Imperial Society of
Teachers of Dancing

Prospectus 25/26

Your pathway to progression

About ISTD

The Society is one of the world's leading dance examination boards with the widest range of dance genres available.

Established in 1904, with a mission to educate the public in the art of dancing in all its forms; today the Society strives to advance excellence in dance teaching and education. We promote knowledge in each specialty and provide up-to-date techniques in the ever-changing world of dance. We work hard to maintain and improve teaching standards in schools, academies and performing arts settings across the world.

We are known for our quality of teaching, our diversity of dance forms, and a passion for raising standards.

We put our members – teachers of dance – at the heart of everything we do. Supporting their career development and progression by providing a range of resources, events, training and continuous professional development, all designed to support their journey through dance.

For over 120 years the Society has provided quality dance training across a diverse range of genres – enabling its members to inspire their students with a passion for dance. With nearly **6000 members** in **59 countries**, we conduct **90,000 examinations worldwide** each year.

Watch our brand film: **youtube.com/ISTDdance**

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Welcome

"Whatever your chosen career in dance and dance education, training with us will provide a solid foundation for your journey through dance."

Whether you are either starting your journey in dance education or progressing your knowledge and skills with advanced training, we know that it is your passion for dance that motivates you and our community of dance teachers around the world.

Our Society's mission is to educate the public in the art of dancing in all its forms, this is achievable through the dedication, innovation and creativity of our teachers who inspire and encourage new generations to share their love of dance.

Our quality of teaching, our diversity of dance forms and our commitment to raising standards will provide you with a passport to artistic and professional progression. Whatever your chosen career in dance and dance education, training with us will provide a solid foundation for your journey through dance.

Ginny Brown
Chief Executive

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Why teach dance?

> **“Dance does so much for us all – it builds confidence, inspires creativity and friendships and makes us feel good about ourselves.”**
>
> **Shirley Ballas**
> ISTD President

Teaching is a vocation. It’s a privilege to be able to share your expertise and see your students – whatever their age – develop their dance practice. Whether they are advancing their professional dance career or dancing for enjoyment – a passionate and well-trained teacher makes a difference.

Dance teaching is a creative and stimulating profession that makes for a rewarding career.

It brings together the many benefits of dance, both physical and mental, combined with the joys of teaching while supporting cultural development, health and wellbeing, socialising and creative problem solving.

“Dance offers a community to engage with. To meet new friends from different cultural backgrounds. To interact and share ideas whilst learning more about the cultural history of the genre.”

ISTD Teacher

At the Society, we support your teaching journey at every stage; from a student studying vocational exams through to initial and higher teaching qualifications and beyond. We want our dance teachers to pass on their knowledge and passion to others and lead the way by becoming our future lecturers, trainers, and examiners.

Whether you want to train in Theatre Dance or Dancesport genres, the ISTD offers you pathways to a professional teaching qualification and career based upon your experience and previous qualifications.

“Dance keeps me fit in body and mind. When I get it right and dance from the inside out it is a beautiful feeling.”

Florence Grubb
Student, Freedom-2-Dance School

“Dancing challenges you physically and mentally... I love the teamwork as you have to work together to produce an amazing dance piece.”

Emily Andrews
Student, Starmakerz Theatre School

Teaching as a career

Whatever stage you start your teaching journey, gaining an ISTD teaching qualification is the primary route to a varied and fulfilling career as a dance teacher. Our qualifications result in safe, confident teachers who have the skills to train children, dance students and adults in a range of settings.

We encourage our qualified teachers to continue to grow in their pedagogy and knowledge with our higher teaching qualifications. We encourage our teachers to aspire to excellence and develop their teaching practice through our Level 6, Licentiate and Fellowship qualifications. These qualifications enable teachers to build their teaching careers and advance as practitioners, become examiners and lead within their fields.

We welcome professional dancers who are ready to embrace teaching as their next career step by providing support and qualifications to enable this transition into teaching. Professional dancers have a wealth of experience to offer in terms of genre, technique and artistry. By gaining a teaching qualification the professional dancer is ensuring that they can transfer performing into tangible teaching skills and methods.

"The Diploma in Dance Pedagogy gave me the tools to share my in depth knowledge from a life as a professional ballet dancer."

Samara Downs
Principal, Birmingham Royal Ballet

Dance education is for all

Whatever your background, a high-quality cultural education should be a right, not a privilege.

Dance offers a sense of escapism into a creative world, enables freedom of expression and offers a shared language that allows us to learn with and from one another. Learning about history through dance, experiencing different forms of music, and creating pieces that may have come from different stimuli increases our awareness and understanding of world cultures and societies. This cultural impact stays with us through to adulthood and encourages us to follow dance in all its forms.

Dance should not be limited to those who can afford classes – its benefits need to be accessible to all, and be shared within schools, youth groups and local communities. The Society encourages and supports our dance teachers to impact their communities through community projects, and by building relationships with local groups and schools.

"I believe that when dancing is used to express universal emotions like happiness, anger, fear, or surprise, it knows no gender, sexuality, colour, ability or disability."

Sergio Brilhante
Fellow (FISTD) Modern Ballroom, and Licentiate (LISTD) Latin American Dance Teacher, Studio Manager

Dance genres

We offer a range of versatile dance genres within Dancesport and Theatre Dance. Taking teaching qualifications in specialist subjects shows depth of knowledge and detail of the work.

Dancesport
Dancesport covers genres and styles of dancing traditionally seen in competitions:

- Disco Freestyle, Rock n Roll
- Latin American
- Modern Ballroom
- Sequence
- Street Dance

Theatre Dance
Theatre Dance covers genres and styles of dance traditionally seen on the stage, including:

- Cecchetti Classical Ballet
- Classical Greek
- Classical Indian
- Contemporary Dance
- Imperial Classical Ballet
- Modern Theatre
- National Dance
- Tap Dance

What makes the Society special?

We are a membership organisation of likeminded individuals who share the same values and passion for dance. Our mission is to educate the public in the art of dancing in all its forms, and we aspire to be a truly inclusive society for all, encouraging diversity in our community.

We represent dance teachers and their communities offering a wide range of genres and dance styles to inspire and engage all. We have 11 faculty areas, representing 13 genres making the Society's offer unique and versatile. We conduct 90,000 assessments a year offering a wide spectrum of dance examinations to children, students, amateurs and professionals.

What and how we deliver is important to us, ensuring that all our teachers represent the mark of quality and best practice that is associated with the Society. We aspire to be world leaders in dance education, setting the benchmark for good practice through extensive syllabi and teacher training. Our teachers are equipped with the tools to be able to teach in a range of settings within the private and state education.

We strive to give them the confidence to try out new ideas and projects, to take dance into community settings, and to build upon their businesses.

We offer opportunities to discuss, reflect and build upon these skills both within our teaching qualifications and continuous professional development (CPD), demonstrating to parents and guardians that our qualified dance teachers are trained to deliver safe, high quality dance lessons.

Bursaries

It is important to us that we support teachers of the future and ensure that funding does not become a barrier for individuals to qualify and progress. We offer financial bursaries on an annual basis for those currently undertaking our Initial and Higher teaching qualifications in both Theatre and Dancesport Genres.

Find out more about bursaries:
istd.org/discover/funding-bursaries-and-awards

Making connections

We are based in London and reach out to all of our national and international members through remote learning opportunities or via country examinations and CPD training. We also have International and UK Regional Representatives who meet members on a regular basis – keeping them informed of changes and developments but also facilitating opportunities for support and interaction. We want to offer our members the ability to connect with other dance teachers and to feel part of a larger community supporting their journey, wherever they are at, throughout their teaching career.

"Being an ISTD teacher, tutor and examiner, my main goal has always been to keep our Society at the standard that was so clearly revealed to me by the wonderful pioneers who have embraced and guided me. I am honoured and proud to be a member of this dance family."

Christina Fotinaki
ISTD Examiner and Trustee, Greece

"We have 11 faculty areas, representing 13 genres making the Society's offer unique and versatile. We conduct 90,000 assessments a year offering a wide spectrum of dance examinations to children, students, amateurs and professionals."

Our values

Quality:	We are trusted to provide excellent dance teaching, training, qualifications and services.
Inclusion:	We are a global family that is committed to improving diversity and equal opportunity.
Innovation:	We strive to be creative in our thinking and to deliver dynamic solutions that make a difference to dance education.
Passion:	We are dedicated to inspiring future generations of dancers and teachers.
Integrity:	We strive to always do the right thing. With precision, pace and passion.

Your journey through dance

At the Society, we hope to support your teaching journey at every stage from a student studying vocational exams right through to initial and higher teaching qualifications and beyond.

> **“We can provide the teaching and progression routes to support your journey.”**

> **“We equip our teachers with the knowledge and skills to be confident independent safe practitioners.**

We aim to nurture and train our teachers to the highest standards to support and develop the dancers of the future to enable them to share dance with their communities, making sure that all can access and benefit from the joy of dance.

We do this by ensuring that our high-quality syllabi offer dance teachers progressive specifications to train students within a range of genres that develop creativity and outstanding technique. The content aims to develop technical training and artistic performance qualities that enable a dancer to be strong, dynamic, expressive and versatile.

We want our dance teachers to pass on their knowledge and passion to others, and to lead the way by becoming the dance industry’s future lecturers, trainers and examiners.

Dance teacher career opportunities

Dance teaching offers a range of career routes with many direct and indirect opportunities within the arts. You can teach dance in the private dance sector as a business owner or freelancer dance teacher; you can also teach dance within schools as a salaried member of staff or freelance specialist. There are also opportunities within your local community either with devised freelance projects or local arts organisations.

We offer support and industry recognised teaching qualifications so that you can access a number of employment routes within the arts sector. Each level of teaching qualification not only increases skills, knowledge and experience but also enables you to build upon your career opportunities.

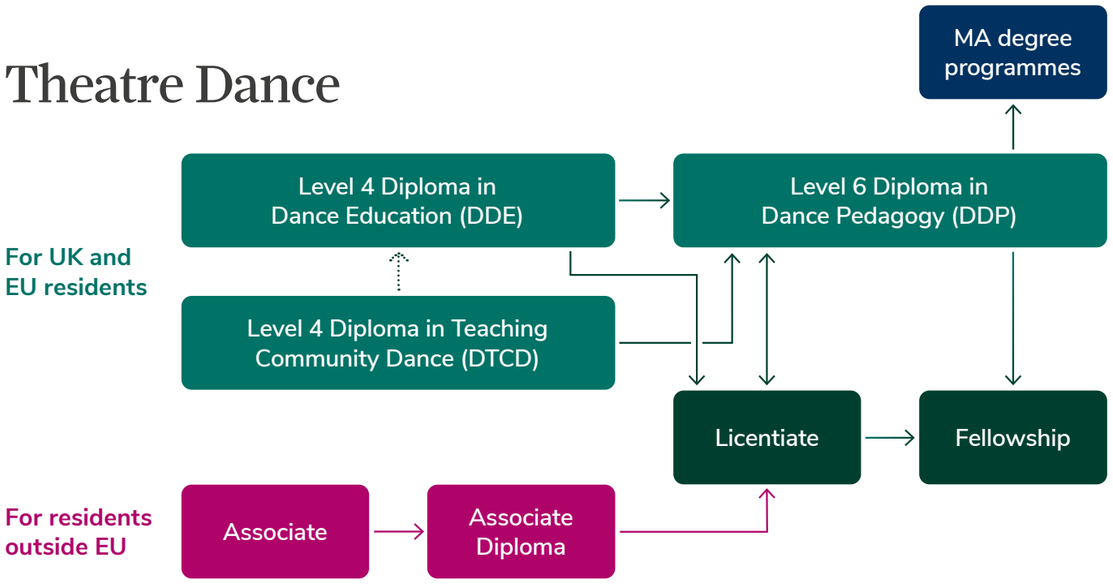
Being an ISTD qualified teacher is a mark of quality and enables teachers to travel across the globe to teach in different locations as freelance teachers or independent business owners. You may want to work directly with the Society as an examiner or lecturer and be involved with training the next generation of teachers or examining children’s work across the globe. A wide range of Society examiners and lecturers work at vocational schools, conservatoires and colleges, and train and mentor professional dancers for the industry and beyond.

> **“I cannot imagine life without dance, and I do not know any organisation other than the ISTD that offers such high-level education in so many different styles of dance. ISTD’s mission to educate the public in the art of dancing in all its forms is an immense contribution to the general education of the arts.”**

Natasa Georgiou
Examiner and Teacher, Cyprus

Teaching qualifications progression routes

Theatre Dance



Dancesport

Theatre Dance

We offer professional regulated teaching qualifications that provide graduates with the ability to access employment as a dance teacher. Our initial teaching qualifications prepare you to start on this journey and as you progress through to higher teaching qualifications the Society supports you to keep learning and growing as a teacher.

Achievement of the higher teaching qualifications enables members to consider applying for their school to become an Approved Dance Centre to teach the teachers of the future. You can also become a tutor working with a Centre or with the Society to teach units of the Level 4 qualification. You may want to apply to the Society to be a lecturer to pass on your knowledge to other teachers.

Dancesport

Our Dancesport genres follow a different route and these are accessible to all UK and International students. We offer two initial qualifications; the Student Teacher and Associate examinations.

As a Dancesport member, the Licentiate qualification enables you to apply to the British Dance Council for a License to Adjudicate competitions in the genre in which you are qualified.

“We offer different training qualifications, both regulated and non-regulated, depending on your geographical location and the genre(s) you wish to teach. Our initial teaching qualifications are aimed at new teachers with no prior teaching experience.

Fellowship and Licentiate

We offer higher teaching qualifications in Theatre and Dancesport. The Licentiate is a non-regulated qualification which enables teachers to progress their learning to a higher level. Licentiate holders have demonstrated their ability to teach the Advanced 1 syllabi and are advanced practitioners. The Fellowship is the highest teaching qualification at the Society. Licentiate and Fellowship holders are eligible to apply to be examiners for Primary and Grades. Fellowship holders are then eligible to apply to be examiners for vocational and professional level examinations.

For life-long progression

Our training qualifications are aligned with membership levels to give students greater support and access to the resources to help them reach the next level in their careers. Successful achievement of our teaching qualifications enables the graduate to move from provisional membership to Full Teaching membership of the Society. We offer a range of opportunities for our members to grow their teaching and inspire their students to excel. Members directly benefit from being able to enter students for examinations, access a wide range of continual professional development and support throughout their teaching career.

“We offer a range of opportunities for our members to grow their teaching and inspire their students to excel.”

Access

We welcome all potential teachers and dancers and you do not have to have ‘grown up’ with our syllabi to access our teaching qualifications.

We recognise experience and have a process called Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL). This acknowledges industry experience and enables ex-professional dancers or teachers who have experience but have no initial teaching qualifications to access teacher training at an appropriate level.

We also recognise other teaching qualifications from other examination boards and societies and welcome members from all dance genres.

Your graduation

We come together as a Society to celebrate the success of our graduates at our Graduation ceremony.

To achieve a teaching qualification at any level requires hard work, commitment and resilience. For many this is the start of a teaching journey, for others it is the culmination of years of hard work and a route into another area of professional development.

Graduates travel across the world to attend, network, reflect and share their practice. The Society takes this opportunity to recognise long standing achievement and celebrates individual accomplishment through the Society’s awards for excellence and outstanding contribution.

You’ll be part of our celebrated alumni network of ISTD teachers

“My ISTD status qualifications provided some of the experiential evidence I needed to complete a BA (Hons) Professional Practice degree at Christ Church University College, Canterbury and then QTS (Qualified Teacher Status). This enabled me to climb the teachers’ pay scale and go through the threshold providing me with much professional development.”

Jodie Clark FISTD/MA, Assistant Principal, The BRIT School

“I chose to transfer associations to not only better myself but also the standard of my students. I believe the ISTD has a great deal of authenticity, tradition and value, but also a vision to develop and progress technique and artistry whilst evolving with the modern-day performer.”

Martin Howland, Ex professional dancer and Guest Principal

What is an ADC?

An ADC is an Approved Dance Centre that has been recognised by the Society to deliver regulated teaching qualifications.

An ADC can be approved to deliver the regulated teaching qualifications, Level 4 Diploma in Teaching Community Dance, Level 4 Diploma in Dance Education and/or Level 6 Diploma in Dance Pedagogy.

An Approved Dance Centre will support the student teacher journey to ensure each individual student is valued and given the right tools and guidance to succeed. This may range from employing different teaching and learning strategies to support individual potential, to making reasonable adjustments to delivery to ensure a range of methods are applied.

Each ADC has its own delivery mode and structure and is given the freedom to arrange the curriculum to suit the needs of students at their centre. They may also specialise in a particular genre. A centre may deliver their course with a blend of online 'remote' and in-studio 'face to face' teaching.

The Society works with the centres to ensure student teachers achieve their qualification efficiently and to a high standard. Student teachers will be confident that they are equipped with the knowledge and skills to perform effectively as an initial or more experienced teacher.

Finding a dance school for non-regulated teaching qualifications

There are also dance schools who deliver our non-regulated teaching qualifications that are not required to be an Approved Dance Centre. To deliver and coach non-regulated teaching qualifications you are required to have higher-teaching qualifications.

To find a suitable tutor, learners can browse 'Find a Dance Teacher' through the ISTD website or they can email **education@istd.org**

For further information about teaching qualifications and delivery contact the team at the ISTD who will be happy to help: **education@istd.org**

> **A list of ADCs can be found on our website: istd.org/teach/approved-dance-centres**

"An Approved Dance Centre goes through a rigorous approval process with the Society to ensure they have the correct policies and procedures in place to deliver high quality teaching qualifications to student teachers.

A membership to support your career

A career in dance teaching can be both rewarding and challenging. Our membership has been designed to support your progression, whether you are an experienced dance teacher or just starting out.

Why membership?

We believe that the educational, cultural and artistic benefits of dance should be enjoyed by everyone; we actively celebrate and explore the breadth and depth of various types of dance, enabling our members to truly inspire their students with a passion to excel.

Our membership provides teachers with the best advice and training in dance education. We provide access to CPD courses, teacher training and qualifications and work with a range of industry leading partners to provide members with products and services designed to help them at each stage of their career. From examinations to safeguarding checks, to a *Dance* magazine subscription and a shop discount, being an ISTD member gives you a range of exciting benefits (read more on page 20).

Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing
Registered Member

Our trusted Mark of Quality 'Registered Member' logo demonstrates our members' qualified status and commitment to high quality teaching in dance.

Our membership types

Provisional membership

For aspiring teachers looking to develop their teaching career.

This level of membership supports you during your Diploma in Dance Education (DDE) or Associate qualification studies. With benefits tailored to your needs: from discounted CPD and learning events, to access to the wider member community for support and mentoring – preparing you to progress to Full Teaching status.

Full teaching membership

For qualified teachers who are actively teaching dance and entering students into exams.

This level of membership allows you to demonstrate your commitment to high quality training and supports your professional progression with a variety of courses, resources and services to promote and grow your business.

This is the highest level of membership at the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing.

Affiliate membership

For non-ISTD qualified teachers who are actively teaching dance.

This level of membership is right for you if you're experienced in dance and teaching but have no qualifications from recognised awarding bodies. Membership provides access to our courses and training, but not our examinations.

Student membership

For passionate young dancers aged 16 and above wishing to be affiliated with the Society.

This level of membership is designed to connect students to our global dance community.

Contemporary Affiliate membership

For non-ISTD qualified contemporary dance teachers and professional dancers, who want to teach the Contemporary Syllabus and enter students for exams.

Membership benefits

Our exclusive membership comes with a wealth of benefits for you to enjoy. Your level of membership will determine which benefits you will gain.

Courses and training
Covering a wide range of topics, our CPD courses and training events are designed exclusively for our members, to develop and support their dance teacher training at every career stage. Members receive access to exclusive events, discounts on CPD courses and have access to our wide range of syllabus training.

Dance magazine
Our members' only publication, *Dance* provides the latest news from our dance community and beyond. Members will receive three complimentary editions each year, packed with relevant thought leadership articles, dance teaching tips and hot topics.

Support services
Gain access to exclusive offers and discounts from our trusted partners including dance teacher insurance, dancewear providers, access to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Vetting Scheme, business support and more.

Syllabus materials and resources
Access ISTD syllabus materials and resources at discounted prices via our shop.

As well as physical resources, digital downloads are available for most of our video and audio products.

Visit **istd.org/shop**

Advertise for teaching positions
Members can fill dance teaching positions by advertising on the ISTD website. These ads are promoted to the member network via monthly newsletters and social channels. Qualified teachers can find the latest teaching positions available via the jobs board: **istd.org/dance/advertising/classified-advertising**

ISTD Uniform and dancewear
ISTD members benefit from a 20% discount on our sustainable and inclusive recommended uniform and dance teacher range. Visit **istd.org/examinations/dress-for-success**

Faculty support
As a member, the ISTD is here to support you with syllabus developments from our experts.

Join our online community faculty groups for the latest updates and to stay connected with the ISTD teaching community.

Teacher Support Sessions happen regularly and across all genres to respond to frequently asked questions in person and directly with Heads of Faculty Development.

Promote your status and your business
Our members can access a range of resources from logos to promotional materials to help promote their status as a registered member and market their business.

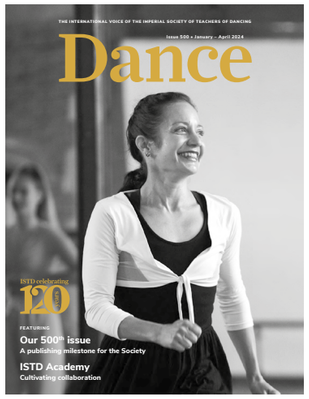
Through our **Find Your Dance Space** campaign, members can access marketing guides and a toolkit to promote their business and reach new audiences. Meanwhile, the **Step Up to Success** campaign offers editable materials to help highlight the benefits of dance exams to parents and students.

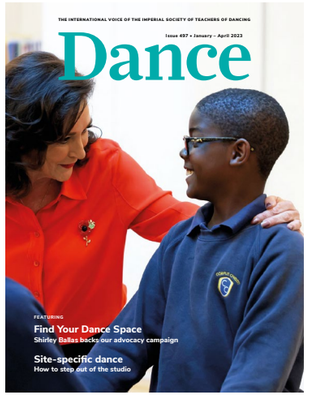
Members can register their dance business details on our **Find a dance teacher** directory. Driving 2000+ users to find a dance teacher every month.

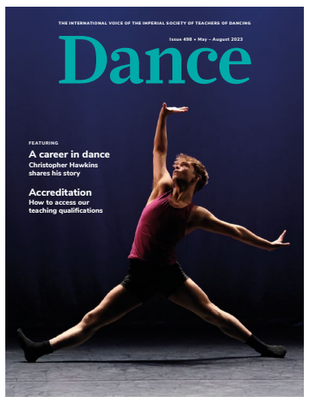
Enter students for examinations
We conduct over 90,000 examinations across the world each year in theatrical, competitive, and social dance. Full Teaching membership enables dance teachers to enter their students for our exams.

Keep connected
Regular newsletters with the latest news, views, event listings and resources, are a useful way to keep informed. And follow us on our social media channels and be part of the conversation – **@Istddance #TeachDance**

For UK based members, join the online regional representative community to stay connected for local ISTD ongoings and updates.



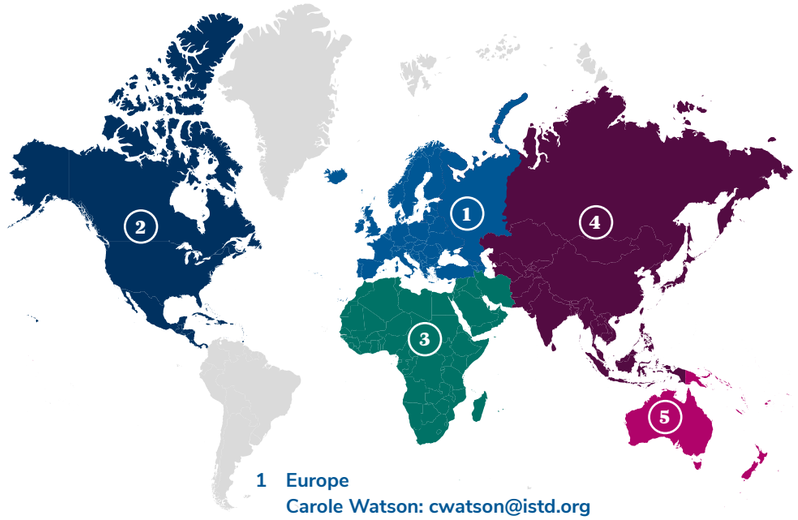




Be part of our global community

We represent dance teachers and their communities and have been supporting and celebrating their artistic brilliance since 1904. Our community of dance teachers spans 59 countries around the world, and is made up of dance teachers; both freelancers and business owners, examiners, choreographers and professional dancers who are passionate about sharing the joy of dance.

International representatives
Membership is your passport to a dance career. Our members are located all over the world and our international representatives make sure that members across the globe stay connected and are part of a network of likeminded teachers. International members can join our regular online international representative meetings. Attend these sessions to stay connected with your local ISTD dance community and to receive the latest ISTD ongoings and updates.



1 **Europe**
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3 **Africa and Middle East**
Delia Sainsbury: dsainsbury@istd.org

4 **Asia**
Chua Zjen Fong: chua@istd.org

5 **Australasia**
Kim Scott: kscott@istd.org

To find out more about your regional representative, visit the ISTD website: **istd.org**

Speak to our membership team today to find out about becoming a member or visit our website for more information: istd.org/join

Our courses

Level 4 Diploma in Dance Education (DDE)

Level 4 Diploma in Teaching Community Dance (DTCD)

Level 6 Diploma in Dance Pedagogy (DDP)

Student Teacher – Dancesport

Associate – Dancesport

Associate – Theatre

Associate Diploma – Theatre

Licentiate

Fellowship

Level 4 Diploma in Dance Education (DDE)

The full DDE qualification awards:

The full DDE qualification awards **120 credits** at Level 4 on the Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF) in the UK and the Credit and Qualifications Framework in Wales (CQFW).

This equates to **120 credits** at Level 5 of the European Qualification Framework (EQF).

The Level 4 Diploma in Dance Education (DDE) is an achievable and streamlined teaching qualification that provides student teachers with a clear and cohesive pathway to becoming a qualified dance teacher with the ISTD.

The qualification allows student teachers the opportunity to engage with up-to-date research in best practice related to dance teaching and learning, providing an excellent introduction to a career in teaching dance. Through a blended learning approach, the qualification allows student teachers the flexibility to access study from anywhere in the world, at their own pace, and to gain a regulated qualification.

Description of the course

The DDE covers 5 main areas of study that are split into 5 units:

- Preparing for Safe Teaching
- Observing, Assisting and Teaching Practice
- Vocational Graded Examination in Dance: Intermediate
- Dance Practice
- Child Development

The combination of units provides a comprehensive understanding of the practical elements of dance teaching, underpinned by theoretical knowledge in safe dance practice and child development.

For more detailed syllabus information download the DDE programme specification available on our website: **istd.org/level-4-dde**

Assessment format

Assessment techniques are designed to assess each unit of the qualification in an appropriate manner and include:

- Written task-based assessments
- Portfolio evidence
- Teaching practice
- Practical examinations

Progression

The framework of the assessment ensures that student teachers develop the practical skills and knowledge required to enter the teaching profession and to develop a sustainable career. In studying the DDE, candidates cover a breadth of material, leaving them fully qualified within their chosen dance genre.

Graduates from the DDE are able to apply for Full Teaching Membership with the ISTD and can then enter candidates for ISTD exams, enabling them to develop their own dance schools if they so wish.

The ISTD's Level 6 Diploma in Dance Pedagogy (DDP) provides a progression route for teachers wishing to develop their studies to a higher level.

Entry requirements

Student teachers must be 17 years of age in the academic year of enrolment and be 18 years of age before undertaking the Unit 2 teaching practice component.

It is advisable that student teachers have good literacy skills as well as strong practical knowledge of at least one of the below dance genres:

- Cecchetti Classical Ballet
- Classical Greek
- Classical Indian (Kathak or Bharatanatyam)
- Imperial Classical Ballet
- Modern Theatre
- National Dance
- Tap Dance

Delivery method

The DDE is delivered by Approved Dance Centres (ADCs) across the UK and EU and all course materials are available in English, Greek and Italian.

Please visit the Teaching Qualifications pages on the ISTD website to download a list of Approved Dance Centres.

It is advisable to find an ADC in your local area as they will be able to support the practical elements of the course appropriately. If you do not have an ADC in your local area, please contact the Society for assistance at **education@istd.org** as some ADCs can deliver the DDE remotely.

Start dates and course duration

Term dates are dependent on the timetable of each ADC.

The DDE usually takes 18 months – 2 years to complete. It is designed as a part time course so that student teachers can continue with other studies and/or work alongside the programme. Once enrolled, DDE student teachers have up to 5 years to complete their studies.

Fees

Each ADC sets their own fees for teaching the DDE and the cost to a student teacher will depend on each individual's needs.

The ISTD assessment fees are available from the Examinations department.

Upon enrolment, student teachers may wish to register as a Provisional member with the ISTD. This allows student teachers to access the ISTD's Continuous Professional Development (CPD) programmes and to receive regular updates from the Society. For further information about membership please visit the Join our membership page on the ISTD website: **istd.org/join**

Level 4 Diploma in Teaching Community Dance (DTCD)

The full DTCD qualification awards:

The full DTCD qualification awards **52 credits** at Level 4 on the Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF) in England and the Credit and Qualifications Framework in Wales (CQFW).

This equates to **52 credits** at Level 5 of the European Qualification Framework (EQF).

The Diploma in Teaching Community Dance (DTCD) is designed as an initial teaching qualification to support learners in taking their first steps into dance teaching. This course provides the skills and support needed to embark on a dance teaching career, underpinned by knowledge that is essential to all dance teachers delivering dance in community settings. The skills acquired through the DTCD will equip graduates with knowledge of structuring lessons, safe practice, development of creative tasks and an understanding of individual participants.

The ISTD's core vision is to enable dance education for all, and this programme champions diversity by providing inclusive study opportunities that are focused on ensuring that the wider dance teaching community is well-trained, safe, and knowledgeable.

Description of the course

The DTCD covers 3 main areas of study that are split into 3 units:

- Preparing for Safe Teaching
- Applied Teaching Practice
- Child Development

The combination of units provides a comprehensive understanding of the practical elements of dance teaching, underpinned by theoretical knowledge in safe dance practice and child development.

For more detailed syllabus information download the DTCD programme specification available on our website: **istd.org/dtcd-specification**

Assessment format

Assessment techniques are designed to assess each unit of the qualification in an appropriate manner and include:

- Written task-based assessments
- Portfolio evidence
- Teaching practice

Progression

Successful graduates will be able to become an Affiliate member of the society.

Those who wish to be able to enter pupils for examinations can progress to gain the Level 4 Diploma in Dance Education (DDE) by completing the genre specific (syllabus related) units of the DDE; DDE Units 3 and 4.

On completing the DDE, graduates can apply for Full Teaching membership.

The DTCD also provides a pathway onto the Level 6 Diploma in Dance Pedagogy (DDP), which is a standalone higher teaching qualification.

For information on DDE units and the DDP, download the respective programme specifications from our website.

Problem solving, the application of teaching methods and creativity are the key skills that enable DTCD holders to understand teaching as a subject area and these transferable skills can be used in a wide variety of settings, beyond the dance studio.

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course, learners must have a strong foundation in dance knowledge and experience, such as several years of dance training, performing, or teaching, and must be at least 18 years old. Additionally, they are required to hold an enhanced DBS check if based in England, a PVG check if based in Scotland, or equivalent local criminal record checks if based internationally.

While not mandatory, it is recommended that learners have prior experience in teaching or assisting and have achieved GCSE English or an equivalent qualification before starting the course.

This qualification does not require knowledge of the ISTD syllabus so is suitable for those who have not studied ISTD grade work.

Delivery method

The DTCD is currently being delivered through the ISTD Academy and will later become available to other Approved Dance Centres (ADCs) wishing to specialise in community practice.

The teaching of all units is offered remotely through the Academy. Unit 2 requires practical teaching practice that takes place at each learner's local community dance setting.

Start dates and course duration

The total qualification time for the full qualification is 520 hours and is designed as a part-time course.

Term dates are dependent on the timetable of each ADC.

For ISTD Academy start dates, please see **istd.org/teach/istd-academy**

Fees

Each ADC sets their own fees to teaching the DTCD and the cost to a student teacher will depend on each individual's needs.

Student teachers pay assessment fees to the ISTD, and these costs are published annually on the ISTD website.

Register your interest now by emailing **academyinfo@istdacademy.org**

Level 6 Diploma in Dance Pedagogy (DDP)

The Diploma in Dance Pedagogy (DDP) is a regulated dance teaching qualification that provides dance teachers and professional dancers with a programme that builds on their previous training, knowledge, and experience.

The programme is structured to give students the opportunity to explore and investigate the specialist field of dance teaching and is underpinned by both theoretical and practical enquiry.

The DDP is regulated at Level 6, which is equivalent to the final year of an undergraduate degree.

The full DDP qualification awards:

The DDP is recognised by Ofqual and on the Register of Regulated Qualifications at Level 6 on the Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF) at **120 credits**.

This means that it is equivalent in level to the final year of an undergraduate degree programme in the UK.

Description of the course

The course is designed to encourage students to be independent learners as well as highly skilled and knowledgeable practitioners. Consideration is given to both the diverse backgrounds and learning needs of the students progressing from different types of academic and professional backgrounds.

The learning and teaching methods used throughout the programme are varied to ensure that students can engage with their studies in a variety of ways:

- Lectures
- Practical workshops
- Mentor sessions
- Online learning
- Guided learning
- Peer learning
- Teaching placement
- One-to-one tutorials
- Research.

To gain the full qualification students must study 5 units. Units 1, 2 and 3 are compulsory and students must select one option from Unit 4 and one option from Unit 5 to complete the qualification.

Compulsory Units:

Unit 1: Planning and Evaluating Programmes of Learning
Unit 2: The Practice of Dance Teaching and Learning
Unit 3: Reflective Practice
Unit 4c: Teaching in Education and Community Settings

One Unit 5 option from:

Unit 5a: Applied Dance Science
Unit 5b: Social, Emotional and Cognitive Development
Unit 5c: Choreography

For more detailed course information download the DDP programme specification available on our website: **istd.org/level-6-ddp**

Assessment format

A wide variety of assessment methods are used, to allow students to demonstrate their knowledge in a range of ways, reflecting the needs of the course and taking an inclusive approach.

Progression

DDP students graduate from the programme with a range of real-world skills that are directly related to employment:

- Teaching in the private sector
- Teaching in the public sector
- Teaching in vocational schools
- Teaching in the community

Transferable skills such as analysis, reflection and communication are key to this programme.

Students are also able to go onto postgraduate (Level 7) study in dance and arts related subjects.

On achieving the DDP, graduates are awarded Full Teaching membership of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing. If graduates are eligible in the UK or Europe, they are also eligible to apply through ADCs for Approved Tutor Status to enable them to teach Units 1, 2 and 5 of the initial teaching qualification (DDE).

All DDP graduates can also apply to study for a Fellowship, the highest qualification within the ISTD. As an internationally recognised awarding body, the ISTD gives students a mark of quality on an international level and as such, provides a range of unique and diverse employment opportunities.

Entry requirements

The DDP is open to candidates from a range of backgrounds and is most suitable for students with dance teaching experience and /or professional performing experience.

The prerequisites for entry onto the DDP are successful completion of the Level 4 DDE or an equivalent teaching qualification and teaching experience. Candidates also need to hold GCSE English (or equivalent) at Level 4 or above (or equivalent). Students for whom English is a second language are expected to hold an IELTS (International English Language Testing System) at Level 6. No prior knowledge of the ISTD's syllabi is required.

Applicants who do not hold a regulated dance teaching qualification can be considered for entry onto the DDP through the ISTD's Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) scheme. The APEL scheme is designed to allow new entrants to access the ISTD's teaching qualifications at an appropriate level for their professional status. It takes account of professional experience and unregulated qualifications, in order to enable applicants to be granted exemption from usual entry and DDP requirements. For further information about APEL please contact: **higherqualifications@istd.org**

Delivery method

The Diploma is delivered through centres who have been specifically approved to deliver the DDP. The ISTD Academy delivers the DDP remotely as a distance learning programme.

Start dates and course duration

For ISTD Academy dates, please see **istd.org/teach/istd-academy**

The Diploma in Dance Pedagogy is a part-time course that is usually completed over 2 years. Students have up to 5 years to complete their studies from the date of enrolment.

Fees

Approved Dance Centres delivering the DDP set their own fees. Please visit the ISTD website for more information on these centres: **istd.org/teach/approved-dance-centres**

Upon enrolment, DDP students may wish to register as members with the ISTD. This enables students to access the ISTD's Continuous Professional Development (CPD) programmes and to receive regular updates from the Society.

For further information about membership please visit the Join our membership page on the ISTD website: **istd.org/join**

Student Teacher – Dancesport

The Student Teacher examination is a helpful preparation for prospective teachers who wish to take the Associate examination. It is not a mandatory examination or a full teaching qualification.

Any candidate wishing to enter for the Student Teacher examination must be entered by a Full Dancesport member.

Progression
Upon successful completion student teachers are permitted to attend courses on payment of an administration fee but are not eligible to take part in Amateur Medallist competitions. Student teachers may, however, continue to take Student Medal Tests in the Student Division in any Dancesport genre.

Successful student teachers can also apply for Provisional Membership of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing. This enables student teachers to teach but only under the guidance of a Full Dancesport member who holds a Dancesport qualification of an Associate or above.

Holders of an Associate qualification in Disco, Freestyle and Rock n Roll (DFR) can apply for an ADFP adjudicators licence.

Entry requirements
Learners must be 16 years of age to enter the Student Teacher examination.

Training method
Learners train and study with a local dance tutor before being entered for the examination by their tutor.

To find a suitable tutor, learners can browse 'Find a Dance Teacher' through the ISTD website or they can email **education@istd.org**

Description of the course
Learners develop thorough subject knowledge of the steps and roles associated with the genre and style being studied. Demonstration, analytical skills, and technical knowledge are key components of this qualification and will be assessed through an examination with an ISTD examiner.

Start dates and course duration
Each Dancesport tutor will have their own start dates.

The length of study will vary from candidate to candidate and will depend on pre-existing experience and the level of technical skill already achieved. Tutors will advise candidates on the expected time frame that it will take an individual candidate to achieve the qualification and schedules for learning will be drawn up between a candidates and their tutor on a one to one basis.

Fees
Fees are negotiated with the local dance tutor and will be based on local teaching rates and the expected amount of time it will take a candidate to complete their examination.

Associate – Dancesport

This qualification gives prospective dance teachers a solid grounding in the skills and knowledge needed to teach Dancesport in a safe and structured way, for pupils of all ages and abilities.

The Associate Dancesport is an unregulated qualification that is the recognised teaching qualification for ISTD Dancesport teachers.

Progression
Successful completion of the Associate Dancesport means that teachers are able to apply for Full Membership of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing. This will enable you to enter students for examinations and benefit from our full membership package

You may apply to the British Dance Council for a License to Adjudicate competitions in the genre in which you are qualified.

Entry requirements
Learners must be 17 years of age to enter the Associate Dancesport examination.

Training method
Learners train and study with a local dance tutor before being entered for the examination by their tutor.

Genres
Country and Western
Disco Freestyle
Latin American
Modern Ballroom
Rock n Roll
Salsa
Sequence
Street Dance

Description of the course
Learners undertake a range of lessons with their chosen trainer, in their chosen location. These lessons are designed to give the candidate a sound and thorough understanding of the syllabus within the chosen genre and to introduce and extend knowledge of teaching methods that are appropriate for the style being studied. Candidate's ability to teach, and demonstration of the necessary skills are tested through an examination, assessed by an ISTD examiner.

Start dates and course duration
Each Dancesport tutor will have their own start dates.

The length of study will vary from candidate to candidate and will depend on pre-existing experience and the level of technical skill already achieved. Tutors will advise candidates on the expected time frame that it will take an individual candidate to achieve the qualification and schedules for learning will be drawn up between a candidate and their tutor on a one to one basis.

Fees
Fees are negotiated with the local dance tutor and will be based on local teaching rates and the expected amount of time it will take a candidate to complete their examination.

Associate – Theatre

This qualification gives prospective dance teachers a solid grounding in the skills and knowledge needed to teach syllabus dance in a safe environment. The Associate enables teachers to prove their knowledge of the ISTD syllabus and upon successful completion can enter pupils for ISTD examinations.

The Associate is an unregulated qualification that is the recognised initial teaching qualification for ISTD teachers working outside of the UK and EU.

Progression
Upon completion of the Associate qualification, teachers can go on to study the Associate Diploma. From there they can progress to Licentiate and Fellowship examinations if they wish, enabling them to further develop their teaching skills at increasingly higher levels.

Teachers who achieve their Associate certificate are able to apply for Full Teaching membership with the ISTD and can then enter candidates for ISTD exams.

Entry requirements
Learners must be 18 years or over to enter the Associate examination.

All learners taking the Associate must be resident outside of the UK and EU and hold their Intermediate level exam within their chosen genre.

It is advisable that learners have a good awareness of the specific genre and are conversant with the terminology used within the genre.

Training method
The Associate is delivered by tutors outside of the UK and EU. Learners train and study with a local dance tutor before being entered for the examination by their tutor.

To find a suitable tutor, learners can browse 'Find a Dance Teacher' through the ISTD website or they can email **education@istd.org**

Genres
Cecchetti Classical Ballet
Classical Greek Dance
Classical Indian Dance
Imperial Classical Ballet
Modern Theatre
National Dance
Tap Dance

Description of the course
The Associate qualification seeks to increase the skills, analysis and understanding of specific genre in relation to the ISTD syllabus. Candidates study the syllabus of the genre they wish to pursue and are tested on this knowledge in an examination. Emphasis is placed on a candidate's ability to teach the syllabus in a creative way, with a strong emphasis also being placed on attention to detail of the required syllabus and technical accuracy. Upon completion, teachers can enter students for ISTD examinations and can work as independent dance teachers or within a private dance school.

Start dates and course duration
Each Associate tutor will have their own start dates.

The length of study will vary from candidate to candidate and will depend on pre-existing experience and the level of technical skill already achieved. Tutors will advise candidates on the expected time frame that it will take an individual candidate to achieve the qualification and schedules for learning will be drawn up between a candidate and their tutor on a one to one basis.

Fees
Fees are negotiated with the local dance tutor and will be based on local teaching rates and the expected amount of time it will take a candidate to complete their examination.

Associate Diploma – Theatre

The Associate Diploma deepens learning gained through the Associate qualification and enables candidates to develop further knowledge of teaching and coaching skills.

The Associate Diploma is an unregulated qualification that is one of the recognised higher teaching qualification for ISTD teachers working outside of the UK and EU.

Progression
Holders of the Associate Diploma can go onto study Licentiate and then progress to Fellowship, which is the highest teaching qualification with the ISTD.

Teachers who achieve their Associate Diploma certificate are able to apply for Full Teaching Membership with the ISTD and can then enter candidates for ISTD exams.

Entry requirements
There is no minimum or maximum age for this exam, but it is strongly recommended that candidates have had regular teaching experience prior to entering for the Associate Diploma exam.

Candidates must have achieved the Associate within the same genre as the Associate Diploma is being taken.

All learners taking the Associate Diploma must be resident outside of the UK and EU.

Training method
The Associate Diploma is delivered by teachers outside of the UK and EU.

Learners train and study with a local dance tutor and study before being entered for the examination by their tutor.

To find a suitable tutor, learners can browse 'Find a Dance Teacher' through the ISTD website or they can email **education@istd.org**

Genres
Cecchetti Classical Ballet
Classical Greek Dance
Classical Indian Dance
Imperial Classical Ballet
Modern Theatre
National Dance
Tap Dance

Description of the course
The Associate Diploma qualification builds on the skills gained in the Associate and gives dance teachers further insight into the teaching of dance in their chosen genre. Whilst still rooted in the syllabus, the Associate Diploma places emphasis on teaching methods and coaching to ensure a deeper understanding of the various ways that dance genres can be delivered and taught. Upon completion of the Associate Diploma teachers are able to demonstrate a higher understanding of teaching and can work in dance schools in the private sector.

Start dates and course duration
Each Associate Diploma tutor will have their own start dates.

The length of study will vary from candidate to candidate and will depend on pre-existing experience and the level of technical skill already achieved. Tutors will advise candidates on the expected time frame that it will take an individual candidate to achieve the qualification and schedules for learning will be drawn up between a candidate and their tutor on a one to one basis.

Fees
Fees are negotiated with the local dance tutor and will be based on local teaching rates and the expected amount of time it will take a candidate to complete their examination.

Licentiate

The Licentiate qualification builds on the skills learnt in the initial teacher training qualification and combines this with the knowledge and experience that come with practice as a teaching practitioner.

Advanced teaching skills and knowledge of the ISTD syllabi within the chosen genre underpin this qualification and allows teachers to demonstrate their experience and knowledge.

The Licentiate is an unregulated qualification that is the recognised higher teaching qualification for ISTD teachers working throughout the world.

Progression

After successful completion, Licentiate holders are eligible to apply to be examiners for Primary and Grades, in both Theatre Dance and Dancesport genres. Licentiate holders may also consider applying to the Society to become an Approved Dance Centre or DDE Approved Tutor. For those wishing to progress onto the DDP, holding the Licentiate qualification exempts teachers from Unit 4.

Entry requirements

In order to apply to take the Licentiate exam you need to have one of the following:

- **Theatre Dance:** You must have passed the CDE / DDE or Associate Diploma (outside of the EU) in the relevant genre and have passed the Advanced 1 examination in the relevant genre.
- **Dancesport:** You must hold the or Associate in the relevant genre and have completed a minimum of two years of teaching in that genre.

Teachers who do not hold the above qualifications but have significant teaching and/or performing experience can apply through the ISTD's Accreditation of Experiential Learning (APEL) process to access this qualification. For more information, please contact **hqualifications@istd.org**

Training method

Learners train and study with a local dance tutor before being entered for the examination by their tutor.

To find a suitable tutor, learners can browse 'Find a Dance Teacher' through the ISTD website or they can email **education@istd.org**

Genres

Cecchetti Classical Ballet
Classical Greek Dance
Classical Indian Dance
Dancesport
Imperial Classical Ballet
Modern Theatre
National Dance
Tap Dance

Description of the course

Teachers pursuing the Licentiate undertake an in depth study of teaching methods and syllabi up to and including Advanced 1. The course covers the following areas:

- Application and demonstration of advanced knowledge and understanding of the fundamental technique.
- Advanced understanding of vocabulary in the relevant genre.
- Advanced understanding of how to teach syllabi effectively.
- Demonstration of expression and musicality in performance/demonstration and analysis.

Start dates and course duration

Each Licentiate tutor will have their own start dates.

The length of study will vary from candidate to candidate and will depend on pre-existing experience and the level of technical skill already achieved. Tutors will advise candidates on the expected time frame that it will take an individual candidate to achieve the qualification and schedules for learning will be drawn up between a candidate and their tutor on a one to one basis.

Fees

Fees are negotiated with the local dance tutor and will be based on local teaching rates and the expected amount of time it will take a candidate to complete their examination.

Fellowship

This is the highest teaching qualification offered by the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing. It builds further on the skills and experience gained through the Licentiate qualification and develops highly advanced teaching skills and knowledge of the genre specific syllabi.

The Fellowship is an unregulated qualification. It is the highest recognised teaching qualification offered by the Society for ISTD teachers working throughout the world.

Progression

After successful completion, Fellowship holders are eligible to apply to be examiners for all grades, vocational and professional level examinations.

Entry requirements

In order to apply to take the Fellowship exam you need to have one of the following:

- **Theatre Dance:** You must have passed the Licentiate or Level 6 DDP qualification in the relevant genre and have passed the Advanced 2 examination in the relevant genre.
- **Dancesport:** You must have held the Licentiate in the relevant genre for a minimum of three years.

Teachers who do not hold the above qualifications but have significant teaching and/or performing experience can apply through the ISTD's Accreditation of Experiential Learning (APEL) process to access this qualification. For more information, please contact **hqualifications@istd.org**

You are expected to show a depth and breadth of technical knowledge and artistry as well as a high standard of teaching.

Training method

Learners train and study with a local dance tutor before being entered for the examination by their tutor.

To find a suitable tutor, learners can browse 'Find a Dance Teacher' through the ISTD website or they can email **education@istd.org**

Genres

Cecchetti Classical Ballet
Classical Greek Dance
Classical Indian Dance
Dancesport
Imperial Classical Ballet
Modern Theatre
National Dance
Tap Dance

Description of the course

Teachers undertaking the Fellowship will learn and demonstrate very advanced knowledge of teaching as well as in depth and detailed understanding of the chosen genre syllabi, up to and including Advanced 2. The course includes advanced analysis of movements, detailed technical knowledge and in depth understanding of genre specific stylistic and artistic qualities.

Start dates and course duration

Each Fellowship tutor will have their own start dates.

The length of study will vary from candidate to candidate and will depend on pre-existing experience and the level of technical skill already achieved. Tutors will advise candidates on the expected time frame that it will take an individual candidate to achieve the qualification and schedules for learning will be drawn up between a candidate and their tutor on a one to one basis.

Fees

Fees are negotiated with the local dance tutor and will be based on local teaching rates and the expected amount of time it will take a candidate to complete their examination.

The Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing exists to advance excellence in dance teaching and education.

We represent dance teachers and their communities, supporting and celebrating their artistic brilliance. Since 1904, we've provided quality dance training across a diverse range of genres – enabling our members to inspire their students with a passion for dance.

With nearly 6000 members in 59 countries we conduct 90,000 examinations worldwide each year.

Membership of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing is **your passport to artistic and professional progression** – so join us in leading the world in dance.

Discover more: **istd.org**

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