

## 1. OBJECTIVES

The *Dancer Training Support Program* is an indispensable tool for improving the socio-economic conditions of dancers. Since February 1994, the Program assists dancers by subsidizing the cost of regular training in diverse techniques throughout the year. This training is essential to the profession, whether the dancer be in a period of rehearsal, performance, unemployment or social assistance. This support takes the form of financial aid paid directly to the dancers upon presentation of their training receipts.

The objectives of the Program are the following:

- to develop the profession of dancing;
- to improve the dancer's socio-economic status;
- to maintain optimum employability;
- to improve and maintain complete fitness;
- reduce the risk of injuries.

The Training Support Program Committee, composed of Johanna Bienaise, Nathalie Blanchet, Georges-Nicolas Tremblay and Jamie Wright, recommended that the Policy be renewed for the year 2014-2015. The recommendation was unanimously adopted by the RQD Board of Directors at the May 12, 2014 meeting.

RQD reserves the right to modify the 2014-2015 Policy throughout the year, depending on availability of funds.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the program, dancers must:

- be a member of RQD and meet the admission requirements for their membership category (see 2.1);
- complete an [on-line application form](http://www.quebecdanse.org/adhesion/formulaire-demande-soutien/)<sup>1</sup>;
- forward the required supporting documents to RQD (see 2.1).

**After initially applying to RQD**, dancers must wait four months before qualifying for the Training Support Program. Any classes, workshops or training memberships purchased during this waiting period are non-refundable.

**In the case of membership renewals**, the program eligibility takes effect on the date that RQD receives the payment of fees. All dancers must renew their memberships by July 1, 2014 in order to avoid any interruption in the processing of claims. If members renew on September 1, 2014, the classes, workshops and training memberships purchased between July 1 and August 31, 2014 will not be reimbursed.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.quebecdanse.org/adhesion/formulaire-demande-soutien/>

**2.1 Admission Requirements**

<b>2.1.1 Apprentice Member</b>	<b>2.1.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Must have completed, within the last three years (2012, 2013 or 2014), initial training in dance at an advanced-level institution. <b>Supporting documents required:</b> copy of diploma or Attestation of Collegial Studies (ACS).</li> <li>› In the case of equivalent training, the applicant must be a member of RQD for at least three years. <b>Supporting documents required:</b> CV containing a detailed description of the courses and workshops taken.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Must have a minimum of eight paid performances<sup>2</sup> in Quebec or Canada in a professional context<sup>3</sup> for two consecutive years between 2012 and 2017. <b>Supporting documents required :</b> copies of letters of agreement or <u>signed</u> contracts.<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>

**3. SPECIAL CASES**

- Beginning in the fourth year of RQD membership, **apprentice members** who have an equivalent training must attain the status of professional individual members or corporate members to have access to the Training Support Program.
- **Individual or corporate members who do not have a minimum of eight performances** may qualify for the Training Support Program if they have accumulated a minimum of 300 hours of paid work. These hours must have been devoted to research and creation or the remount of a work as a dancer, and over a period of two consecutive years between 2012 and 2017. These activities, however, must not have been the object of paid performances.  
**Supporting documents required:** updated CV and copies of letters of agreement or signed contracts.
- **Dancers who receive support for their training on a regular basis from their employer** (financial support or training classes) are eligible for the Program solely during periods of unemployment.  
**Supporting documents required:** Signed contract or attestation from employer specifying periods of inactivity or unemployment.
- **Individual or corporate members who have been inactive over the last two years** because of a prolonged work stoppage (pregnancy, maternity leave, accident or illness) are eligible, subject to evaluation.  
**Supporting documents required:** updated CV, medical certificate, birth certificate of child, or other pertinent documents.

<sup>2</sup> Corporate events and activities that took place in an academic, amateur or semi-professional context will not be recognized in the calculation of eight performances.

<sup>3</sup> The professional context includes organisations primarily involved in creation or presentation. It can include dance companies or collectives, theatres or venues recognized by one’s peers. Included in this definition are events in which the dancers are chosen by other dance professionals.

<sup>4</sup> Evening programs, posters, invoices and websites are not admissible as supporting documents.

#### 4. REIMBURSED TRAINING

4.1 Apprentice Member	4.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Classes in ballet, contemporary dance <b>AND</b> another optional genre</li> <li>› Pilates, yoga, gyrokinesis, gyrotonic, Qi Gong, Gym sur table TCP, Perfmax and fitness training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› All technical training related to dance.</li> </ul>

Only classes, workshops and training memberships taken in Quebec are reimbursable. However, members residing in Gatineau may obtain financial support for dance classes and workshops taken in Ottawa.

Classes and workshops funded by Emploi-Québec in Montreal are not reimbursable.

The costs of physical fitness evaluation services, studio rentals, or training materials are not reimbursable.

#### 5. AMOUNT REIMBURSED

5.1 Apprentice Member	5.2 Professional Individual or Corporate Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Up to \$7 per class.</li> <li>› Workshops and memberships: 40% of cost</li> <li>› Up to a maximum of \$500 per year, subject to availability of funds.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Up to \$7 per class.</li> <li>› Training sessions costing more than \$30: \$15</li> <li>› Workshops and memberships: 40% of cost</li> <li>› Up to a maximum of \$600 per year, subject to availability of funds.</li> </ul>

#### 6. REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE

- To obtain a reimbursement, **members must submit to RQD a duly completed expense claim form, along with photocopied receipts.** A blank form will be sent to each claimant.
- Members have **three months from the date of the receipt of payment to make their claims.**
- The maximum processing time for claims is 30 working days. RQD will send out all reimbursements by mail.
- **RQD will not issue cheques for claims under \$40.** Claims below this amount will be processed at a later date, upon reception of other claims, until the total of the reimbursement reaches \$40 or more.

## 7. CSST AND MCC COVERAGE OF DANCERS IN THE EVENT OF INJURY

As of January 2006, members admitted to the Dancers Training Support Program are covered by CSST in the event of an injury or accident occurring during supervised training not governed by a work contract. This is the result of an agreement between the CSST and the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec (MCC).

To learn more about the procedure to follow in the case of injury, please consult the [following page](#)<sup>5</sup> or contact Dominic Simoneau at (514) 849-4003, extension 227. Your request for coverage will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://bit.ly/classescsst>