



2025 COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

ENTRY INFORMATION

All entries must be submitted online or postmarked no later than 30 days before the competition date to receive the studio discount of 5%! Studios returning for a consecutive year will receive an additional 5% loyalty discount if submitted by deadline. After 30 days space IS NOT GUARANTEED and there will be a \$5.00 late fee applied to each routine. Entries are taken on a first come first served basis, therefore, REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE in order to secure a spot. Entries will only be processed if completed and accompanied by full payment and all necessary forms. We will notify all studios via email that their entries have been received and confirmed.

*Studios that submit the RSVP Voucher along with a \$250 deposit by December 1st will receive an additional 5% studio discount.

All certified checks or money orders should be made out to the address below:

Elevate Dance
1050 Street Road, Unit 1255
Southampton, PA 18966

Payment methods include credit card, certified check, or money order. No checks will be accepted from individual parents or guardians.

No cash refunds will be issued under **ANY** circumstances. Credit will be issued for dancer/entry removals prior to the event. Absolutely no credits will be issued event day or after event completion.

ELEVATE does not accept independent entries. Competitors may only compete with one studio.

All changes to original submitted entries must be in writing. Changes to original entries **MUST** be submitted 14 days prior to the event or they will not be implemented. Any changes made to an entry within 14 days of the event will be subject to a Change Fee of \$10 per entry.

SCHEDULING & CONFLICTS

Studio directors will receive an email approximately one week prior to the competition with a schedule and other necessary details.

Because of our unique style of scheduling, scheduling requests can be submitted. Scheduling requests are not guaranteed but we try our best to accommodate everyone. If there are scheduling conflicts (proms, weddings, etc.) within your studio, requests for scheduling should be made at time of registration. If conflicts are presented after registration is completed, requests must be made **in writing** no less than **two weeks** prior to the competition date. Requests made less than two weeks prior cannot be guaranteed.

Changes cannot be made to the final schedule after it has been sent out or during the competition weekend.

PERFORMANCE LEVELS

Placement in one of the three levels is to be determined by the teacher's discretion. Judges may elevate routines that are obviously under-placed. All decisions are final.

Novice - Dancers in the novice level should train no more than 3 hours per week. These performers have little or no competition experience and should be in the beginning stages of formal dance training.

Intermediate - Dancers in the intermediate level should train between 3-5 hours per week. These performers have limited competition experience.

Competitive - Dancers in the competitive level should train over 5 hours per week. These performers have significant competition experience.

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Jazz - Contains traditional jazz movements and technique to up tempo music. No Street or Hip Hop.

Tap - Routine utilizing tap technique. (5 points will be deducted for pre-recorded tap sounds in the music) Tap shoes must be worn.

Ballet - Includes classical or contemporary ballet movements and technique. Ballet slippers only. No acrobatic/gymnastics tricks are allowed in the category.

Pointe - Must include classical or contemporary pointe technique and steps. Pointe shoes only. No acrobatic/gymnastic tricks are allowed in the category.

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Lyrical - A combination of JAZZ and BALLET techniques, primarily slow music with interpretative, emotional elements.

Contemporary - A combination of jazz styles, primarily based in MODERN technique, that doesn't fit in the "traditional jazz" or "lyrical" category.

Modern - Emphasis on the elements of movement such as centering, posture, spacial awareness, and imagery.

Hip Hop - Contains Hip Hop technique from at least one of the various styles. No jazz technique.

Musical Theater - Primarily Broadway or musical theater style, including but not limited to jazz, tap, lip syncing, character development and story telling.

Acro - Any routine containing a combination of tumbling movements and passes incorporated with dance movements.

Pom - Any routine displaying precision marching and sharp choreography with the use of poms. Must utilize poms for at least 50% of the routine.

Open - If your routine does not fall into one of the categories above, please enter it in the Open Category. If a routine has more than 3 acrobatic/gymnastic tricks, enter it in the Open Category.

A maximum of 3 acrobatic tricks may be done in any category except Acro and Open which may have an unlimited number of tricks. Routines exceeding this limit will be subject to a 3 point deduction. An acrobatic trick is defined as one continuous pass where the performer(s) is completely inverted.

AGE DIVISIONS

Mini 7 and Under

Petite 8 - 9

Junior 10 - 12

Teen 13 - 15

Sr Teen 16 - 18

Adult 19+

Age is determined by the dancer's age as of January 1st of that competition year. To determine the average age for all entries, add the ages of all the contestants then divide by the number of contestants and drop the decimal point. Each contestant must compete in the age division that the age or age average comes to.

If a protest regarding age arises, competitors must be prepared to present proof of age. All protests must be made in writing and signed by the protester within 30 minutes of the incident

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and passed to the director of the competition. At that point proper identification WILL BE REQUIRED by the contestant in the form of a Birth Certificate or License.

PERFORMANCE DIVISIONS

Solo 1 Dancer

Duo / Trio 2 - 3 Dancers

Small Group 4 - 9 Dancers

Large Group 10 - 15 Dancers

Line 16+ Dancers

Production Minimum of 15 Dancers

TIME LIMITS

Solo 3 Minutes

Duo / Trio 3 Minutes

Small Group 3 Minutes

Large Group 4 Minutes

Line 5 Minutes

Production 8 Minutes

Extended Time may be requested for groups, lines and productions only. The maximum extended time is 2 minutes at the rate of \$3 per performer.

A 5 point deduction will be taken from the total score for entries exceeding the time limit. Timing will begin at the start of the music, or if no music, at the time dancers take first step. Please exit the stage PROMPTLY!

MUSIC

Studio directors must submit their music electronically via the registration portal. The following formats will be accepted: MP3, M4A, MPEG-4, WAV, AAC, and AIFF. Music should be uploaded at time of registration. Music upload is mandatory. Please be sure to upload the correct version of your music as pitch and speed cannot be adjusted at the event. Please bring a back up copy of your music to your event in the form of CD, USB, iPod, or iPad.

****All music must be cut, edited and of the correct pitch. Music edits or alterations cannot be made onsite. All tempos, pitches and keys must be correct on each track. Music must be of a reasonable volume and uploaded no less than 7 days prior to the start of the event. Studio owners should have at least two backup copies of all music.**

Each file must contain only ONE song that is properly labeled with the **ENTRY NUMBER, AND ROUTINE NAME**. For example, 192 Just Wanna Dance. If using a CD as back up, please write directly on your CD. Do not place any adhesive labels since they can cause the CD to skip.

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If music skips or fails at any time during a performance due to faulty music supplied by the studio, ELEVATE cannot allow that routine to perform again. This rule must be strictly enforced in order to give everyone an equal opportunity and to keep the schedule running on time. If music fails to work on the first try, before dancers perform, that routine may be placed on hold until music is found. It is the responsibility of the studio to bring a backup.

JUDGING/DEDUCTIONS

Each entry will be judged by a highly qualified panel of judges. All judges' decisions will be final. **Contacting or speaking to judges is strictly prohibited at all times in order to give a fair chance to all participants.** Dance performances will be judged on the following criteria:

Technique 45

Execution/Musicality 45

Overall Impression 10

TOTAL 100 Points

In the event of a tie score, the entry with the highest technical score will prevail.

Deductions

Time - A 5 point deduction will be taken from the total score for entries exceeding the time limit.

Appropriateness - Any routine that a judge feels is not appropriate will receive a 10 POINT deduction or possibly be stopped and disqualified per judge's discretion.

Props - Props must be moved on and off the dance floor in a timely manner (2 minutes maximum). If a judge feels that the removal of a prop takes too long points may be deducted. No dangerous props allowed! Dangerous props include but are not limited to knives, swords, anything thrown directly at the judges table that may be harmful, anything that could alter the surface of the dance floor, any prop that is plugged in. Any routine that uses a dangerous prop will receive a max of a 10 POINT DEDUCTION or may be disqualified.

Number of Dancers - 5 points will be deducted if a routine contains more dancers than the amount listed on the entry form.

Respect - Please respect your fellow artists. Entries may receive a 10 point deduction for misconduct backstage or in the dressing rooms.

ADJUDICATED AWARDS

All entries will be adjudicated based on a point system by our judges. Winners will be presented ELEVATE Elite, Diamond, High Platinum, Platinum, and Gold based on the following scores:

ELEVATE Elite	285-300
Diamond	265-284.9
High Platinum	245-264.9
Platinum	225-244.9
Gold	195 & Under

HIGH SCORE AWARDS

In addition to adjudicated awards, the top scoring routines in each age and performance division will be recognized. The number of high scores will be determined by the number of entries in each division.

High Score Awards will be awarded to Novice, Intermediate, and Competitive dancers in each age and performance division. The highest scoring entry in each division at the Intermediate level will be awarded a scholarship as shown below. The highest scoring entry in each division at the Competitive level will be awarded a CASH prize as shown below:

Division	Intermediate	Competitive
Solo	\$25 Scholarship	\$75 Cash
Duo/Trio	\$25 Scholarship	\$100 Cash
Small Group	\$25 Scholarship	\$100 Cash
Large Group	\$25 Scholarship	\$125 Cash
Line	\$25 Scholarship	\$150 Cash
Production	\$25 Scholarship	\$175 Cash

- In order to be eligible for a High Score award, a score of 225 must be met.
- Solos, duos, and trios with identical members may only place with their highest scoring routines.
- There must be at least 5 routines in each age and performance division to be eligible for Scholarships and CASH prizes.
- Adult routines will be adjudicated but are not eligible for high score awards, scholarships, or cash prizes.

EXCLUSIVE AWARDS

Judges – Technical Excellence – Choreography – Costume – DJ Choice – Studio of Excellence

Pinnacle (Highest Scoring 12 & Under Routine and Highest Scoring 13 & Over Routine)

ELEVATE (Highest Scoring Studio)

ELEVATE Legends Club

Entrance into this exclusive club is reserved for the highest scoring routines of the entire season!

Three dance categories will be awarded as LEGENDS:

- Solo
- Duo/Trio
- Group (small group, large group, line, production)

Legends receive:

- A Plaque to be displayed proudly in your studio.
 - An exclusive LEGEND T-shirt for each dancer in the routine.
 - CASH Prizes and ELEVATE Credit*
 - Recognition on our website for years to come!
- *Each Legend category will be awarded \$150 Cash and \$100 ELEVATE Credit.

TITLE COMPETITION

All soloists in the Mini, Petite, Junior, Teen, and Sr. Teen age divisions who are registered in the **COMPETITIVE** Level are eligible to register and compete for Miss/Mr. ELEVATE. The Title Competition will be incorporated into the solo competition and will be judged during the performance of the routine. Each solo entry competing in the Title Competition requires an additional \$25 title entry fee.

Miss/Mr. ELEVATE will be awarded in the Mini, Petite, Junior, Teen, and Sr. Teen age divisions along with a runner up. There must be a minimum of 3 male title contestants in each age division for Mr. ELEVATE to be awarded. If less than 3 male title contestants are registered, male and female contestants will compete together and one winner and one runner up will be selected unless otherwise determined by the judges. *Please note: dancers competing for Title are eligible for Adjudicated Awards, High Score Awards, and Title.

Title selections may not be changed the day of competition. Regional Title winners may not compete for another regional title in the same season.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- If a competitor cannot compete due to injury, a doctor's note must be provided in order to receive account credits. No cash refunds will be issued under **ANY** circumstances. "Day-Of" scratches due to injured dancers will not be issued credits. All credits will be issued to the account of which the dancer was registered. Credits may **ONLY** be used toward the entry fees of an ELEVATE event; they are not valid toward merchandise or registration deposits.

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- ELEVATE reserves the right to change locations or dates due to circumstances beyond our control. ELEVATE also reserves the right to subtract or add days to any given competition as needed and to schedule accordingly. Please be prepared for extended or shortened events. Elevate will not be held liable for any costs endured for travel/lodging or any other travel related arrangements for any reason.
- Neither ELEVATE, its director and staff, nor the hosting facility are responsible for personal injury or property loss to contestants or spectators.
- Scholarships provided as payment of entries must be original certificates and be used by the studio they were awarded to.
- Cash Prizes and Scholarships are awarded to the studio director/studio.
- Score sheets, trophies, and other awards must be picked up by the end of the event. They will not be available for mailing afterward.
- Limit of three solo entries per dancer. **Soloists may only compete in one level.**
- ROUTINES MUST BE APPROPRIATE FOR FAMILY VIEWING! This includes proper choreography, music, and costume. Any routine that a judge feels is not appropriate will receive a 10 POINT deduction or possibly be stopped and disqualified per judge's discretion.
- If a routine cannot perform during their allotted time, the routine will be eligible for an adjudication but not high score if time is available.
- Except for technical difficulties on the part of ELEVATE, re-performers of any routine will be adjudicated only. If a dancer leaves the stage without completing a performance, the routine will be awarded an adjudicated award and will not be eligible for High Scores.
- Contestants give their permission to the director of ELEVATE to use their photographs and/or videos in connection with advertising, TV, web site and news coverage of our competitions.
- Video cameras are prohibited inside all competition venues. In order to protect dancers and choreography rights, we prohibit video of any kind. Taking videos during performances may lead to disqualification.
- Students of judges may not compete in the city where judges are scoring.