. If a student misses their private lesson the instructor is under no obligation to reschedule or make-up the missed lesson. A missed lesson without proper notification of absence will be charged a non refundable lesson to the student's account.

Private lessons may be requested in the portal or by contacting the office. The director and teachers may suggest a student take a private lesson if it is seen that the lesson would benefit the student. Private lessons are \$35 for one hour, \$30 for 45 minutes or \$25 for 30 minutes.

SPECIAL NEEDS

At Miriam's Dance Academy, we embrace every child with love and care. However, our staff is not fully trained to work with children who have high special needs. We will always do our best to serve all families by offering a free trial class—with a parent or guardian present—to help determine if additional support is needed.

We handle these situations on a case-by-case basis, working closely with parents/guardians to find the best possible solution for each child. In some cases, we may kindly ask that a parent or guardian remain in class with their child if we feel it is necessary to ensure their safety and success.

THANK YOU



It's going to be a wonderful season!
We appreciate you taking the time to
read, understand, and accept our
studio's policies and procedures.

By joining our academy, you agree to
adhere to all policies included in our
handbook.