



THE DANCE CONSERVATORY

AT THE ST. PAUL'S SCHOOLS

2025-2026 Enrollment Packet

**2025-
2026**

*Welcome to
The Dance Conservatory
at St. Paul's Schools*

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TDC

**THE DANCE CONSERVATORY
AT THE ST. PAUL'S SCHOOLS**

Dear TDC Parents & Dancers,

Welcome to a brand new dance season at The Dance Conservatory!

As the new TDC Director, I am thrilled to join this wonderful team and welcome back all our returning students and extend a warm greeting to our new members. This season promises to be filled with exciting opportunities for growth, creativity, and community as we embark on another journey of dance excellence.

Our Commitment:

At TDC, we are dedicated to fostering a supportive and nurturing atmosphere where every dancer can thrive. Dance meets imperative needs for social-emotional skills, mental well-being, and physical health and provides quality friendships and role models. And THAT is the greatest investment a parent could make in their child. I do not only share that as a dance teacher but as a mom myself. Our talented and passionate instructors and staff are here to guide you, whether your goal is to pursue a professional career or simply enjoy the joy of dance.

Community and Support:

We believe in the power of community and encourage everyone to support one another. Parents and guardians, your involvement is crucial to your dancer's success, and we welcome your participation in our events and activities.

As we step into this new season, let's embrace the challenges, celebrate our achievements, and most importantly, enjoy the journey of dance together. If you have any questions or need assistance, do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for being a part of The Dance Conservatory. Here's to an amazing season filled with dance, growth, and unforgettable memories!

Warm regards,

Crystal Mann-Hollinger

Director, The Dance Conservatory

2025-2026 Class Descriptions & Programs



PRE-ACADEMY PROGRAM

Ages 2-7

We focus on providing developmentally appropriate education with a focus on FUN!

This program gives students a solid foundation upon which to continue their dance education. This is where you start!

Mini & Me: Ages 2-3

This class is a parent/toddler dance class for ages 2 to 3 years old. It is perfect for children who need some time easing into a group setting with other children and adults. This 30-minute introductory dance class includes an introduction to ballet and creative movement. Young dancers and their parent/guardian learn how to follow direction and imitate movement in an active environment while having a fun time. Parent participation is required. This class is a session-based class and will not perform in the recital

Pre-Ballet: Ages 3-5

Pre-Ballet supports locomotive skills, flexibility, musicality, and motor development while nurturing creativity and free movement. Students utilize energy, movement, and expression while exploring Ballet!

Ballet/Jazz Combo: Ages 5-7

Ballet/Jazz Combo is a formal introduction to ballet & jazz dance styles. This class will focus on basic ballet and jazz principles while learning to integrate their ballet technique into the fun and upbeat feel of jazz dance.

Musical Theatre 1: Ages 5-7

Students are introduced to acting and jazz styles found on the Broadway stage. From Annie to Legally Blonde, dance has played an integral role in telling the stories of Broadway shows. Students will also focus on stage presence and performance in this class.

2025-2026 Class Descriptions & Programs



ACADEMY PROGRAM AGES 7-18

In our Academy program, students ages 7-18, will develop skills and technique with other dancers their age & skill level. Create your own dance program—you can take as many or as few classes as you wish. Each class will learn age-appropriate choreography and will end the year performing at our annual recital.

Ballet: Ages 7-18

Ballet is the foundation for all dance forms. Ballet is taught in a nurturing and correct manner. Each level of ballet designates a level of attainment and a physical and intellectual grasp of the material being taught. Ballet classes are offered from beginner to advanced levels. Students are taught proper body placement, body alignment, barre, and center floor work, along with across-the-floor combinations. All students are urged to study ballet, as it is the foundation of all other dance styles and facilitates further success in these disciplines.

Pointe is offered by pre-approval only.

Note: Dancers from ages 10-18 are encouraged to participate in two ballet classes per week to increase kinesthetic memory development.

Prerequisites:

- Ballet 1: Prior movement experience is suggested
- Ballet 2: One to three years of ballet experience
- Ballet 3: Four or more years of Ballet experience
- Ballet 3/4: Four or more years of Ballet experience
- Ballet 4: Minimum of five years of Ballet experience

Ballet Fundamentals: For absolute beginners with relatively little experience, this series is an introduction to ballet fundamentals. It will consist of developing skills at the barre and center and traveling exercise across the floor. You will gain a better understanding of terminology, alignment, balance, artistry, sequencing, and space. This series is a perfect place to begin your education of the fundamentals of ballet in a non-competitive & fun environment.

Pointe Prerequisites

- Pre-Pointe: Two or more years of Ballet experience
- Pointe 1: Pre-Pointe and three or more years of Ballet experience
- Pointe 2: Pre-Pointe, Pointe 1, and four or more years of Ballet experience

Ballet & Pointe Placement

Ballet & Pointe Placement TDC's ballet program offers classes on a multi-level system, with students progressing from one course to the next at their own individual pace. Students are placed in the level that best suits their needs, with age being a secondary consideration. To successfully achieve the placement necessary to support pointe work, muscle development and form must be practiced in order to become habitual for the dancer. Strength and muscular development are assessed before pointe is started. This placement method is most important to ensure the safety and best instruction at the student's current level.

Jazz: Ages 7-18

Explore jazz dance from its earliest cultural roots to the present day. Jazz dance is influenced by popular culture, music, and events. Students will study all aspects of jazz dance from its historical roots to its current influence. Our jazz program emphasizes proper technique and progression into leaps, turns, and flexibility—minimizing injury and encouraging correct placement and technique.

Prerequisites:

- Jazz 1: Prior movement experience is suggested
- Jazz 2: Two or more years of Jazz experience
- Jazz 3: Three or more years of Jazz experience
- Jazz 4/5: Four or more years of Jazz experience
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Jazz Fundamentals: For absolute beginners with relatively little experience, this series is an introduction to jazz dance fundamentals. This is a great place to begin developing your skills in rhythm, isolations, style, and musicality in a fun and non-competitive environment.

Acrobatics: Ages 8-18

We use the Acrobatic Arts curriculum. Students will develop the strength, agility, and flexibility to be able to perform various ground and aerial tricks. Students will learn everything from front rolls and cartwheels to handsprings, walkovers, and aerials.

Prerequisites:

- Acro 1: No previous training required
- Acro 2: Two years of previous acrobatic/tumbling

**In order to participate, students must be concurrently enrolled in one technique class to also learn musicality and rhythm.

Contemporary: Ages 9-18

Dancers will study the development of contemporary from postmodern and jazz dance into what is now an international phenomenon. Styles explored may include lyrical, modern, and jazz. Students will explore the complete movement potential of the body. Modern dance characteristics emphasized will include contact-release, floor work, fall and recovery, and improvisation.

Prerequisites:

- Minimum one simultaneous ballet or jazz class enrollment
- Two or more years of ballet and/or jazz

2025-2026 Class Descriptions & Programs

Lyrical: Ages 9-18

A fusion of ballet and jazz, lyrical dance interprets the accompanying music in an emotionally expressive way. The dancers' movements attempt to illustrate the actual meaning and emotion communicated in the song. This style allows the student to tell a story through their performance.

Prerequisites:

- Minimum one simultaneous ballet or jazz class enrollment
- One or more years of ballet and/or jazz

Modern 1 & 2: Ages 10-18

Dancers will study concepts of modern dance such as groundedness, expression, and articulation of the spine. We will explore a wide range of dynamics incorporating the elements of dance: body, energy, space, and time.

Experienced dancers will build upon the fundamentals covered in Modern 1 and focus mostly on the Horton & Graham technique emphasizing strength, stability, and precision.

*Must also enroll in at least one ballet class.

Hip Hop

This is a fun and energetic dance class. Classes consist of warm-up, strengthening exercises, and a combination filled with the latest dance trends. This style of dance allows the body to move freely and funky, while integrating the dancer's own personal style. This class provides an age-appropriate experience of today's most popular form of dance, trends, and music. Classes available at beginner and intermediate/advanced levels.

Tap 1-3: Ages 7-18

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of rhythm tap. Students will explore using the body as an instrument and learn basic rhythms and vocabulary.

Prerequisites:

- Tap 1: Prior movement experience is suggested
- Tap 2: Two or more years of tap experience
- Tap 3: Three or more years of tap experience

Musical Theatre 2-5: Ages 7-18

Musical Theatre 2 & 3 dancers will explore the fundamentals of acting and Broadway-style choreography including jazz techniques, partnering, character work, and social/historical dances as seen on Broadway.

Musical Theatre 4 & 5 dancers build on advancing their knowledge of acting and jazz styles, focusing on combos and repertory. Dancers work on advanced musicality and storytelling through song and dance.

Conservatory Program: Ages 10+

It is an optional, add-on program, for TDC dancers 10-18 who wish to intensify their ballet study with pre-professional training. Dancers hoping to attend university dance auditions and/or pre-professional programs in ballet, jazz, musical theatre, or contemporary/modern are strongly advised to audition. Participating dancers are grouped according to ability level with age consideration.

Junior Conservatory: Ages 10-12

Requirements:

- Three hours of ballet class
- One modern class
- One contemporary class

Senior Conservatory: Ages 13+

Requirements:

- 4.5 hours of ballet class
- One modern class
- One contemporary class
- One jazz or lyrical class

TDC Performance Company: Ages 9+

The TDC Performance Company is a special program designed for dancers who love to perform and desire a more intense level of training. Dancers grow in confidence and ability through dance classes, rehearsals, community involvement, competitions, and more! Past performances include regional competitions, Artscape, Open Marley Night at the Baltimore Theater Project, New York City Dance Parade and Festival, and the Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C.

Company dancers are required to take at least two ballet classes per week, one jazz class & at least one elective class

Requirements:

- Minimum two ballet classes per week
- Minimum one jazz class per week
- Minimum one elective class per week
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Rehearsals:

Company members must attend all rehearsals that are scheduled unless permission from a coach or TDC Director is granted.

Competition Opportunity:

- Small & Large group
- Solo & Duet – must be asked by coaches or Artistic Director

DRESS CODE & ATTIRE

Students are required to wear the recommended dance attire per the dance genre/program in which they are enrolled. Students entering class without the proper attire will not be able to participate and will be asked to observe.

- No jewelry – including but not limited to watches, rings, bracelets, necklaces, dangle, hoop, or large earrings.
- No jeans, pants, legwarmers, warm-up clothing, or leotards with attached skirts.
- During cold weather months, fitted warmups are permitted for the beginning of class. Baggy or loose fitting warmups are not permitted.
- Dancers may choose to wear skin-tone tights and shoes or pink tights and shoes. *Please note that tights and shoes must match as to not disturb continuing dance lines.*
- In classes where shorts are permitted, they must be fitted spandex shorts. No loose shorts will be permitted.

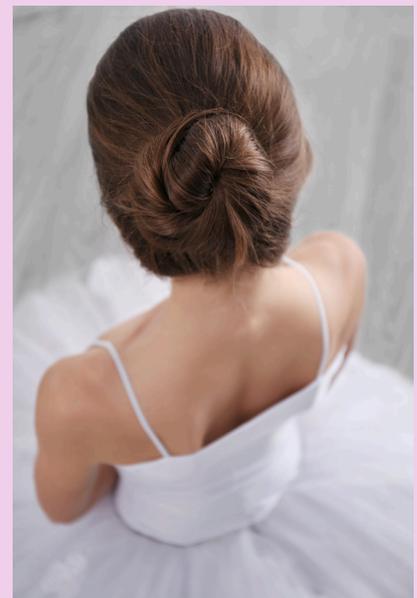
Standard Student Hair

BALLET: PRE BALLET - LEVEL 4

- Students' hair should be worn in a bun. Very short hair should be pulled back away from the face with a headband secured with bobby pins.
- Hair must be tightly secured away from face at all times.

ALL OTHER GENRES: MUSICAL THEATRE, JAZZ, LYRICAL, CONTEMPORARY, HIP HOP, & ACRO

- Hair must be tightly secured away from face at all times.
- Students' hair should be worn in a bun during Jazz, Jumps/Leaps/Turns and Acro. Very short hair should be pulled back away from the face with a headband secured with bobby pins.





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Dance Class Attire

Pre- Academy Classes

Mini & Me/ Pre-Ballet



Mini & Me/Pre-Ballet:
Pink cap sleeve leotard, skin tone or pink tights, skin tone or pink ballet shoes

Ballet/Jazz Combo



Ballet/Jazz Combo:
Light blue cap sleeve leotard, skin tone or pink tights, skin tone or pink ballet shoes, tan slip-on jazz shoes

Musical Theater I:

Any color leotard, skin tone tights, tan slip-on jazz shoes
*optional black shorts

Academy Classes

Ballet 1



Ballet 1:
Lavender/Light Purple tank leotard, skin tone or pink tights, skin tone or pink ballet shoes

Ballet 2



Ballet 2:
Burgundy tank leotard, skin tone or pink tights, skin tone or pink ballet shoes

Ballet 3 & Ballet 4



Ballet 3/ Ballet 4:
Navy tank leotard, skin tone or pink tights, skin tone or pink ballet shoes

Pointe shoes may be used with instructor permission

MALE BALLET ATTIRE: BLACK SPANDEX TIGHTS OR LEGGINGS, WHITE T-SHIRT, WHITE SOCKS AND WHITE BALLET SHOES

MALE ATTIRE (ALL OTHER GENRES) : BLACK SHORTS OR SWEATPANTS, WHITE T-SHIRT, BLACK SHOES (TAP, JAZZ SLIP-ON)

NON-BINARY AND GENDER NON-CONFORMING: PLEASE MIX AND MATCH FROM THE OPTIONS IN ORDER TO FIND AN OUTFIT THAT FEELS COMFORTABLE AND PRODUCTIVE TO WORK IN

Contemporary/Lyrical/Modern: Any solid color leotard, pink or skin tone convertible or stirrup tights, ½ pirouettes, black shorts optional

Jazz/Musical Theater 2-5: Any solid color leotard, pink or skin tone tights, skin tone slip-on jazz shoes, black shorts optional

Acro: Any solid color leotard, pink or skin tone convertible or stirrup tights, bare feet, black shorts optional

Tap: Any solid color leotard, pink or skin tone or pink tights, black lace-up tap shoes , black shorts optional

Hip Hop: Athletic, move-able clothing. Shoes worn for Hip Hop are clean, dance class only "tennis shoes" which are not worn outside or for your normal everyday use

Where to purchase:

In Person

Dance Supplies Ect
556D Gov Ritchie Highway
Severna Park, MD 21146

On Line

Discount Dance
Dancewear Solutions
Amazon

*Tights and Shoes should match in color/tone to create a long line.

THE DANCE CONSERVATORY ETIQUETTE

What to Expect

Studio etiquette is very important. It is the expectation that everyone will physically demonstrate esteem for the art form, the teachers, and other students. All guests, students, and teachers are expected to be courteous and to treat one another with respect and dignity.

Punctuality

Dancers should be present at least 5–10 minutes prior to the start of class. Dancers ages 10 and older should enter the studio as soon as the space is available to ready their minds and bodies for class; in ballet this includes setting up the barres. Instructional time is valuable, so class is expected to begin at the scheduled start time. Arriving late is disruptive to the students, teacher, and the overall flow of the class. Classes are structured to gradually prepare the body for more intense movement. Missing the beginning moments of class can result in injury and/or a delay in progress. If you are late, you should wait at the door and be invited to join class by the instructor. Students who are 15 minutes or more late may be asked to observe class.

Hair

Keep your hair pulled back off your face and neck and firmly secured. Hair flying about can be distracting, get in the eyes and cause problems with spotting freely during pirouettes. Ponytails and braids can be dangerous, hitting you or someone else during class.

Jewelry

Do not wear jewelry to the studio or during class. Necklaces, bracelets, and dangling earrings can fly off and hit someone, become caught during partnering class and ripped out or cut your partner, or break into pieces on the floor creating hazardous dancing conditions. We do allow small earrings.

Hygiene & Cleanliness

Being respectful to others means wearing clean clothes and clean smelling shoes. Attend to your personal hygiene. Shower and use antiperspirant or deodorant (keep some in your dance bag) before coming to class. Avoid strong perfumes or colognes.

Attire

Please follow the dress code. The dress code allows the teacher to see your movement and alignment and make the proper corrections. Being properly dressed shows the teacher you are serious about your artform. You will feel more confident and dance better when properly dressed for class. Wear proper street clothes and shoes when arriving and leaving the studio. Dance shoes should never be worn outside on concrete or asphalt surfaces, as it will ruin them very quickly. Remember, how you enter an establishment or room says a lot about who you are as an individual and what you are there to do.

Be Attentive

Dancers are in class to work, watch and listen. Focus is important.

Follow Directions

It is not only distracting but is also disrespectful to your teacher to do combinations other than the way the combination was given. Any physical problems should be discussed with the teacher before the class begins so the teacher understands why you may not be doing a step to your fullest potential.

Personal Items

Dancers should always take their dance bags with them to class or properly kept in a locked area. Do not take a chance by bringing expensive items to the studio. Take your dance bag with you into the studio and look for the designated area to put your dance bags. Make sure it is safely out of the path of dancers and put it where you can keep an eye on it.

THE DANCE CONSERVATORY ETIQUETTE

Drinking Water During Class

It is good to drink water before and after class ends. Drinking water between barre exercises or center exercises is generally not allowed. It is inappropriate to drink water while a teacher is giving a combination. If the teacher allows, students may drink water from a water bottle between barre and moving to the center. Drinking water from a bottle with a secure closable lid is very important.

Permission to Leave Class

Dancers should always ask permission to leave the studio while class is in progress, even if ill. To disappear from class without permission is unacceptable. If you must leave class early, quietly catch the teacher's attention at the end of a combination, wave thank you or curtsy and silently leave. Always try to speak with the teacher before class begins to let them know you will have to leave early. This will cause less distraction and not disrupt the flow of class when you leave



Dance Class Behavior Checklist

- Arrive to class on time, with all materials, and dressed in the appropriate attire.
- Be an active participant in class. Listen and learn while others are being given corrections. Ask questions and keep talking to a minimum during class time.
- Demonstrate kindness towards faculty and dancers. Respect, help, and encourage each other.
- Refrain from unsafe behaviors including, but not limited to, hanging or writing on the bars, running in the studios or hallways, kicking, hitting, or throwing objects, screaming, yelling, or using inappropriate language.
- Eating & Chewing Gum is not permitted in the studios. Only water bottles are permitted in the studios. Please ensure that your dancers water bottle has a locking lid in order to avoid spills in their bag or in the studio.
- Cell phones are not permitted during class.
- Have fun and work hard!



THE DANCE CONSERVATORY POLICIES

Attendance & Commitment to Class Policy

We truly expect our students to attend every class in which the student is registered. Dance is a disciplined artform that requires a student to be completely committed. Students who do not attend class on a regular basis will quickly fall behind, and will not build the necessary skills and strength needed to succeed and move to a higher level.

- Students are expected to notify the TDC office in the event they will be absent from class.
- The ONLY acceptable excused student absences are illness, debilitating injury, observance of a religious holiday, or family emergency.
- Students with minor injuries are expected to attend and observe class.

TDC expects all classroom work, in all forms of dance offered, to be taken very seriously. The accumulation of class absences and tardiness will be strongly considered and will hinder a student's eligibility to be promoted to the next level of training, go on to pointe, or may impact a student's ability to perform in productions. Consistency and focus during classroom training are the most important components in the progress of our students.

It is very important for students to warm up their muscles before class and rehearsals properly to prevent potential injury. The teacher reserves the right to ask the student to sit and observe the rehearsals only. This is for the safety of our students. If a student must absolutely miss a rehearsal or class, it is the responsibility of the student to inform the teacher and to arrive as early as possible to properly warm up before being allowed to dance.

- Students should NOT attend class or rehearsal in the event of illness, to reduce the possibility of making others ill.
- During preparation for performances some regularly scheduled class time may be used for rehearsal.
- If a student must miss a class or rehearsal, he/she should leave a note or call the office and leave a message for the instructor and Artistic Director.

Students with prolonged absences due to illness or injury must bring a doctor's note upon returning to class stating student has recovered medically and is physically healthy enough to return to class. Student may then resume his/her regular schedule of classes.

Class Level and Promotion Policy

TDC's Artistic Director and faculty make all decisions regarding the placement and promotion of all students to a higher level. The decision to move a student to the next level of training is based on the student's own merit, understanding of vocabulary, technique, and the ability to demonstrate those skills. Overall strength and maturity are factors as well. Students with absences totaling more than 10% of their enrollment who have NOT made up those missed classes may seriously jeopardize their eligibility for promotion to the next level of training.

Class Observation Policy

TDC has scheduled parent observation weeks throughout the year, as well as studio demonstration for semester or trimester long sessions. Please check your TDC School calendar for these scheduled dates. Teachers of individual classes reserve the right to open or close classroom doors and windows at all other times throughout the school year.

Student Class Make-up Policy

- Students may make up a missed class by attending another class of the SAME LEVEL or a LOWER LEVEL.
- Students and/or parents must email or call the studio pre-arrange a make-up class.
- Students must make up missed classes within the same calendar month. Make-up classes may be scheduled in advance of the excused absence.
- Classes missed the last week of a month should be made up within the first week of the next calendar month when a student returns to class.
- Missed classes do not accrue from one month to another month, nor from one session to another.
- Missed classes not made up will be lost classes.
- Tuition will not be refunded for unattended classes or classes that are not made up.
- Students must check in and let both the Artistic Director and the instructor of the class know they are attending a make-up class.
- TDC reserves the right to add additional classes or extend the calendar school year to make up for classes missed due to inclement weather or emergency/unexpected school closings.
- Emergency Closings The Dance Conservatory at the St Paul's Schools follows The St. Paul's Schools. In the event The St. Paul's Schools are closed, TDC classes will be canceled.

Tuition Policy:

Yearly tuition is a course fee that is broken down into nine (9) equal installments per year and is due by the first of the month. All families must have a credit card on file and be enrolled in autopay. We accept Visa, Discover, and MasterCard. Tuition will be posted on or about the 15th of the month prior to when it is due and will be automatically drawn from the card on file between the 1st and 5th of the month (September –May). If you want to use an alternate payment method other than the card on file, you must do so before the 1st of the month.

There is a \$15 late fee applied to all accounts if payment is not received in full by the 10th of each month. There is a one-month minimum for all lessons. Tuition refunds are not given for a student that drops from a class mid-month.

No refunds are given for classes missed due to inclement weather or emergency school closings. (See makeup policy)

Tuition rates will be prorated when students register for classes for a term that is already underway

No student will be admitted to class after the 15th of the month if his/her account is not current.

Delinquent accounts must be settled before a student can register for a new session/semester or attend production rehearsals.

Registration fees are NOT refundable.

Withdraw Policy:

Thirty (30) day written notice is required to withdraw a dancer from any class. All written notices should be emailed to TDC Director, Crystal Mann-Hollinger at cmann@stpaulsmd.org

Non-attendance does not constitute withdrawing from class.

Withdrawal During Weeks 3-8:

You owe the cost of all classes taken from the start date until the official withdrawal date (submitted in writing), multiplied by two.

Withdrawal During Week 9 or Later:

You owe the cost of all classes taken from the start date until the official withdrawal date (submitted in writing), plus an additional eight weeks of tuition.

Balances Due for Dropped Classes:

Can be applied towards switching to a different class or enrolling a sibling in place of your dancer (must occur before December 1st). "Date of withdrawal" will be as of the date we receive written notification requesting to withdraw from class(es)

Withdrawal Due to Extenuating Circumstances

If a student needs to withdraw due to injury, illness, extenuating family circumstance, or relocation, parents must email the TDC Director, Crystal Mann-Hollinger at cmann@stpaulsmd.org with a doctor's note, or reason for withdrawal for review on a case-by-case basis.

TDC 2025–2026 Tuition Rates
Effective September 2025 – May 2026 (9-month Installments)

Weekly Class Hours	Annual Tuition	Monthly Tuition
0.5 hour	\$432	\$48
0.75 hour	\$602	\$67
1.0 hour	\$795	\$88
1.25 hours	\$999	\$111
1.5 hours	\$1,125	\$125
2.0 hours	\$1,352	\$150
2.5 hours	\$1,602	\$178
3.0 hours	\$1,658	\$184
3.5 hours	\$1,772	\$197
3.75 hours	\$1,840	\$204
4.0 hours	\$1,965	\$218
5.0 hours	\$2,295	\$255
6.0 hours	\$2,610	\$290
7.0 hours	\$2,898	\$322
8.0 hours	\$3,173	\$353
9.0 hours	\$3,393	\$377
Unlimited	\$3,600	\$400
Family Unlimited	\$6,300	\$700