



# Dance Masters of America, Inc.

## Open Scholarship Audition Class Rules

### 2026



You must register using JotForm found on the National website <https://www.dmanational.org/> by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

All fees must be sent to the National Treasurer's Office and **POSTMARKED by April 15<sup>th</sup>**.

#### Section 1 – ELIGIBILITY

1. Only members in good standing or a student of a member in good standing of Dance Masters of America, Inc. (hereafter listed as DMA) may enter and participate in the NATIONAL OPEN SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS held annually at the National Convention.
2. The Teacher of Recognition is permitted to perform the duties of the Teacher of Record during the National Convention, with notice of the change being given to the Advisory Committee prior to their arrival, with no extra fees or limitations and without requiring the Teacher of Record to be on site, providing that the Teacher of Recognition is a DMA member in good standing and listed on the registration jot form. Both the Teacher of Record and the Teacher of Recognition must be paid registrants of the National Convention.
3. The Teacher of Record shall be the DMA Member Teacher whose signature appears on the National Scholarship Competition Application as the Teacher of Record. The Teacher of Record, Teacher of Recognition, and/or DMA Approved Chaperone shall be legally responsible for the entrant.
4. Entrants into the NATIONAL OPEN SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS must be:
  - A. **10-12 Scholarships:** be a minimum of ten (10) years of age and not more than twelve (12) years of age as of June 1st.
  - B. **13 & Over Scholarships:** a minimum of thirteen (13) years of age and not more than twenty-three (23) years of age as of June 1st.
5. The Entrant, the Teacher of Record, Teacher of Recognition, and the DMA Approved Chaperone must be registered for the DMA National Convention at which the NATIONAL OPEN SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS are held.
6. Registration will be capped at 75 entries per subject.
7. Registration forms for the NATIONAL OPEN SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS will be accepted on site (subject to availability), for an additional fee, until 24 hours before the specific subject audition begins.

#### Section 2 – DRESS CODE

8. The required clothing shall be the responsibility of the entrant.
  - A. Female Entrants will be required to dress as follows for all competition classes.
    1. One-piece black leotard. No embellishments and/or undergarments showing. No studio logos allowed. Small brand name logos are permitted. Sheer and lace allowed. Pink or skin-tone tights. Females not wearing tights for Acrobatics or Modern must wear boy cut dance shorts over their leotard.
    2. Appropriate dance shoes for Ballet and Tap. There are no shoe requirements for Jazz, Acrobatic, or Modern class.
    3. No jewelry, shirts, or pants, etc.
    4. Hair must be secured neatly off the neckline. No ponytails, hats, or other head ornaments are allowed.
  - B. Male Entrants will be required to dress as follows for all competition classes.
    1. Black compression or form fitting pants/shorts or black tights.
    2. Dance Belt must be worn if wearing black tights.
    3. Black form fitting compression or muscle shirt tucked in.
    4. Appropriate dance shoes for Ballet and Tap. There are no shoe requirements for Jazz,

- Acrobatic or Modern class.
- 5. No jewelry, hats, etc.
- 6. Hair must be secured neatly off the face and neckline.
- 7. No stripes or other designs on pants, shorts, or shirts. No Studio logos allowed. Small brand name logos are permitted.

### Section 3 – JUDGING & AWARDS

9. Entrants may compete in the audition(s) of their choosing. The following audition classes will be offered:
  - A. **10-12 Scholarships:** Ballet, Tap, Jazz, and Acrobatics.
  - B. **13 & Over Scholarships:** Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Modern, and Acrobatics.  
The Entrant's score shall be based on their technique, ability to comprehend, projection, musicality, and appearance.
10. Students are encouraged to compete in all auditions to accumulate points for the DMA Award of Excellence (for 13 & Over Open Scholarships) and/or Four (4) Phase National Open Scholarship Awards.
11. The following Scholarship awards will be given:
  - A. **10-12 Scholarships**
    1. Four (4) Phase National Open Scholarship Overall Awards shall be presented to the entrants with the highest combined total score in 4 subjects (Ballet, Tap, Jazz, and Acrobatics). The following minimum number of participants in each of the auditions are:
      - 10-14 participants shall be required for the 4 Phase Winner.
      - 15-19 participants shall be required for a 4 Phase Winner and 1<sup>st</sup> runner up.
      - 20 or more participants shall be required for a 4 Phase Winner, 1<sup>st</sup> runner up, and 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up.

The winners of these awards shall not be eligible for any other National Open Scholarship Subject Awards at this convention.
    2. The National Open Scholarship Subject Awards in each subject shall be presented (using the same scale as above) in Ballet, Tap, Jazz, and Acrobatics. Each winner shall receive the highest monetary award that they have qualified for in accordance with their scores.
  - B. **13 & Over Scholarships**
    1. The DMA Award of Excellence shall be presented to the entrant with the highest combined total score in all 5 subjects (Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Modern, and Acrobatics). A minimum of ten (10) participants in each of the five (5) auditions will be required to present this Award. The winner of the award shall not be eligible for any other National Open Scholarship Audition Awards in their lifetime.
    2. Four (4) Phase National Open Scholarship Overall Awards shall be presented to the entrants with the highest combined total score in 4 subjects with Ballet, Tap, and Jazz being required and the 4th score coming from either the Modern or Acrobatics audition. The following minimum number of participants in each of the auditions are:
      - 10-14 participants shall be required for the 4 Phase Winner
      - 15-19 participants shall be required for the 4 Phase Winner and 1st runner up
      - 20 or more participants shall be required for the 4 Phase Winner, 1<sup>st</sup> runner up, and 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up.

The winners of these awards shall not be eligible for any other National Open Scholarship SUBJECT Awards at this convention.
    3. The National Open Scholarship Subject Awards in each subject shall be presented (using the same scale as above) in Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Modern and Acrobatics. Each winner shall receive the highest monetary award that they have qualified for in accordance with their scores.
12. The winner of the DMA Award of Excellence (13 & Over) must retire from the National Open Scholarship Auditions. The Four (4) Phase National Open Scholarship Overall Winner may compete the following year.
13. National Open Scholarship Awards in each subject and the Four (4) Phase (12 & Under and 13 & Over) National Overall Open Scholarship Awards will be presented during the PASC Overall Awards.

14. The DMA Award of Excellence (13 & Over) will be presented at the Annual Awards Banquet.

#### **Section 4 – GENERAL INFORMATION**

15. The Entrant agrees to the following:

- A. To be on time, properly dressed and groomed according to the Dress Code provided.
- B. To abide by all the rules of the NATIONAL OPEN SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS stated or announced thereafter. Any violations will result in penalty point deductions. Violations include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Missing/late for Roll Call
  - 2. Disobeying Director
  - 3. Dress Code Violation
  - 4. Poor Attitude/Uncooperative/Use of Foul Language
  - 5. Immoral Behavior, use of drugs or alcohol
  - 6. Late for Audition (after the door is closed)

Penalty Points and/or disqualification will be determined by the National Advisory Committee.

16. Auditions will be closed to all observers.

17. Teachers of Record, DMA Approved Chaperone, and Entrants will comply with the Official Rules of the Open Scholarship Audition Rules now in effect or as announced thereafter.