THE DANCE & DRAMA AWARDS ARE SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED BY THE LEARNING AND SKILLS COUNCIL FOR YOU TO TRAIN ON SPECIFIC PRIVATE DANCE OR DRAMA COURSES

We have done our very best to make sure that the information in this booklet is correct. We cannot accept any legal responsibility for errors, omissions or changes to the services described. You should always check with the appropriate provider or the Dance and Drama Website for up-to-date information.
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About the Awards

The Dance and Drama Awards are scholarships funded by the LSC. They offer greatly reduced tuition fees and help with living and learning costs at some of the leading private Dance and Drama training providers in England. All providers are externally inspected to ensure that the courses they deliver offer high standards of training.

A list of the providers that offer the Dance and Drama Awards can be found in the insert section at the back of this booklet.
Who are the Awards for?

The Dance and Drama Awards are for students over the age of 16 who want to work in the performing arts. They’re available from some of England’s leading private Dance and Drama providers and they’ll give you a chance to compete for a place on a prestigious and well-respected course, whatever your financial circumstances.

The LSC is committed to equality and diversity, this includes ensuring that learning providers reach out to groups of people who are not currently involved in learning. Therefore, the LSC is working with the Dance and Drama Awards Schools and specialist companies to widen participation in the scheme from under-represented groups.
The LSC expects all providers to value diversity and welcome applications from anyone who has the potential to succeed in the profession, regardless of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or disability.

If you are a disabled person with additional needs, please discuss them with your chosen provider at the application stage so that they can make all reasonable adjustments to help you.

The LSC also expects schools to make this commitment to equal opportunities explicit in all their promotional materials.
What sort of course can I get an Award for?

The Awards are not for academic or general courses in Dance and Drama. You will only be eligible to receive a Dance and Drama Award if you take the specific Trinity College London qualification at one of the 21 accredited providers.

Further details of the qualifications offered by the providers can be found in section 3.
Am I eligible for an Award?

You could be eligible for an Award if you meet the residency and age requirements below.

Residency requirements
- you must be an EU national and have three years continuous residence immediately before the start of your course
- have ‘settled status’ or indefinite leave to remain in the UK

Full details of the residency rules can be found on the Dance and Drama website www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama
Age requirements
To apply for a dance course you must be 16 or over. To apply for an acting or stage management course you must be 18 or over.
How to apply for Dance & Drama Awards

To apply for an Award, you need to contact one of the 21 private Dance and Drama training providers who are part of the Award scheme. Contact details can be found in the insert section at the back of this booklet.

Once you’ve decided which course you want to apply for and which provider you want to go to, you’ll need to contact them to arrange an audition. They will send you an application pack that you will need to complete and return to the provider. When you apply, you should also tell the provider that you wish to be considered for an Award.
As demand for this type of training is high, it is recommended that you find out about courses and apply well in advance of when you wish to start your training.

Dance and Drama Awards are given to the students who demonstrate the most potential to succeed in the profession at the audition stage, regardless of their financial circumstances.

However, if one or more students demonstrate equal potential, your provider will take your financial circumstances into consideration.
If you’ve applied before

It is very important that you carefully consider all your options before accepting an Award because in most cases, you’ll only be able to receive one Dance and Drama Award.

Awards do not move with students so if you want to move schools or course you must apply and audition again. If you’ve received an Award before and you’re applying again, you must tell the provider you’re applying to and give the reason why you want to move or change course.

You will only be eligible for a second Award in exceptional circumstances i.e. if you were forced to stop your previous training through no fault of your own, or if your old and new providers both agree that it would be beneficial for you to change your course or location.
There can be no guarantee that a second Award will be available. Any transfer of course or provider should normally take place in the first year of training. You will not be able to change courses more than once and you will not normally be eligible for a second Award if you have already completed a course with an Award.

If you are offered a second Award it cannot be for a period that would provide more than 4 years training in total with an Award. For example if you have already completed two years of training with an Award you will only be eligible to apply for an additional two years.
What if the Provider doesn’t offer me an Award?

Competition for an Award is very fierce, thousands of people apply to Dance and Drama schools every year and only a small number will be offered an Award.

If you don’t get an Award, you might be invited to study at the school as a private student. However, this will mean you are liable to pay the full cost of the fees charged by the school.

All schools offering Dance and Drama Awards must allow you to appeal against a decision if you disagree with it. If you wish to do this you should write to the provider you applied to and ask for a copy of their appeals procedure. Your appeal will be considered on the grounds of procedure, i.e. how the audition is conducted, not on the grounds of the school’s artistic judgement.
Which Courses are not eligible?

Awards are only available for the specific courses at specific providers. Awards are not available for degree courses, teaching courses, courses at Further Education colleges or courses in dance or drama other than those listed on the Dance and Drama schools insert sheet at the back of the booklet.
How much do you get?

If you get a Dance and Drama Award, this will cover most of your tuition fees, but you’ll still have to make a personal contribution. For this year’s fee contribution rate, please see the additional sheets in the back of the booklet and the DaDA website www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama

You will not have to pay anything in addition to this personal contribution for tuition or other expenses that form part of your course. Award Providers may offer you extra training in addition to the Trinity Qualification but this is voluntary and it is for you to decide whether you wish to take it up and pay for it.
Applying for additional help with the fee contribution and living costs

If you receive a Dance and Drama Award, you will be eligible to apply to the Income Assessed Student Support Fund. This Fund could provide help towards your living and learning costs including childcare costs. It could also provide extra financial help if you have extra costs as a result of undertaking your course that are as a direct result of a disability or specific learning difficulty.

You’ll have to apply to the Fund every year for additional help as the rates and income thresholds could change. If you do receive some extra support, it will be split into three payments which you’ll receive at the beginning of each term.
The amount of support you receive from this Fund will depend on your household income and your residency status. Full details on how to apply will be included in the application pack that your school will send to you when they offer you an Award. Details of this year’s rates can also be found on the additional sheets in the back of the booklet and on the DaDA website www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama.

Covering the costs of training without an Award
If you want to study at a Private school and if you do not receive a Dance or Drama Award, you will have to pay the tuition fees yourself and you will not be able to apply for extra help from the Income Assessed Support Fund. If you are aged 18 and over you may be able to apply for a Career Development Loan to help towards these costs. The Council for
Dance Education and Training (CDET) and the National Council for Drama Training (NCDT) also have some information on organisations which may be able to offer funding for vocational courses. Contact details for CDET and NCDT can be found in Section 5.

Awards and Student Loans
Courses offered under the Awards scheme do not attract student loans as they lead to Further Education qualifications. Some providers do offer degree courses as well as the Trinity Diploma Course. If you have an Award and decide to register on a degree course while you are taking the Trinity Diploma you will not be eligible to receive Higher Education student support.
If you do not have an Award and you are taking a Higher Education qualification at a private institution you might be eligible to apply for a student loan but you will be liable to pay the private tuition fee rate. If you are in this situation you should talk to your provider and your Local Authority about what may be available.

Awards and Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)
Students on the Trinity College London Diploma and Certificate courses are not eligible for EMA. To be entitled to EMA, students must be taking courses that lead up to and include Level 3 (e.g. A level courses). The Awards qualifications have been set at Level 5 and Level 6. If you have
a Dance and Drama Award you will not be entitled to EMA even if you are also taking courses that lead to level 3.

Other funding available from the LSC for my Dance and Drama Course
The LSC only supports private Dance and Drama Courses through the Dance and Drama Awards.
About the Trinity Professional Qualifications

All providers who give Dance and Drama Awards are validated by Trinity College London to provide the National Professional Qualifications. The word ‘professional’ is key in the naming of these qualifications as they were developed specifically to recognise a high level of skill and talent that emerges from the most prestigious dance and drama schools.

The uniqueness of the qualifications stems from the way they were developed following advice from professionals in the sector. Their emphasis is around the artistic, creative and technical skills that an artist needs to prepare fully for a varied and high level career in dance, acting, musical theatre and stage management.
The Diplomas are placed at level 6 and the Certificates at level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework. Further details on qualifications can be found on the website www.trinitycollege.co.uk.

In the future all students attaining the diploma will be able to extend their qualification to an honours degree by additional study. This training is not covered under the Dance and Drama Award scheme and the students would be expected to self fund this.
The qualifications are as follows:

- National Diploma in Professional Acting (3 Years)
- National Certificate in Professional Acting (1 Year)
- National Certificate in Professional Classical Ballet (2 Years)
- National Diploma in Professional Dance (3 Years)
- National Diploma in Professional Musical Theatre (3 Years)
- National Diploma in Professional Production Skills (2 Years)
LSC funded courses at Further Education colleges
The LSC only supports private Dance and Drama courses through the Dance and Drama Awards. However, if you are aged between 16 and 19 you are entitled to free education to take the course of your choice at an LSC funded Further Education College. Many of these colleges offer courses in the performing arts including A-Levels and BTEC in Performing Arts and Dance. If you are interested in taking one of these courses you should contact your local college for a list of courses. If your chosen course at an LSC Further Education funded College is not within daily travelling distance of your home you could be entitled to apply for residential support. You should talk to the Student Support Officer at the college of your choice about this. 
Please note you cannot apply for residential support for training courses at private performing arts colleges.
Higher Education Courses
There are also accredited vocational dance and drama courses within Higher Education. The insert sheet in the back of the booklet lists all courses accredited by NCDT and CDET.

The Council for Dance Education and Training (CDET) and the National Council for Drama Training (NCDT) exist to promote, enhance and maintain high standards in professional dance and drama Training.
Preparing and applying for training

CDET accredits courses which are primarily dance based, NCDT accredits drama based courses. Accreditation is the mark of industry approval for a course. CDET and NCDT can provide students with information on preparing and applying for all accredited dance and drama courses and their websites have downloadable copies of the Applicants’ Guide to Auditioning and Interviewing at Dance and Drama Schools and A Guide to Vocational Training in Dance and Drama. Contact details for both organisations can be found in Section 5.
For general enquiries about the Dance and Drama Awards, please email dada@lsc.gov.uk

National Council for Drama Training (NCDT)
1-7 Woburn Walk, London
WC1H 0JJ
Tel: 0207 387 3650
Email: info@ncdt.co.uk
Website: www.ncdt.co.uk

Council for Dance Education and Training (CDET)
Old Brewer’s Yard,
17 – 19 Neal Street,
Covent Garden, London
WC2H 9UY
Answers for Dancers information line: 0207 240 5703
email: info@cdet.org.uk
website: www.cdet.org.uk
CDET publishes the Guide to Vocational Training in Dance. For a copy please send a 55p SAE to the above address.
Conference of Drama Schools
Represents all the major drama schools in the UK and publishes annually The Guide to Drama Training. You can order this guide by phoning 0207 255 4300 or by downloading it from the website.
Tel: 0207 692 0032
Email: info@cds.drama.ac.uk
Website: www.drama.ac.uk

Foundation for Community Dance
Provides information, advice and guidance for dance artists, organisations, students and communities about community dance.
Tel: 0116 253 3453
Email: info@communitydance.org.uk
Web: www.communitydance.org.uk

Trinity College London
The International Examinations Board.
Tel: 0207 820 6100
Email: dada@trinitycollege.co.uk
Website: www.trinitycollege.co.uk

Creative and Cultural Skills
The sector body for the performing arts. They can provide information and advice about careers, training and qualifications.
Tel: 0207 089 5866
Website: www.ccskills.org.uk

Dance UK
Provides a wide range of useful information sheets aimed at professional dancers and dance students.
Tel: 0207 228 4990
Email: info@danceuk.org
Website: www.danceuk.org
Career Development Loans
Provide flexible deferred repayment loans of between £300 and £8,000 to support students aged over 18 with vocational learning. An information pack is available by calling the free help-line 0800 585 505. www.lifelonglearning.dfes.gov.uk/cdl

Connexions
Offers a wide range of advice from information on careers. This service is available to anyone aged 13-19 and up to 25 for students with disabilities or learning difficulties. You can find your local connexions in the phone book or by visiting the website at www.connexions.gov.uk

Connexions Direct
Offers quick access to information and advice on a wide range of topics from careers & learning, housing & health and sourcing alternative types of funding. Tel: 080 800 13219 Website: www.connexions-direct.com

Learndirect
Offers free impartial advice on careers, courses and funding. Learndirect advice line: 0800 100 900 Website: www.learndirect-advice.co.uk
Disabled students can find out about specific sources of additional support from Skill: The National Bureau for Students with Disabilities.

Chapter House
18-20 Crucifix Lane
London SE1 3JW
Tel: 0207 450 0620
Email: info@skill.org.uk
Website: www.skill.org.uk
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