

**Rhythm Dance Center**  
**POINTE AUDITION INFORMATION**  
**2024-2025**

We will have a Pointe Audition for all dancers wishing to be considered for Pointe next year. This will be held on Wednesday, May 8 from 6:15 - 7:45 p.m with Gabby Gambino at Rhythm Annex (2520 Shallowford Rd. Marietta, GA 30066). If you are already en pointe at Rhythm Dance Center, you do not need to attend this audition. All dancers must be at least 12 years of age and have fulfilled their pre-pointe requirements at Rhythm Dance Center. If you are new to Rhythm Dance Center, you must attend this audition to be considered for pointe, even if you are already dancing en pointe. Our requirements for pointe are specific to our studio and are outlined in the guidelines below. Please [click here to fill out our Pointe Application](#) to indicate your attendance to this audition. Results from this audition will be emailed no later than Friday, May 17.

**POINTE GUIDELINES 2024-2025**

We understand that going en pointe is a big goal and something every dancer looks forward to. We want to help each dancer reach that goal. Sometimes there is a misconception that dancers automatically begin pointe at a certain age. This is not the case. Many, many factors play into the best decision of when to start pointe. For the safety of the dancers, it is extremely important they have a full understanding of the physical strength, technique and commitment that pointe work takes.

At Rhythm, we offer (and excel) at many styles of dance. Our focus and goal is to train well-rounded dancers and always has been. We are not a ballet school with students training in ballet 5-7 days per week, which is what it sometimes takes before being fully prepared for pointe.

We have a pointe prep class that will be required for anyone interested in beginning pointe in the future. This is in addition to their regular ballet class. This class will likely need to be taken for 2-3 years, and evaluations for pointe will be made at the end of each season. There are no guarantees that you will be ready to start pointe at the end of the season. Actually, most dancers will need to be enrolled in this class for multiple years before beginning pointe. Every dancer is different and progresses at their own pace.

We have put together these basic guidelines for you. These are guidelines and, depending on the dancer and their own personal development, these may be different

for some dancers. But this will apply to most dancers that are in one of our Performing Companies.

### **Edge Dancers:**

Once in Junior Edge, dancers must take one year of pre-pointe. Most dancers will go en pointe during their second year of Junior Edge. If Gabby decides you are ready sooner, then that will be at her discretion. At the same time, Gabby may decide you need another year of pre-pointe. Dancers in Mini Edge (no matter their age) will not be able to participate in this class. No matter what the scenario, dancers must be evaluated and approved by ballet/pointe teacher(s) before going en pointe.

Most dancers in Edge will be entering 7th or 8th grade when beginning pointe.

### **Fusion Dancers:**

Fusion dancers must be taking Fusion Ballet classes (2 days a week) for two full years before beginning pointe. Most dancers will be in 8th or 9th grade when actually beginning pointe. No matter what the scenario, dancers must be evaluated and approved by ballet/pointe teacher(s) before going en pointe.

### **Fusion Scenarios:**

- Dancer begins Fusion in 6th grade. Dancer will take 2 full years of the two Fusion ballet classes and go en pointe in 8th grade.
- Dancer begins Fusion in 7th grade. Dancer will take 2 full years of the two Fusion ballet classes and go en pointe in 9th grade.
- Dancer begins Fusion in 8th grade or higher, has been dancing in Connection prior. Dancer has taken 2 years of pointe prep along with their Connection Ballet class prior to being in Fusion. At this time, dancer will be evaluated by Gabby before getting approval for pointe. If approved, dancer will begin pointe in 8th grade.

### **Connection Dancers:**

Connection dancers must take their Connection Ballet class plus the pointe prep class for a minimum of 2-3 years before beginning pointe. Most Connection dancers will be in 8th or 9th grade when actually beginning pointe if they have met all requirements and attended the proper classes. No matter what the scenario, dancers must be evaluated and approved by ballet/pointe teacher(s) before going en pointe.

### **Spotlight and/or Other Dancers:**

Dancers must be taking 2-3 Ballet classes (including pointe prep) weekly for a minimum of 3-4 years before beginning pointe. Dancers must be evaluated and approved by ballet/pointe teacher(s).

**ALL DANCERS:** No matter what the age or level of the dancer, the dancer will have to be evaluated and approved by their ballet/pointe teacher before beginning pointe. We have these formulas in place, but if a student has poor attendance, an injury, or is not progressing technically, all these factors could prevent the dancer from beginning pointe at said time. You are always welcome to talk to or request updates from your teacher(s).

All Junior Edge dancers are required to do Pre-Pointe/Pointe.

Edge, Fusion, Connection, Spotlight and all others will be required to fill out an application for Pointe. All dancers ages 6th grade and up are eligible for the Pointe Prep class.