



HIS Dance Academy Need-Based Scholarship Application 2026-27

At HIS Dance Academy, we desire to make quality dance training accessible to families while fostering excellence, character, and faith. Scholarship assistance is available to families demonstrating financial need and is awarded based on available funds, student commitment, and completed application materials.

All information provided will be kept confidential and reviewed only by authorized members of the scholarship committee.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

August 15, 2026

To be considered, please submit:

- Completed Scholarship Application
- Letter to Substantiate Need
- Instructor Recommendation Form (if applicable)

Scholarship Eligibility

To apply for a need-based scholarship, the following criteria apply:

- Student must be **6 years of age or older** by the first day of classes.
- Student must be currently registered / enrolled at HIS Dance Academy.
- One scholarship application may be submitted **per family, per academic year**. (Male dancers will automatically qualify for a 50% scholarship for Ballet classes and are not eligible to receive another)
- Scholarships are subject to available funding.
- Submission of an application does not guarantee an award.

Verification of Need

Applicants must provide the enclosed **Letter to Substantiate Need** to a third party who can verify circumstances such as financial hardship or family need. Examples may include:

- Pastor or ministry leader
- School counselor or administrator
- Social worker
- Government assistance caseworker
- Licensed counselor
- Other trusted professionals familiar with the family's circumstances

The completed letter must be sent directly to HIS Dance Academy.

Award Notification & Payment Terms

Families will be notified of scholarship decisions before classes begin in September.

If awarded:

- Families must have completed registration and have paid any required registration fees.
- Costume Performance fees, Ensemble fees, and any other non-tuition charges are the family's responsibility unless otherwise stated in writing.
- Tuition adjustments will be applied based on the amount awarded.
- Failure to remain current on required balances may result in suspension or cancellation of the scholarship unless prior arrangements are made.

Ongoing Scholarship Review

Scholarships may be reviewed periodically throughout the year. Continued eligibility may consider:

- Attendance
- Effort and participation
- Respectful behavior
- Compliance with studio policies
- Financial need status

HIS Dance Academy reserves the right to modify or revoke scholarships when warranted by policy violations, false information, or changes in available funds. If your family's financial circumstances change and you find yourself able to afford some or all the remaining tuition, please notify the HIS Dance Program Director ASAP so that funds can be appropriated to another family in need.

Scholarship Opportunities

The Rizzo Scholarship: Established in honor of former bookkeeper Jeannine Rizzo. Available to students with disabilities or special needs. Awards based on need and available funding.

The JoElla Scholarship: Created in recognition of the Biblical call to care for widows and orphans. Families experiencing widowhood, guardianship, foster care, or similar hardship may apply.

Graded Technique Scholarship: Available to students enrolled in graded technique programs. Awards based on financial need, commitment, and available funds.

HIS Kids Scholarship: Available to recreational students age 6 and older. May assist with tuition for one qualifying recreational class.



NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
Due August 15, 2026

Student Information

Student Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

School Attending: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Scholarship Requested

Please check one:

- Rizzo Scholarship
- JoElla Scholarship
- Graded Technique Scholarship
- HIS Kids Scholarship
- General Need-Based Tuition Assistance

Class/Level Requested: _____

Number of classes student plans to enroll in: _____

Estimated Monthly Tuition: _____

Annual Tuition Amount: _____

Student Participation & Commitment

Has your child previously attended HIS Dance Academy?

Yes No

If yes, please list years/classes: _____

Has your family previously received scholarship assistance?

Yes No

If yes, when and for whom: _____

Please list other extracurricular activities: _____

Why would participating at HIS Dance Academy be meaningful for your child?

Family Financial Information

(Used only to assess financial need)

Estimated Annual Gross Household Income

- Under \$25,000
- \$25,000–\$39,999
- \$40,000–\$54,999
- \$55,000–\$74,999
- \$75,000–\$99,999
- \$100,000+
- Prefer to discuss privately

Number of People Supported by Household Income

Adults: _____ Children: _____

Employment Status

Parent/Guardian 1:

- Full-Time
- Part-Time
- Self-Employed
- Unemployed
- Disability Leave
- Other: _____

Parent/Guardian 2:

- Full-Time
- Part-Time
- Self-Employed
- Unemployed
- Disability Leave
- Other: _____

Do you currently receive any of the following assistance?

- SNAP/Food Assistance
- Medicaid
- Foster Care Support
- Tuition Assistance Elsewhere
- Other Assistance
- None

Special Circumstances

Please check any circumstances currently affecting your family:

- Job Loss
- Medical Expenses
- Single Parent Household
- Widow/Widower
- Foster Placement
- Adoption Expenses
- Disability in Household
- Recent Family Crisis
- Other: _____

Please explain any circumstances you would like the committee to consider:

OPTIONAL SERVICE & VOLUNTEER INTERESTS

Scholarship decisions are not based on volunteer ability. However, families who wish to serve are welcome to indicate interests below:

- Costumes/Sewing
- Cleaning/Organization
- Front Desk Help
- Event Setup
- Fundraising
- Office Tasks
- Photography
- Skilled Trade/Repairs
- Weeding
- Other: _____

Certification

By signing below, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that scholarship funds are limited, awards are not guaranteed, and continued assistance may depend on attendance, conduct, participation, and compliance with studio policies.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature (if age appropriate): _____

For Office Use Only:

Date Received: _____

Application Complete: Yes No

Amount Awarded: _____

Balance Due: _____

Approved By: _____

Family Notified: _____

Notes:



LETTER TO SUBSTANTIATE NEED

Due August 15, 2026

(To be returned directly to HIS Dance Academy)

Student Name: _____

Name of Reference: _____

Relationship to Family: _____

How long have you known this family? _____

Please share information that may help verify financial hardship or special circumstances:

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title/Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Return to:

HIS Dance Academy

2715 29th Street SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49512



INSTRUCTOR RECOMMENDATIONFORM
Due August 15, 2026

Student Name: _____

Instructor Name: _____

Class: _____

Please rate 1 (Needs Improvement) to 5 (Excellent)

Category	1	2	3	4	5
Attendance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Punctuality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Focus in Class	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Respectful Behavior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Positive Attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Works Well with Others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Desire to Learn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourages Others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Comments:

Instructor Signature: _____ Date: _____