

Frequently Asked Questions for new Rising Tiders

How old do you have to be to join Rising Tide?

Children's & Competitive classes are for children four and up and beginning in January 2020, a Tots class will be offered for children ages two and three. We also run programming for adults. Classes are available for complete beginners and experienced adult Irish dancers of any age.

How do I register?

- Find the class(es) that's right for you
- Download or print a registration package
- Email registration forms to info@risingtideacademy.ca or bring them to your first class
- [Review the fees and arrange payment](#). Whether paying for a whole term, drop-in lessons or 3for2, tuition payment is due by the first class (see fee documents for payment policies).
 - We accept cash, cheque or etransfer (to info@risingtideacademy.ca)
 - Family discounts are available

When do classes start and end through the year?

Our dance year is divided into three terms for payment purposes: September - December, January - April and May - August. Classes run at their regularly scheduled times from September - June and we run an adjusted schedule during July and August. Only championship dancers have classes in August. For our complete schedule, visit risingtideacademy.ca/classes/schedule.

Can I join partway through the year?

Yes! At Rising Tide we aim to have at least two coaches at all lessons allowing us to welcome new dancers at anytime as long as there is space in a class.

Do dancers have to be Irish to join?

Definitely not! Today, Irish dance is taught and performed all over the world. Schools can be found across North & South America, Europe, Asia, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand. In addition to learning a unique, cultural art form and highly effective method of fitness, students also learn critical life skills including goal setting, team work, listening, giving and receiving feedback, sportsmanship and confidence.

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What fees should I expect to pay?

All Rising Tide dancers need to pay for dance tuition and a school tshirt. In addition, dancers in the Children's & Competitive programme are required to rent (or buy) a school costume each year. [View all Rising Tide fees here](#). Other costs dancers should expect to incur include dance shoes, dance socks and costs associated with competitions and dance exams.

Where are you located?

Currently, we rent studio space by the hour from Halifax Dance (1505 Barrington Street), Maritime Dance Bedford (36 Duke Street) and Maritime Dance Clayton Park (998 Parkland Drive). [Check the schedule for locations of each class](#).

In January 2020, all classes will be held at our brand new studio at 325-3 Rocky Lake Drive in Bedford.

What does my dancer need for class?

A specific class list is provided for each class [on our website in the class descriptions](#).

Dancers looking for shoes can find them locally at [Heart of the Highlands](#) or [Recalls Irish Dance Goods](#). Poodle socks can be purchased through Rising Tide.

Can parents watch classes?

Unfortunately, no. Parents and guests are asked to wait outside the studio with the exception of Tots classes where parents/representatives may be asked to participate.

Does my dancer need to participate in feiseanna and exams?

A feis is an Irish dance competition. Feiseanna (plural of feis) and exams are how Irish dancers advance and measure progress. Each class has specific expectations for participating in feiseanna as part of their [class description](#). Rising Tide is a competitive Irish dance school, however, nobody is required to feis.

What commitments will dance dancers have outside of class?

Performing is a big part of Irish dancing and Rising Tide participates in several performances each year. Staple events that all dancers are encouraged to participate in are a Christmas show (December 11, 2019), St. Patrick's Day Parade (March 15, 2020) and annual year end recital (June 14, 2020).

Rising Tide also organizes several social events throughout the year and all are welcome to join in and grow the community.

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