

TCU School for Classical & Contemporary Dance

BFA Ballet – Virtual Audition Requirements

Important rules: There are **two** application processes for admittance to the School for Classical & Contemporary Dance: one for the university and one for the department. All applicants must [apply to the University](#). You do not have to receive acceptance notification to audition for our program.

If you are unable to provide any of the audition related items due to a COVID-related restriction, please contact e.a.gillaspy@tcu.edu or c.hickman@tcu.edu.

Application Deadlines

- **November 1, 2023** - Decision letters sent by email and mailed out no later than December 15, 2023.
- **January 16, 2024** - Decision letters sent by email and mailed out no later than March 1, 2024.

Application Requirements:

- **Introductory Video**
 - We want to hear from you. Introduce yourself and tell us things about you: What would you like us to know about you? Why TCU? What do you hope to gain and/or experience here and what are your current long-term goals as they relate to dance? Then choose one: What was the last book you read, movie you saw, or place you visited? Tell us briefly why it was memorable for you.
- **Audition Video - Ballet:** Video requirements listed below. Not to exceed 12 min. in length.
- **Audition Video - Modern Dance:** Video requirements listed below. Not to exceed 12 min. in length.
- **Solo Ballet Video:** A classical variation – standard repertoire - 1- 1.5 minutes in length.
- **Modern Improvisation Video:** A 1-2 minute improvisation dance.
 - Please outline and communicate the parameters of the improvisation in the video.
- **Headshot:** Photos do not need to be professional quality.

- **Dance Photo(s):** SCCDance requests that Ballet applicants submit two photographs. Photographs do not need to be professional quality.
 - Photo #1 should be of applicant in *tendu à la seconde*.
 - Photo #2 should be in first arabesque facing profile. If the applicant is currently studying *en pointe*, please take this photograph *sur la pointe*. If the applicant has not been studying *en pointe*, please take this photograph *en relevé* in soft ballet slippers.

- **Optional Items:** While not required, we welcome the following:
 - Resume
 - Letters of recommendation from your dance instructors or choreographers
 - Additional performing videos
 - Samples of your choreography

Please upload all media files separately and label them appropriately. Do not combine video files. For example, do not combine your introductory video with your solo video.

AUDITION VIDEO REQUIREMENTS:

Audition Video - Ballet: To be uploaded in one video. Video not to exceed 12 minutes in length.

- **Dress Code for Ballet Portion:**
 - Solid color leotard, with pink, black, or flesh-tone tights
 - Tucked-in T-shirt or leotard, with black, gray, or flesh-tone tights
 - Supportive undergarments, as appropriate
 - Pointe shoes in working condition with ribbons and elastics sewn to the shoes
 - Well-fitted ballet shoes with elastics sewn
 - Hair secured up and away from face

- **All Ballet Applicants:**
 - Brief barre work: (Please film in profile)
 - Brief barre work including plié, tendu, dégagé, rond de jambe par terre, fondu/développé, petite rond de jambe en l'air and grand rond de jambe, frappé and petite battement, grand battement. Do not repeat each exercise for each side; simply alternate sides for each exercise; may combine exercises. Do not exceed a total of 3-4 minutes of barre demonstration.
 - Center: (please film from front) Do not film in costume and do not film into a mirror. Do not exceed 6-7 minutes total for center

- Grand adagio-including développé in each direction, promenade, pirouettes en dehors and en dedans, one grand pirouette, and one balance of at least 4 measures in a large pose (arabesque or attitude)
 - Pirouettes from fourth position en dehors and en dedans
 - Petit allegro combination with batterie
 - Medium allegro including sissone and sauté fouetté
 - Grand allegro (choose two): grand jeté, grand jeté en tournant, tour en l'air
 - Consecutive Turns (choose one): fouetté turns or turns a la seconde
- Pointe requirements - If proficient in pointe work
 - Eight, slow relevé in first position, sustaining the “top” of the relevé long enough for ankle alignment to be visible. Hold final relevé for a full 8-count.
 - One center combination that includes pirouette en dehors and successive relevé, at least eight relevé, on one leg.

Audition Video - Modern Dance: To be uploaded in one video. This is an audition requirement for the BFA Ballet. Video is not to exceed 12 min. in length.

- Dress Code and film requirements for Modern Technique:
 - The applicant should choose dancewear that clarifies the outline of the body including joints, skeletal alignment, and muscular involvement.
 - Filming should be done against a background that offers the strongest contrast between dancer and space and so that movements are clearly visible.
 - Do not film in costume and do not film into a mirror.
- The audition media should begin with a short technical demonstration in the tradition most familiar to the applicant. Exercises and combinations that comprise the warm-up should be clear and concise, and performed on both sides. Please mount the camera on a tripod and include alternate views (front and side). Include a sampling of warm-up (max 3 minutes), center (max 3 minutes) and traveling combinations (max 3 minutes).
- The warm-up should include floorwork, articulations of the spine, and weight-bearing in the upper body such as inversions and one arm supports.
- Center material should include movement that travels in and out of the floor, demonstrates ability to align the body vertically and off center, and shifts weight between one and two legs.
- Traveling combinations should include movements through a variety of levels, actions leaving the ground, and material that includes a variety of dynamic balances.

- The demonstration will be evaluated regarding the following: alignment, use of weight, dynamic range, spatial clarity, musicality, focus, connectivity and artistry/quality of presentation.

Dance Application: <https://app.getacceptd.com/tcudance>

Email: dance@tcu.edu

Website: <https://finearts.tcu.edu/dance/>

Phone Number: 817-257-7615

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