

CRISIS RELIEF SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES - 2021/2022

Purpose

Colorado Conservatory of Dance trains students of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. We understand that some dancers and their families cannot afford to pay tuition. Therefore, we offer financial aid scholarships to a select number of students who meet our financial, dance and leadership criteria. We have specifically designed this Crisis Relief Scholarship to respond to the needs of our families when experiencing unforeseen, drastic financial changes.

Amount, Value and Scope of Scholarship

The amount of scholarship will be determined by financial need (based on Federal Poverty Guidelines). We may award a full or partial scholarship. We understand that our families who are experiencing a sudden crisis may not have tax returns to support their application. In this case, we will accept a detailed letter of explanation and any other financial documents which may fully outline the need. Scholarship students are expected to take the recommended number of classes for their level; therefore, the value of each scholarship will vary.

Scholarship may only be applied toward tuition for the 2021/2022 school year. A new application must be submitted for the 2022/2023 season, which runs August 1, 2022 until July 31, 2023.

Families with multiple students may apply for scholarships for each student; however separate applications must be completed for each child.

Scholarship funds may not be used for the following:

- Payment of private lessons or master classes.
- Payment of Pilates lessons.
- Payment of wellness appointments, including physical therapy, chiropractic and massage.
- Payment of tuition in excess of scholarship award.
- Payment of overdue tuition owed for prior sessions.
- Purchase of CCD merchandise.
- Purchase of dance wear.
- Payment of photo/video fees.
- The inclusion of registration, participation, and performance fees will be determined on a case by case basis.

Criteria for selection

All applications will be evaluated based on financial need, dance-related criteria, leadership and quality of application.

Deadline

Financial Aid Scholarships are awarded on a rolling basis; however, priority consideration will be given to applications received two weeks before the start of the season.

Financial

- Full financial aid scholarships will only be granted where combined annual gross household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty level (see attached chart). Partial financial aid scholarships may be granted for families whose household incomes are above 150% and up to 200% of the federal poverty level.
- **All sources of household income must be disclosed, including child support.**
- **Most current year's tax return is required with all applications.**

Interest in dance

- Dancer must demonstrate strong interest in and commitment to studying dance.

- Prior dance training is not required and applicants may be any age.

Household Size	2020 Poverty Guidelines (\$)	150% (\$)	200% (\$)
1	\$12,880	\$19,320	\$25,760
2	\$17,420	\$26,130	\$34,840
3	\$21,960	\$32,940	\$43,920
4	\$26,500	\$39,750	\$53,000
5	\$31,040	\$46,560	\$62,080
6	\$35,580	\$53,370	\$71,160
7	\$40,120	\$60,180	\$80,240
8	\$44,660	\$66,990	\$89,320

Source: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines>
Updated: July, 2021

Leadership

- Dancer must exhibit a consistently positive attitude toward himself/herself and others.
- If enrolled in an academic school, dancer must maintain good grades (2.5 GPA or above).
- Applicant must be a positive member of his/her/their school and/or community.

Quality of application

- Application must be complete, including financial documentation.
- Letter(s) of recommendation are required for all new students who are applying for tuition assistance. Currently enrolled CCD students and students who received tuition assistance in the previous year are not required to provide a letter of recommendation, CCD staff and faculty will be consulted.
- Great weight will be given to the applicant's answers and letter(s) of recommendation.
- If enrolled in an academic school (grades K-12), please submit student's most recent report card.

Granting Process

Application must be complete and include all required financial documentation and at least one letter of recommendation to be considered. Input may be solicited from CCD staff and faculty if the dancer has studied previously with CCD. **Additional input may include information on past history with tuition payments, participation in CCD functions, consistency with prior attendance and behavior, and attitude/attendance in CCD classes, performances, fundraisers and other events.**

Applicants will be notified by e-mail when the review process is complete. Applicants may be invited to take class at no charge for a maximum of 2 weeks pending the final decision. If a financial aid scholarship application is not received within the 2 week period, the student will not be permitted to take class until application is received.

Colorado Conservatory of Dance is an equal opportunity arts organization. Financial aid scholarship decisions are made based on the above criteria and are not based on race, color, origin, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

Responsibilities

Financial aid scholarship recipients and their families are expected to be role models for other Colorado Conservatory of Dance dancers and families through the following:

- Excellent attendance and punctuality
- Consistent adherence to dress code and other CCD policies
- Exceptional, positive attitude toward other dancers in the CCD community
- Outstanding, healthy nutritional habits
- Consistent respect and positive attitude toward CCD teachers and staff members (required of both dancer and family members)
- Full, proactive participation in all CCD performances, fundraising activities and other special events
- Parental involvement and volunteerism
- Completion of grant paperwork as requested by CCD. Some scholarship funding is received from outside organizations; we may ask you to complete paperwork that would help us attain this funding.

Revocation of Financial Aid Scholarship

If a student fails to meet the above responsibilities his/her/their tuition assistance may be revoked. Revocation of tuition assistance is a serious step, and will be considered in the following circumstances:

- Chronic lateness or absenteeism in class or rehearsals
- Negative attitude or poor role model behavior
- **Alcohol (for students under the age of 21), cigarette or drug use will result in the immediate revocation of all tuition assistance and possible dismissal from the school.**

Renewal of Scholarship

This scholarship is not automatically renewed each year. Students who receive a financial aid scholarship this season must re-apply again next season. Top priority in granting tuition assistance will be given to re-applying students who have met and/or exceeded all of their tuition assistance responsibilities during the previous season.

STUDENT CRISIS RELIEF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

DATE SUBMITTED _____

Dancer Name _____ Age _____ Birthday _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

County of Residence _____ School _____ Grade _____

Number of years studying dance: At CCD _____ Elsewhere _____

Please list current and recent dance training:

Dates	Location	Type of Dance	Level	# Times/week	Instructor Name

(Use another sheet if necessary)

Current gross annual household income*: \$_____ *REQUIRED -include all sources of income, including but not limited to salary, tips and bonuses, maintenance and child support; attach last year's tax returns.

Household size: _____ (Total number of individuals)

Parent/Guardian #1 Name _____ Relationship _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

Employer/Position _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Gross Annual Income _____ *Attach last year's tax return.*

I give CCD permission to contact my employer to verify the above information.

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian #2 Name _____ Relationship _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

Employer/Position _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Gross Annual Income _____ *Attach last year's tax return.*

I give CCD permission to contact my employer to verify the above information.

Signature

Date

To be filled out by parent, guardian or dancer (if an adult):

Please explain why you are applying for this financial aid scholarship. Please include any extenuating circumstances that we should consider (you may include a separate page, if needed):

General description of the pandemic impact:

Monthly household income prior to August 2021: _____

Current monthly household income: _____

Expected duration of hardship: _____

To be filled out by dancer:

Please explain why you want to study at Colorado Conservatory of Dance.

CCD believes in a better life through dance. How does dance make your life better?

Application Checklist – application is not complete without ALL of the following

- Completed application (3 pages)
- Completed letter(s) of recommendation (*NOT required for returning applicants*)
- Most recent year's tax return(s) (*required for ALL applicants – will not be processed without returns*)
- Copy of student's most recent report card (*applies to school age children*)

SCHOLARSHIP RECOMMENDATION FORM

_____ is applying for a scholarship to the Colorado Conservatory of Dance. We grant scholarships based on financial need and the following criteria:

Dance-Related

- Dancer must demonstrate strong interest in and commitment to studying dance.
- Prior dance training is not required and applicants may be any age.

Leadership

- Dancer must exhibit a consistently positive attitude toward himself/herself and others.
- If enrolled in school, dancer must maintain good grades (2.5 GPA or above).
- Dancer must be a positive member of his/her school and community.

Your Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

Number of years you have known applicant _____

Please use the space below to comment on this student's interest in dance and/or leadership qualities. Make sure to address the criteria listed above. Please return this form to the student so he/she can submit it with his/her application. Thank you.
