



## UCWDC Pro-Am Dance Student Specifications

### UCWDC Membership:

To compete on the UCWDC circuit, a pro-am dance student must be a current member of the UCWDC. Membership is charged annually by the UCWDC: <https://ucwdc.org/become-a-member/>

### Competition Season and Qualifications:

The UCWDC competition season begins in March each year and culminates with the Worlds event that takes place the first week of January. Competition events occur in various locations and are typically 2-4 days in length. If a student wishes to compete in the Worlds event, they must have participated in 3 UCWDC-sanctioned events during the dance season, and one competition must consist of a minimum of 5 of the 8 dance styles.

### Event and Competition Dance Registration:

Students are responsible for their own registration and weekend pass/admission fee per event they attend. Additionally, the student is responsible for all competition fees per dance they will compete in at the event. The UCWDC lists their current [annual events](#), and many events use [Country Dance Director](#) for online registration. Typically, a student will attend 3 events plus the Worlds event in a dance season; however, this is not a requirement. Students may attend as few or as many competitions as they wish.

### Competition Costs & Expenses:

#### 1. Event Pass (*charged by the event*)

Weekend passes average around \$160 per event. Some events have different types of passes which include special features such as a Saturday show or various workshops. There is an "early bird" discount for most events, so it is advised that students decide which competition(s) they will attend at the beginning of the year and sign up early.

#### 2. Individual Competition Dance Fees (*charged by the event*)

The fee per competitive dance that a student dances generally ranges from \$12.00- \$25.00, depending on the event. Consult with the Pro before registering for dances, as these are usually not refundable. To note: the event competition dance fees are separate from the Pro's per-dance-fee listed below.

### 3. Pro's Per-Dance-Fee at the Competition Event

The Pro's fee of \$10.00 per dance covers the actual competition time on the floor with the student, a warm-up session, and includes an on-site team run through usually held the day before.

### 4. Pro's Competition Event Attendance Expenses

Students are responsible for the Pro's expenses to attend a competition. Students evenly split the cost of the Pro's expenses, including the Pro's weekend pass (if applicable), weekday professional attendance fee,\* weekend per diem, air/ground travel, hotel, and airport parking. Only the student or students who attend an event are invoiced for the Pro's expenses for that event.

*\*Weekday Professional Attendance Fee: A fee of \$300 per weekday spent at an event is charged by the Pro to compensate for time away from the studio and other clients, costuming, further education, and coaching costs. Competition events typically include 2 weekdays.*

### 5. Student's Travel & Hotel Costs

Students are responsible for their own travel, hotel, food, and other expenses they incur during a competition event. Most events are held at hotels and offer discounted room rates. Students are encouraged to reserve their hotel room early, as occasionally the discounted rooms sell out. Each event website has information about how to reserve a discounted hotel room.

### 6. Student's Costume

Country dance boots are required for most UCWDC dances for both leads and follows (with exceptions being made for Newcomers level and some specific line and show dances). Country hats are required for all leads but not for male follows. Students will want to bring a minimum of one costume. It is standard for students to have a "base" costume with pieces that can be added or subtracted, depending on the style of dance.

### 7. Student Hair and Makeup (*optional*)

There are usually vendors on-site that offer hair and makeup services. The prices vary widely, generally from \$80 to \$200 depending on the vendor. Many students do their own competition hair and makeup.

### 8. Private Lessons with Pro (*per dance style as desired*)

There are 8 styles of dance that comprise the UCWDC dance circuit: Triple Two, Nightclub Two Step, Waltz, West Coast Swing, County Two Step, East Coast Swing, Cha Cha, and Polka. Students may decide to learn one or more dances to compete at a regular competition event; however, to qualify for the Worlds Competition event, the student must compete in 5 of the dance forms during one qualifying event. Check <https://www.ericzimmer.com/rates> for current rates for private pro-am dance lessons.