

Timeline for students aiming for careers in the field of dance

age 8-9	age 10	age 11-12	age 13-14	age 15-18
(minimum)	(minimum)	(minimum)	(minimum)	(minimum)
2 hours of ballet	3.5 hours of ballet	7+ hours of ballet	9+ hours of ballet	12+ hours of ballet and pointe
1 hour pre pointe	1-2 hours pre pointe	1-2 hours pointe	2-3 hours pointe	2-4 hours modern/contemporary
1 hour of Modern	1-2 hours modern	1-2 hours modern	1-2 hours modern	1-2 hours pilates
	.5 hours pilates	1-2 hours pilates	1-2 hours pilates	Production rehearsals
	1st Production Experience	Production rehearsals	Production rehearsals	Summer Program affiliated with professional company
		1st summer program experience	Summer program	Start company auditions for experience (age 16+)
		(1-3 weeks and close to home)	(3-5 weeks)	Apply and audition for colleges with reputable dance programs
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Before graduation**

At age 16 or 17 dancers who have been offered places in schools affiliated with companies should consider accepting, or consider enrolling in a boarding arts school such as NSCA or Harid conservatory. These years are important for a young dancer to start making as many company connections as possible. These connections can come from consecutive years at the same summer programs, repeated company auditions, choreographic workshops, or production experience.

After Graduation

Join school affiliated with company and continue auditioning for companies. Hopefully after 1-2 year in the school an apprenticeship would be offered.

Go to college with a reputable dance program that offers the opportunity to connect with directors and choreographers from professional companies. Juilliard, Fordham Ailey, Butler University, Indiana University, etc. Each year of college in the spring the student should go to as many auditions as possible for companies and start to work connections made through their college program to try to get an apprentice or corps contract with a professional company.

Join Company as an apprentice or 2nd company member