



# FAQs

## 18+ L.A. Dancer

### **THE PROGRAM:**

Our 18+ L.A. Dancer program is for serious U.S. and international dancers who are 18 and older who want to further their dance training in the city known for hip hop/commercial dance. You must be passionate about dance, and eager to train with a variety of new choreographers and studios, and in different dance styles. We hand pick our dancers.

#### **Dance and live in Los Angeles! (We take care of nearly everything.)**

This is the ONLY program that gives dancers a calendar month of dance classes, dancer dorm, coordinated activities to see the real Los Angeles, a built-in friend group (dancers need a posse!), and a strong support network of experts in dance who know this fabulous city very well.

The purpose of this dance program is to help you see if L.A. is for you, if a dance career is for you, but in a kind, safe, loving and familial way.

We take care of nearly everything so you come ready to dance and explore without having to worry about housing, how to get around, what fun things to do, and you'll have automatic friends with the other dancers in the program. L.A. can be tough to navigate and we want to help make it easy...and fun!

#### **Dancer Dorm**

Housing in Los Angeles is insanely expensive. It is also extremely hard to get. We wanted to create a clean, safe home for dancers in L.A. So, we have created a small, brand new dancer dorm just for our program dancers!

### **HOW DO YOU SELECT YOUR DANCERS?**

1. You should have a minimum of two years of dance experience and be able to do the choreography of your favorite choreographer.
2. You will be asked to provide video submissions.
3. You come to L.A. to train in all styles of hip hop/commercial. While you can take any style of dance, L.A. is known for hip hop. We will choose a dancer with less experience but who wants to try all styles of hip hop than a dancer who only wants to take contemporary.

4. Attitude: We look for dancers who have an open mind, a positive attitude for other dancers, who will take direction from the choreographer, who will help other dancers, and who will strive to be the best in the class.
5. We Zoom interview every dancer. It is a super fun and informal chat about dance, L.A., our program and YOU!
6. English level: you must have a basic command of English, and be able to communicate with the dancers, choreographers, etc. We don't want you to miss out on anything and we want you to have a memorable experience with us. We do not care about perfect English. The program is actually a highly effective, organic way to improve English language skills! The Zoom interview is conducted solely in English.

## **WHAT IS THE FULL PROCESS?**

1. Fill out the inquiry form
2. We will schedule the mandatory Zoom interview/super fun chat
3. We accept you into the program
4. Create an L.A. Cultural Exchange account
5. Fill out and upload the application and forms
6. Make deposit for your program month. Your application is not complete until deposit is paid to hold your spot.
7. Upload your flight and health insurance information
8. Group Zoom chat to go over schedule, rules, dance etiquette, packing, activities, etc.

## **WHEN IS THE PROGRAM?**

Our 18+ L.A. Dancer program is a month-long program with sessions March-November only. You arrive on the 1st and depart on the 29th.

## **WHERE WILL I STAY?**

In order to solve the insane housing shortage and high price issue, we've created a dancer dorm. It's just easier. It gives dancers a safe, clean, quiet space all together.

We are currently offering a dancer dorm for only four dancers. It is a brand new open space with wi-fi, vaulted ceilings, fully equipped kitchen, bathroom with walk-in shower, super fast cooling and heating system, bunkbeds, and keyless entrance in a safe, quiet neighborhood.

## **WHERE IS THE DORM LOCATED?**

Our dancer dorm is in the quiet, residential Lake Balboa neighborhood in the center of the San Fernando Valley region of L.A.

## **DO YOU PROVIDE FOOD?**

No, you take care of buying your own food. There are plenty of stores around for all diets and tastes within walking distance from the dancer dorm.

## **WHAT DO YOU PROVIDE IN THE DANCER DORM?**

We provide all pots, pans, appliances, dishes, thermos, food storage containers, etc. in the brand new, fully equipped kitchen.

We provide bed linens, dish soap, toilet paper, robot vacuum.

We also provide a weekly housekeeper.

## **IS THERE LAUNDRY?**

There is a coin laundry two blocks from the dorm. The housekeeper washes bed linens.

## **WHERE ARE THE STUDIOS LOCATED?**

Dance studios are primarily in the NoHo Arts District/North Hollywood and Hollywood. All of these are accessible to major modes of transportation, including two METRO subway lines for easy access to school, home, arts training and all of Los Angeles.

## **WHAT CLASS PASSES WILL I HAVE?**

You will be given dance class passes and a credit card to the following:

- 20 Millennium classes
- 5 Movement Lifestyle classes
- 5 TMilly classes
- 5 Playground LA classes
- And a \$250 L.A. Cultural Exchange credit card or online credit card to spend on master classes and classes outside of the class pass studios and master classes
- You will also have a total of four private classes in the mornings on week two and three with The Gentle Ladies, working professional dancers and creators.

## **HOW DO YOU DECIDE YOUR DANCE SCHEDULE?**

It's not easy! There are many studios and classes to choose from. The hard part is making a decision. Don't worry, we got you.

To start, you are given the apps and dance class passes so you can review the class schedules. You, the dance captain and the other dancers decide which classes to take. You can all go together or you can split up in groups to take class at different studios. This is not a boring summer camp. We are here to help guide you but, ultimately, you make the decision of which classes to take.

## **WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE INCLUDED?**

We create a group Google calendar that shows all of the activities, trash days, cleaning service day and optional events that pop up for each month. The included activities are:

- City Tour
- Universal Studios
- Venice Beach
- Warner Bros Studio tour
- Hollywood sign
- Four privates, styles determined by the dancers
- Photo shoot

Each dancer group will get their own calendar of activities prior to arrival.

## **WHO IS THE DANCE CAPTAIN?**

The dance captain is your friend, and we love her.

Our dance captain is a former dancer in our program who knows the studios, knows how to navigate L.A., and knows how to live in this great city. She volunteers to help the dancers figure out class schedules, like who wants to take which classes, which bus/subway to take, the time to leave, etc. She will also suggest choreographers the dancers may like as well as pop-up events, dance shows, TikTok dance challenges, etc.

Remember, dancers help other dancers. We show love, respect and compassion for each other. We are a dance family.

## **HOW WILL WE GET TO DANCE CLASS AND ACTIVITIES?**

L.A. is huge and our dancers must understand that it will take time to get places and need to plan accordingly. We will provide each dancer with a METRO pass. The dance captain will show

dancers the L.A. METRO system, which is what we use to get to dance class and for group activities. Even though L.A. is large, it is very easy to navigate the transportation system. UBER/LYFT will be used for certain activities.

## WHAT DOES THE PROGRAM INCLUDE?

1. Dance class passes, privates and dance credit card
2. Dance dorm - bed linens provided
3. Organizing group activities to explore L.A. and photoshoot
4. A month unlimited METRO pass

## WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM?

1. Airfare
2. Airport transfer
3. Mandatory health insurance
4. Cell Phone
5. Towels
6. Food for dorm
7. Pocket money for shopping, out with friends, tacos, coffee, etc. This amount depends on you.

## WHEN AND WHERE DO I FLY?

You should arrive on the program arrival date, the first of the month, and depart on the 29th.

Burbank Airport is a small airport and the easiest to navigate. This would be the top choice. It is the easiest to book for US dancers.

LAX is the awful airport and is the farthest from the dance dorm. But it will be the most economical flight for international students.

You will upload your flight information through the L.A. Cultural Exchange portal.

## WHAT ABOUT GETTING TO THE DORM FROM THE AIRPORT?

Depending on where you fly into, determines the best way to arrive at the dance dorm.

1. Burbank Airport - UBER/LYFT
2. LAX:
  - UBER/LYFT
  - **Flyaway to Van Nuys then a \$10 UBER/LYFT - THIS IS THE EASIEST AND FASTEST WAY**
  - Shuttle like Primetime.

## **ARE THERE RULES?**

The application will list all the program rules and causes for dismissal from the program. All dancers will receive a copy of the program rules in the What's App group and we will review them on our group Zoom call..

## **IS THERE A CURFEW?**

No. However, quiet hours are 10PM. Any noise complaints will result in one warning. The second noise complaint will result in a \$80 fine. Each dancer's adherence to the noise rule ensures the program can continue.

## **WHAT ABOUT CIGARETTES/VAPING?**

No smoking in the dorm. We must keep it nice, clean and fresh. Remember, you must be 21 years old to buy/consume cigarettes/vapes in the US.

## **WHAT ABOUT ALCOHOL?**

Remember, you must be 21 years old to buy/consume alcohol in the US.

## **CAN WE INVITE GUESTS TO THE DORM?**

Absolutely no guests are permitted to enter the dorm at any time. EVER. We have a security system.

## **DO I NEED INSURANCE?**

Proof of health insurance is mandatory. For our international dancers, we do not have a requirement of which company you choose or any affiliation with any company. It should be travel medical coverage. Here is a good place to start: [www.internationalstudentinsurance.com](http://www.internationalstudentinsurance.com) You will upload this through the L.A. Cultural Exchange portal.

## **IS THERE PROGRAM SUPPORT?**

The dance captain volunteers to help dancers with navigating L.A. and assists with any problems that may arise. If a dancer doesn't feel comfortable talking to the dance captain, they should contact the program director, Lisa Bianconi.

## **IS L.A. SAFE?**

Los Angeles is not in the top 50 most dangerous cities in the U.S. And we are 10 million people in L.A., the size of the beautiful Czech Republic. However, we are huge, enormous, gigantic. Dancers need to be watchful of their purse/backpack like in all major cities.

It is a real shame L.A. has an even larger homeless population and it's continuing to grow. This is truly sad and also a nuisance.

If you see something, say something. Call 911. We all protect one another.

## **ARE THERE SAFETY TIPS?**

We know you are an adult but we always suggest going places as a group or with a buddy. You are here for a month so it'll still be difficult to navigate our huge city alone.

## **WHO WE ARE**

We are L.A. Cultural Exchange, a program of Artists Exchange Group, Inc., an arts education, marketing and tourism corporation based in Los Angeles' NoHo Arts District since 2011.

## **WHEN IS THE PAYMENT DUE?**

In order to secure a spot in the month you desire, you will be required to pay the \$300 deposit when filling out your application. The final program fee is due 45 days prior to arrival. You can access this through the L.A. Cultural Exchange portal - the same portal where you filled out your application and where you will upload your health insurance and flight information.

## **CAN I CANCEL?**

A dancer has the right to cancel any time. If a dancer cancels a month before the start date/arrival date they will receive a refund less the \$300 application fee and any other itemized nonrefundable fees within 30 calendar days. If the program cancels, we will refund the entire program fee within 30 calendar days.

Please note: if a dancer is dismissed from the program due to failure to follow policies outlined in the Dancer Rules (given in the What's App group) , there will be no refund due.

## **ARE THERE ANY NONREFUNDABLE FEES?**

\$300 application fee, mailing or courier fee, all bank wire transfer fee and credit card processing fees, housing placement service fee or any actual cost of housing arrangement for students incurred, passes, activity entrance fees, or similar charges.