



FAQs

Dance in L.A. Program

THE PROGRAM:

The L.A. Cultural Exchange (LACE) Dance in L.A. programs are 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.

LACE gives dancers a calendar month or two weeks 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 dance in L.A. without doing it alone. It's been a great way to train but also to see if L.A. is for you or if a dance career is for you, but in a kind, safe, and caring way.

HOW DO YOU SELECT YOUR DANCERS?

1. You should have a minimum of two years of hip hop/commercial dance experience and be able to do the choreography of your favorite hip hop/commercial choreographer.
2. 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.
3. You will be asked to provide video submissions.
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 even when they're the worst.
5. We Zoom interview every dancer. It is a super fun and informal chat about dance, L.A., our program and YOU! So don't be nervous!
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 on the dancer portal.
5. Fill out and upload the application.
6. Make deposit for your program month or two weeks. Your application is not complete until the deposit is paid. This holds your spot.
7. Upload your flight and health insurance information.
8. Group Zoom chat to go over schedule, rules, dance etiquette, packing, activities, etc.
9. Make the final program payment on the dancer portal.

WHEN IS THE PROGRAM?

Our **Dance in L.A. month program** is a 28-day program with sessions April-November only. You arrive on the 1st and depart on the 29th.

Our **Dance in L.A. two-week program** is a 14-day program with sessions December - March. Session dates will be updated yearly on our website.

WHERE WILL I STAY?

In order to solve the insane housing shortage and high price issue, we've created a dancer dorm. 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 studio with wi-fi, vaulted ceilings, fully equipped kitchen, bathroom with walk-in shower, super fast cooling and heating system, bunkbeds, keyless entrance and a weekly cleaner 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 only.

WHERE ARE THE STUDIOS LOCATED?

Dance studios are primarily in the NoHo Arts District/North Hollywood, Burbank 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 Revolut 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 group private classes in the mornings on week two and three with The Gentle Ladies, working professional dancers and creators. The group chooses the styles via a poll in the What's App group.

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 and the other dancers decide which classes to take. Week one you go to the studios together so you know how to get there. Week two-four you still sit down to discuss and plan your schedules. However, 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. But you must communicate and share your schedule with the group.

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
- 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 is another dancer in the program who dances alongside you. She's like a big sister. We invite the dancer back because she was kind, helpful, tried all the styles, studios and choreographers and was eager to explore L.A. So just like a team captain, she understands what it's like to be new to L.A. and how it feels taking dance classes here for the first time. 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 TAP card. 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 Revolut dance credit
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 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. Any dance who brings a guest to the dorm will be immediately dismissed from the program. The dorm is the dancer's safe space.

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 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 2012.

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 dancer 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.