

RISING TIDE PAYMENT POLICIES

PAYMENT METHODS

Credit, debit, cheque, etransfer and cash are accepted. Cheques are payable to Rising Tide Irish Dance Academy Incorporated, etransfers can be sent to info@risingtideacademy.ca. Receipts are available on request. Tuition can be paid in full, through monthly installments, per lesson, or through a 3for2 trial rate for new dancers; please see details and policies below.

ANNUAL RATE & PAYMENT

Tuition is calculated for the full dance year upon registering. There are additional, mandatory fees for workshop lessons for dancers in Intermediate, Advanced and Championship. Payment (regardless of method) is due by the first class of each dance year or the first class attended for new dancers joining midway through the year. To qualify for the annual rate, dancers must register for a minimum of one or two classes depending on their level:

- Minimum of two classes required for Intermediate, Advanced, Championship
- Minimum of one class required for Tot, Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Adults

If dancers wish to take less than the minimum number of classes, they must pay the drop-in rate at each class attended. Dancers may reduce their selection of classes three times per year: the first week of classes in September, January and May. Dancers can increase the number of classes taken at any point.

Dancers receive discounted rates for classes they take above the minimum number. For one additional weekly class registered for above the minimum requirement, a 15 per cent discount will be given for that class. For a second additional weekly class above the minimum requirement, a 30 per cent discount will be given for that class.

Annual tuition can be paid in a lump sum by credit card, debit, cheque, etransfer or cash OR in installments by credit card through Uplifter or in postdated cheques for each month of the dance year, post-dated to the first day of every month (e.g. Jan. 1). If payment is not received by the last day of September (or one month after registering for those joining midway) dancers will not be permitted to enter class until payment is received. Brand new dancers joining Rising Tide partway through the year will have the annual rate prorated from their start date. Dancers previously registered at Rising Tide who register late will owe the full tuition value.

DROP-IN RATE AND PAYMENT

Those wishing to pay per class attended may do so, however, the rate per lesson is slightly higher than the per class cost of the annual rate (children's & competitive program). Drop-in fees are due by the end of every class attended by credit card, debit, cheque, etransfer or cash—no exceptions! Classes must be paid for one at a time; not in batches. If classes are pre-paid for online, those payments are for the specific class and cannot be transferred or refunded (unless a dancer withdraws entirely). Payments can be made online or at the studio.

3FOR2 NEW DANCER TRIAL AND PAYMENT

Beginner dancers in children or adult classes can attend three classes for the price of two drop-ins to be pre-paid in full at or before their first class. After attending three classes, dancers wishing to join can switch to the annual rate for the remaining classes of the year or continue to pay drop-ins. If desired, 3FOR2 dancers may wait until after their trial to purchase socks, shoes and school tshirts, and complete their costume rental (if applicable).

CANCELLED/MISSED CLASSES, WITHDRAWALS AND REFUNDS

Rising Tide Irish Dance Academy reserves the right to cancel classes. If your classes are cancelled for reasons beyond our control (e.g., weather) a refund will not be provided. However, dancers will be invited to attend an alternate class (where reasonably available) in the two weeks following the lost lesson as a make-up. Lessons conducted with external instructors (e.g., workshop coach) are not refundable and are mandatory.

If a dancer must miss a pre-paid class involuntarily (e.g. due to illness) or due to a conflicting commitment (e.g. family vacation, feis or school concert), they can make it up at another time. Talk to your coaches about which class will be most appropriate for you/your dancer to attend as a make-up class. Please be thoughtful about what would be an acceptable reason to miss a class and use a make-up lesson.

Refunds for tuition paid will be granted should a dancer decide to withdraw from classes. Refunds will be issued for any pre-paid remaining, unattended classes if a dancer withdraws. No refund will be provided for classes attended. If a student paying the annual rate withdraws and returns to class in the same year, for any reason other than significant injury/illness, no refund will be awarded and the full cost of the year will be due.

Non-attendance does not constitute a withdrawal. Please notify us by email if you wish to withdraw for any reason. Those withdrawing due to injury/illness must also formally (by email) notify Rising Tide of departure and return dates to be eligible to return to annual tuition rates. Sharing news of an injury/illness is not sufficient notice; a clear statement of break time is required.

FAMILY DISCOUNT

Rising Tide is pleased to offer a discount for families registering more than one family member for the dance year. Order is determined by class level with the highest level student paying full price and then going in descending order. Dancer one will pay full price. Dancer two will receive a 10 per cent discount off the full annual fee before taxes. Dancer three and subsequent family members will receive a 15 per cent discount off the full annual fee before taxes. Your discount will be automatically calculated at check-out on Uplifter. Dancers paying drop-in fees do not qualify for the family discount.

COACHING FEE

So much more goes into training dancers and preparing them for performances, exams and competitions than what happens in lessons alone. Therefore, all Children's & Competitive Program dancers who are in Intermediate, Advanced and Championship are charged a coaching fee. This enables us to go above and beyond for each dancer, making sure they're supported and trained to the very best of our abilities. The coaching fee is 10 per cent of a dancer's annual tuition. Dancers paying on a per-class basis will also pay the coaching fee. Dancers on restyling periods coming from another dance school will be charged the fee. The coaching fee helps to cover activity that occurs outside of lesson time, including, but not limited to:

- overtime hours and travel related costs of having coaches attend performances, exams, feiseanna and major competitions
- additional prep required outside of regular teaching hours, such as costume guidance and research
- assisting with registration and travel plans for competitions, exams and performances
- providing education to dancers and families to help them navigate feiseanna and major competitions, as well as exams and performances
- choreographing steps and routines, and analyzing dancers' performances
- engaging in ongoing professional development and industry research
- fostering a social and community environment for all Rising Tide families

By charging this fee, Rising Tide commits to having at least one coach attend all North American major competitions regardless of the number of dancers participating, and international major competitions where fiscally possible.

COSTUME FEES

All dancers in the Children's & Competitive Program (except Tots) are required to have a school costume. Dancers will receive their costume in the fall each year (inventory permitting). Costume measuring generally takes place between December and February each year for new sizes as needed. Costumes can be rented (or purchased) and payment must be received in full along with annual tuition on, or before, the first Saturday of fall term in September or upon receiving a costume for dancers that join midway through the dance year. Dancers that join or receive their costume after March 1 will receive a 30 per cent discount on the annual rental fee. Dancers do have the option to purchase a costume if desired and are responsible for all costs and fees associated. If there is not a fitting costume available to rent based on inventory, dancers will not be charged a costume rental fee. Any dancers that return their costume after the assigned deadline will be charged a \$30 late fee per week up to a maximum of \$120.

COSTUME REFUNDS

If a dancer withdraws from classes and returns their rented costume within four months of signing their costume agreement, they will receive 50 per cent of any payment made back. Refunds will not be granted after four months of rental.