



COVID-19 PLAN

Fall 2021

updated : August 11, 2021

In order to protect the health of the Mankato Ballet Company's staff, dancers, and families, we have developed and will implement health and safety protocols and procedures as we begin the fall 2021 dance season, and modified as needed through the 2021/22 season.

This plan was created using the guidance of the State of Minnesota, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). This plan is a dynamic document and subject to change depending on additional guidance changes.

STUDIO POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Arrival Process

Drop-Off & Student Entrance to Building

- Dancer's may not arrive more that 10 minutes prior to the start of class
- Dancer's may be escorted by ONE family member to the door
- During high traffic times, remain outside and use social distancing until your child is dropped off and has entered the building
- Dancers should be dressed for class and have ONE SMALL bag with their shoes and a water bottle that will accompany them into class.
- Once the dancer is Dropped off, an MBC staff member will escort them to class or waiting area outside the classroom and the family member will be asked to leave

Instructor Entrance to Building

- Instructors exhibiting signs of illness will not come to work and will arrange a sub

Lobby Procedure

Use of lobby and common areas

- Masks are strongly encouraged for anyone who is not fully vaccinated (2 weeks past their second dose of Moderna or Pfizer, or 2 weeks after Johnson and Johnson)
- Masks are still welcomed
- Individuals coming in to purchase attire/discuss accounts/register for classes and other administrative questions must observe social distancing and are asked not to come to the studio if they have signs of illness.

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In-Class Procedures

Expectations for standards used inside the classroom

- Dancers will be admitted to the studio after the previous class has left and shared surfaces are sanitized
- Dancers will be spaced 3-6 feet apart and encouraged to remain distant during the entire class. (There may be times where closer contact may happen)
- Dancers may wear masks during class if they choose
- Masks are strongly encouraged for dancers who are not fully vaccinated (2 weeks past their second dose of Moderna or Pfizer, or 2 weeks after Johnson and Johnson)
- Dancers will be asked to use hand sanitizer on the way in and out of class

Dismissal Process

Pick-Up & Student Exit from Building

- A TA will help guide each dancer to a parent/guardian after class
- ONE parent or Guardian may enter the lobby near the end of class to collect their dancer
- The studio will be cleaned for the next class to enter

Dismissal Doors

- Dancers having class in Studio A will exit through the emergency exit on the left side of the building. Parents may drive or walk around that side to collect their dancers.
- Dancers having class in Studio B, C, and D will exit through the main lobby.
 - The instructor or TA will accompany the dancers in a single file line to the lobby vestibule with their shoes on and make sure they find a parent.
 - Please don't crowd this area, when the weather is nice we encourage parents to wait outside on the sidewalk and dancers will be escorted out.

MASK REQUIREMENTS

Mask Policy

Will update and change as MN state guidelines require

- Masks are no longer mandatory to take class or enter the MBC lobby
- Masks are still strongly encouraged by MBC based on the CDC recommendation that only fully vaccinated people remove their masks
- Masks will be welcomed and encouraged for anyone who chooses to wear one

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Virtual Teachers

Instructor solutions

- In the event an instructor becomes ill or quarantined a suitable substitute will be found
- If a substitute can not be found and the instructor is feeling able, he/she/they may instruct the students from his/her/their quarantine and live stream directly to the students at the studio or will schedule a makeup day for the classes.

CLEANING PROTOCOL

Between Class Cleaning

- Lobby area and high traffic areas will be sanitized between class passing periods
- Common surfaces will be sanitized between each class
 - Barres
 - Floor spaces used if dancers were seated
 - Sound system
 - Door handles
 - Props (prop use will be more limited)

Daily/Nightly Cleaning

- ALL surfaces will be disinfected
- ALL mirrors will be wiped down
- Sound System/Ipads/Technology will be sanitized
- Floors will be mopped
- Bathrooms will be cleaned
- Common areas will be disinfected
- Trash will be taken out

COMMUNICATION, ILLNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN

ILLNESS POLICY

Staff Illness Policy

If a staff member is sick, they should stay home and contact the Artistic Director to let them know they are ill and together they will decide if they can teach virtually or schedule a substitute instructor.

If a staff member is exposed (defined below) to someone diagnosed with COVID-19, they must stay out of the dance studio for 14 calendar days after exposure, unless a Negative COVID-19 test is taken on day 5, or later, of the exposure or qualifications are met for a 10 day quarantine. They should monitor health conditions and contact a medical provider if symptoms of COVID-19

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develop. This action will not be taken until the person is either diagnosed or is presumed positive for COVID-19.

Definition of “exposure”: Per CDC guidelines, “a close contact means being less than 6 feet from someone for 15 minutes or more throughout a 24-hour period. However, even shorter periods of time or longer distances can result in spread of the virus. The longer someone is close to the person who has COVID-19, and the closer they are, the greater the chance the virus can spread.

If you have close contact with someone who has been told by a doctor, clinic, or hospital that they have COVID-19, and you are not fully vaccinated (it has been two weeks since your last dose of vaccine), stay home and away from others.”

****Note: This is irrespective of whether the person with COVID-19 or the contact was wearing a cloth face covering or whether the contact was wearing respiratory personal protective equipment (PPE)*

-CDC.gov, 6/5/2020

Dancer Illness Policy

If dancers attend the class with any of the following symptoms, the parent/guardian will be contacted immediately to pick-up their dancer. Dancers exhibiting symptoms will be isolated from the group and supervised to prevent the spread of illness. Parents will be contacted and must pick up within 30 minutes.

- If a child has a new onset or worsening cough or shortness of breath
- If a child is running a fever of 100 degrees or above
- If a child is exhibiting two or more of the following symptoms: fever, chills, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, vomiting, nausea
- Undiagnosed rash, discharge from eye, ears or profuse nasal discharge, severe cold symptoms

MBC will follow guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Health on determining when a child can return to dance class.

If a dancer is exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19, they must stay out of dance for 14 calendar days after exposure. They should monitor health conditions and contact a medical provider if symptoms of COVID-19 develop. This action will not be taken until the person is either diagnosed or is presumed positive for COVID-19. Dancers may return to class in less than 14 days if a valid negative COVID-19 test is determined. The test must be conducted on day 5 or later from exposure date and then dancer must complete a 7 day quarantine. If a dancer returns from a 7 or 10 day quarantine, masks must be worn with no exceptions until 14 full days after the most recent exposure to an infected individual.

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Exposure Response Plan

If a student or staff tests positive for COVID-19, Mankato Ballet Company will follow CDC guidelines on cleaning and sanitizing affected areas in the building.

If COVID-19 is confirmed in a dancer or staff member, we will:

- Close off areas used by the person who is sick, from access to other staff members or students.
- Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick
- Open outside doors and windows of other parts of the building, if applicable, to increase air circulation to these areas
- Wait 24 hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfecting the identified areas, to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning/disinfecting
- If more than 7 days has passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary
- Continue routine cleaning and disinfection

Notification of Potential Exposure

If a staff member or dancer is exposed or tests positive for COVID-19, MBC will:

- Connect with staff and/or parents of dancers in affected classrooms to inform them of the potential exposure.
- MBC will respect the privacy of the sick or exposed individual(s) and not identify them by name.
- MBC will share the potential point of exposure and use MDH guidance to determine the continuation or temporary suspension of class.
- MBC will send a notification to staff members who were not exposed to keep the team updated.
- MBC will send a general notification to parents and dancers of an exposure for which they have not had close contact, but were present in the building during that time.

Current MDH and CDC guidelines allow for MBC to offer four quarantine options. These options are:

Option 1 - 0 Day Quarantine: Dancers and staff who are fully vaccinated do not need to quarantine as long as they are asymptomatic.

Option 2 - 7 Day Quarantine: Dancers who have not had and will not have contact with the infected student since date of contact, may FULLY quarantine (from work, school other activities) for a 7-day period. If no symptoms develop in that time and has a negative COVID-19 test from day 5 or later (not any earlier) the dancer may return to class after 7 full days.

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The dancer must remain masked (no exceptions during this time; if you cannot wear a mask then you must quarantine for 14 full days after the most recent exposure to an infected individual), continue to monitor for symptoms and follow MBC COVID-19 procedures.

Option 3 - 10 Day Quarantine: Dancers who have not had and will not have contact with the infected student since the contact date, may FULLY quarantine (from work, school other activities) for a 10-day period. If no symptoms develop in that time the dancer may return to class after 10 full days of quarantine. The dancer must remain masked (no exceptions during this time; if you cannot wear a mask then you must quarantine for 14 full days after the most recent exposure to an infected individual), continue to monitor for symptoms and follow MBC COVID-19 procedures.

Option 4 - 14 Day Quarantine: Dancers should quarantine for 14 days from their last day of contact and may return to class after 14 full days after the most recent exposure to an infected individual.

Who does not need to quarantine

If you have recovered from COVID-19 in the past 90 days and have close contact with someone with COVID-19, you do not need to quarantine if ALL of the following are true:

- Your illness was confirmed with a positive lab test in the past 90 days.
- You have fully recovered.
- You do not currently have any symptoms of COVID-19.

If you are fully vaccinated and have close contact with someone with COVID-19, you do not need to quarantine if BOTH of the following are true:

- It has been at least two weeks since your last dose of vaccine.
- You do not currently have any symptoms of COVID-19.