



State & National Championships Qualifications & Requirement Guidelines



OVERVIEW

The Annual Championship events provide an opportunity for students of ATOD Dance Studios to compete in a professional, supportive and inspiring environment at a state level. Competitions are held in NSW, VIC, QLD, SA & WA annually, with the top 4 from each state in each section qualifying for the National Championships where our highest calibre of talented dancers are showcased.

ATOD now commits in excess of \$60,000 per annum in Prize Money to support students to further their dance studies and development.

STATE COORDINATORS

New South Wales	Belinda Kirkness Belinda Kawalek		0419 494 462 0409 301 517
Victoria	Beth Sherriff		0408 530 043
Queensland	Elizabeth Barritt		0416 180 185
South Australia	Maria Slape		0439 872 309
Western Australia	Peta Clackett		0403 813 537

IMPORTANT DATES

- Championship Qualifying Exams to be held by the 11th April each year.
- State Entries are due by 5:00pm on 1st May each year.
- National entries (Except Justine Summers & David Atkins Awards) are due by 5.00pm on 20th June each year.
- State Championships: Held by the 30th June each year, dates to be confirmed.
- National Championships: will be held in July, date to be confirmed.

ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS

Ballet, Jazz, Tap & Hip Hop ONLY (This does not include Contemporary)

CATEGORY: Mini Dancers

AGE: 9 years or under as of 1st January of the competition year.

- Competitor must provide 3 of the following; including at least 1 of the qualifying grades as listed below*:
 - Test One/ Level 1
 - Test Two/ Level 2
 - Test Three/ Level 3
 - Bronze Medal / Level 4 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Bronze Star/ Level 5 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
- **Test refers to Tap, Jazz and Classical Ballet. Levels refer to Hip Hop.*

CATEGORY: Sub Junior

AGE: 11 years or under as of 1st January of the competition year.

- Competitor must provide 3 of the following; including at least 1 of the qualifying grades as listed below*:
 - Test Two / Level 2
 - Test Three / Level 3
 - Bronze Medal / Level 4
 - Bronze Star / Level 5 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Silver Medal / Level 6 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Silver Star / Level 7 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
- **Test refers to Tap, Jazz and Classical Ballet. Levels refer to Hip Hop.*

CATEGORY: Junior

AGE: 13 years or under as of 1st January of the competition year.

- Competitor must provide 3 of the following; including at least 1 of the qualifying grades as listed below*:
 - Bronze Medal / Level 4
 - Bronze Star / Level 5
 - Silver Medal / Level 6
 - Silver Star / Level 7 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Gold Medal / Level 8 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Gold Star / Level 9 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
- **Levels refer to Hip Hop.*

CATEGORY: Intermediate

AGE: 15 years or under as of 1st January of the competition year.

- Competitor must provide 3 of the following; including at least 1 of the qualifying grades as listed below*:
 - Bronze Star / Level 5
 - Silver Medal / Level 6
 - Silver Star / Level 7
 - Gold Medal / Level 8 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Gold Star / Level 9 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Elementary / Level 10 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)

→ **Levels refer to Hip Hop.*

CATEGORY: Senior

AGE: 16 years to 21 years as of 1st January of the competition year.

- Competitor must provide 3 of the following; including at least 1 of the qualifying grades as listed below*:
 - Silver Star / Level 7
 - Gold Medal / Level 8
 - Gold Star / Level 9
 - Elementary/ Level 10 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Intermediate/ Level 11 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Advanced/ Level 12 with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)

→ **Levels refer to Hip Hop. In regards to Tap, the “Seal” grades can be substituted.*

ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS CONTEMPORARY ONLY

CATEGORY: Junior

AGE: 13 years or under as of 1st January of the competition year.

- Competitor must provide 3 of the following; including at least 1 of the qualifying grades as listed below*:
 - Bronze Medal
 - Bronze Star
 - Level 1 Contemporary with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Level 2 Contemporary with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
- *Bronze Levels refer to Jazz and/or Ballet

CATEGORY: Intermediate

AGE: 15 years or under as of 1st January of the competition year.

- Competitor must provide 3 of the following; including at least 1 of the qualifying grades as listed below*:
 - Silver Medal
 - Silver Star
 - Level 3 Contemporary with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
 - Level 4 Contemporary with Highly Commended or higher (Qualifying)
- *Silver Levels refer to Jazz and/or Ballet

CATEGORY: Senior

AGE: 16 years to 21 years as of 1st January of the competition year.

- Competitor must provide 3 of the following; including at least 1 of the qualifying grades as listed below*:
 - Gold Medal
 - Gold Star
 - Level 5 and above Contemporary with Highly Commended Plus or higher (Qualifying)
 - Level 6 and above Contemporary with Highly Commended Plus or higher (Qualifying)
- *Gold Levels refer to Jazz and/or Ballet

DANCE REQUIREMENTS

GENRE: Tap

- The students will perform one solo on stage in costume.
- This includes but not limited to Traditional and Street styles. Music with or without lyrics may be used.
- Routine may be of any tempo.

TIME LIMIT: Tap solo – 3 minutes maximum

Please note that there are to be no tapping sounds in the musical accompaniment, but vocals in the music may be used.

GENRE: Jazz

- The students will perform one solo on stage in costume.
- This includes but not limited to Traditional, stylised, commercial or cabaret styles. The music should be up tempo with or without lyrics. No Lyrical routines accepted.
- Choreography should be dynamic and show the stamina and strength of the performer.

TIME LIMIT: Jazz solo – 3 minutes maximum

GENRE: Classical Ballet

- The students will perform one solo on stage in costume. (must be short tutu)
- **Mini, Sub Junior & Junior** - not to include Pointe work.
- **Intermediate** - Pointe work optional.
- **Senior** - Performed en pointe.

TIME LIMIT: Classical Ballet solo – 3 minutes maximum.

GENRE: Hip Hop

- The students will perform one solo on stage in costume
- This includes all Street style music & choreography. Included but not limited to Urban, Commercial, House, Popping & Locking, Breaking.
- Routine may be of any tempo, no Lyrical routines accepted.

TIME LIMIT: Hip Hop solo – 3 minutes maximum.

GENRE: Contemporary

- The students will perform one solo on stage in costume.
- Solo must be contemporary ie no lyrical or neo classical will be accepted.

TIME LIMIT: Contemporary solo – 3 minutes maximum.

ENTRY FEES

All entry fees are inclusive of GST

CATEGORY	STATE	NATIONAL
Mini	\$35	\$70
Sub Junior	\$60	\$70
Junior	\$70	\$80
Intermediate	\$70	\$80
Senior	\$80	\$90
Justine Summers & David Atkins Awards	\$250.00	\$250.00

MUSIC UPLOADS

All music will be required to be uploaded by the due date provided by each State Coordinator via Music Uploads. More information will be provided closer to the Championship dates.

PRIZE MONEY

	State Prize Money	National Prize Money	
Mini 1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th	\$100 \$75 \$50 \$25	\$150 \$125 \$100 \$75	
Sub Junior 1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th	\$175 \$125 \$100 \$75	\$225 \$175 \$150 \$125	
Junior 1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th	\$275 \$225 \$175 \$125	\$325 \$275 \$225 \$175	
Intermediate 1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th	\$325 \$275 \$225 \$175	\$375 \$325 \$275 \$225	
Senior 1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th	\$375 \$325 \$275 \$225	\$525 \$425 \$325 \$275	
Justine Summers Award 1 st Runner Up		Junior \$1000 \$ 500	Senior \$2000 \$1000
David Atkins Award 1 st Runner Up		Junior \$1000 \$ 500	Senior \$2000 \$1000

RULES

General

The following rules apply to all State & National Championships and will be strictly adhered to:

- No Romantic Tutu or dresses may be worn in Classical Ballet.
- Students must have been studying with the studio owner listed on the entry form for the previous calendar year.
 - See Change of Studio Ownership
 - See Exceptional Circumstances for Students
- All students must be enrolled and participating in classes at the studio stated on the entry form in order to perform on the day of the Championships.
- The studio owner must have full financial membership of A.T.O.D. Ltd. and have been so for the previous calendar year.
- The studio owner must have had within 12 months prior to the Championships, examinations to the value of the current half-day rate.
- The studio owner must contribute a minimum of \$150.00 by way of either competition entries or monetary payment by the 1st May of that year.
- Entry forms will be available online and will be communicated with studio owners when available.

Change of Studio Ownership

- The new studio owner must be a current financial member of A.T.O.D.
- Should the studio change ownership A.T.O.D. reserves the right to refuse or accept the entry/entries.
- In the case of change of ownership occurring between the close of Championship entries and the Championships being held the previous studio owner named on the entry form should inform A.T.O.D. of the change of ownership of the studio.

Exceptional Circumstances for Students

- In the case of a student moving from one studio to another the previous Studio may give written permission for the new Studio to enter the student for Championships. E.G. This may occur in the case of the student moving location. This written permission needs to be emailed to the Company Secretary secretary@atod.net.au as soon as possible and prior to the board meeting held before entries are received.
- Should written permission not be received the student/s may not enter the Championships for one year.

RULES

General

The following guidelines apply to all State & National Championships and will be strictly adhered to:

1. There is no minimum number of students for the Championship to be held.
2. Previous winners of Mini Dancers Award, Sub-Junior, Junior, Intermediate and Senior Championships may not re-enter that level of Championship in that genre.
3. A student must dance in their age group, unless they have previously been the winner of that State Championship, in which case they may enter the next level of Championship, providing they have qualified for that State Championships.
4. If a student wins a National Championship and has not won that State Championship they may re-enter that State Championship (age permitting), or they may choose to enter the next level of Championship (qualification permitting), however they cannot go back a level once they have danced up a level.
5. Students are ineligible to enter Championships if they are attending an outside (of their usual ATOD studio) dance program. An outside dance program attended on a regular basis typically refers to a structured dance class or series of classes that take place outside of a student's regular studio or primary activity setting. Here's a breakdown of what such a program generally involves:
 - **Regular Schedule:** The program meets consistently, usually once a week, though the frequency can vary. The sessions are scheduled on a recurring basis, providing regularity and routine for participants.
 - **External Venue:** The classes are held at a location separate from the participant's regular school or home environment. This could be a dance studio, community center, or any other facility designed for dance instruction.
 - **Curriculum:** The program typically follows a structured curriculum that may focus on various dance styles, such as ballet, jazz, hip-hop, or contemporary. The curriculum is often designed to build skills progressively over time.
 - **Instructor:** Classes are led by a qualified dance instructor or choreographer who provides guidance, teaches techniques, and helps students improve their dance skills.
 - **Skill Development:** The program aims to enhance participants' dance abilities, including technique, performance skills, and possibly even choreography.
 - **Commitment:** Regular attendance is expected, and participants often commit to the program for a set period, such as a semester or a full year.

Students who participate or are included in their regular academic school dance or aerobic teams are eligible to compete in Championships.

Students ineligible to enter Championships as stated above may enter the Justine Summers Award and/or the David Atkins Award provided all entry requirements are adhered to.

Any teacher with concerns regarding the definition of an outside program or part or full time student in a recognised Institution should contact the Championship Committee via email secretary@atod.net.au enquiring about eligibility.

6. The closing date for all Competition & State Championship entries and Justine Summers and David Atkins Awards will be 5:00 p.m. on 1st May each year.
7. All National Championship entries (except Justine Summers & David Atkins Awards) must be received by the ATOD head office by the 20th June each year. Late entries will only be accepted up to 2 business days after the closing date and at an additional cost of \$100.00 per entry.
8. In the event of illness or unforeseen circumstances preventing the named Adjudicator/s attending, the Committee reserves the right to appoint a suitable replacement.
9. Students perform at their own risk.
10. The Prize Sheet will be issued on the day of the Championship. These should be completed and returned to head office. All prize monies will be paid by bank transfer directly to the students.
11. The first, second, third and fourth placegetters in each State Championship from Mini, Sub Junior, Junior, Intermediate and Senior Championships are eligible to represent their State at the National Championships. If any of the first four placegetters are unable to compete, the next placegetter will be invited to compete. In total four students from each State will be able to compete at the National level.
12. All entries for students competing at a State & National level must be received by the required date.
13. A penalty of 5% of the marks will be incurred for each routine that breaches the stated time limits. A maximum of 5.0 seconds over stated time limit will be accepted to allow for correct phrasing of music.
14. Inappropriate songs (lyrics), choreography or costuming may result in a competitor not being marked. All aspects should be family friendly. This is at the discretion of the adjudicator. Regarding costuming, tights must be worn in all performances.
15. The Board of Directors / Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry that in its opinion, does not fulfil the necessary requirements or fails to comply with the rules. Its decision in that regard and to the awarding of the Championships will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

UNSEEN CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

Participants will be required to attend an unseen class for each genre entered as a part of their entry into the Championships, this is held prior to their performance in each state. More information to be communicated via State Coordinators when available regarding Times, Dates & Venue for these classes.

DRESS REQUIREMENTS FOR CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS

All competitors are permitted to wear the following uniforms listed below. If parents have any queries regarding Championships, please contact your teacher for clarification.

CLASSICAL BALLET

FEMALE

- Any style of one colour leotard with matching ballet skirt (Studio logos not permitted)
- Classical ballet tights
- Classical ballet shoes with ribbons or elastics are acceptable, Senior Entrants to bring pointe shoes also
- All hair needs to be in a neat, tidy bun off the face with a single ribbon colour matching leotard around the bun

MALE

- Boys leotard with plain boys tights (Studio logos not permitted)
- Black or White ballet shoes with black or white socks
- Hair is to be neat and tidy

TAP

FEMALE

- Any style of one colour leotard with matching or contrast $\frac{3}{4}$ leggings
- Skintone dance stockings
- Tan/Black coloured tap shoes (no jingle taps)
- All hair needs to be in a neat, tidy bun off the face with a single ribbon colour matching leotard around the bun

MALE

- Any T-shirt or singlet (Studio logos not permitted). Long pants or shorts are acceptable.
- Black socks and black tap shoes
- Hair is to be neat and tidy

JAZZ

FEMALE

- Any style of one colour leotard with matching or contrast $\frac{3}{4}$ leggings

- Skintone dance stockings
- Jazz shoes
- All hair needs to be in a neat, tidy bun off the face with a single ribbon colour matching leotard around the bun

MALE

- Any T-shirt or singlet. (Studio logos not permitted) Long pants or shorts are acceptable
- Black socks and black jazz shoes
- Hair is to be neat and tidy

HIP HOP

FEMALE

- Any plain T-Shirt or singlet top with Hip Hop Pants or ankle length leggings (Studio logos not permitted). Midriff tops and crop Tee's are not permitted
- Any Hip Hop shoes are acceptable
- All hair needs to be in a neat, tidy ponytail off the face

MALE

- Any plain T-Shirt or singlet with Hip Hop Pants (Studio logos not permitted)
- Any Hip Hop shoes are acceptable.
- Hair is to be neat and tidy.

CONTEMPORARY

FEMALE

- Any style of one colour leotard (Studio logos not permitted). 3/4 length leggings
- Bare feet, NO foot thongs permitted
- All hair needs to be in a neat, tidy bun off the face with a single ribbon colour matching leotard around the bun.

MALE

- Any plain T-shirt or singlet with pants (Studio logos not permitted)
- Bare feet, NO foot thongs permitted
- Hair is to be neat and tidy.

JUSTINE SUMMERS AWARD

JUNIOR – 12YRS & UNDER (NO POINTE WORK)

SENIOR – 13YRS & OVER (MUST BE EN POINTE)

THE A.T.O.D. CLASSICAL BALLET AWARD for Potential / Excellence in Classical Ballet

RULES & ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS

- ATOD students studying dance parttime / fulltime are eligible to enter this Championship whether they are primary, secondary or tertiary students.
- Primary and Secondary students must have been studying with the studio owner listed on the entry form for the previous calendar year or prior to their entry to full time secondary dance training.
- No professional performers are eligible to enter.
- Tertiary students must have been studying with the studio owner listed on the entry form for the previous calendar year or prior to their entry to full time tertiary dance training.
- The studio owner listed on the entry form must have full financial membership of ATOD Ltd. and have been so for the previous calendar year.
 - The studio owner must have had within 12 months prior to the Justine Summers Award, examinations to the value of the current metropolitan half-day rate.
 - The studio owner must contribute a minimum of \$150.00 by way of either competition entries or monetary payment by the 1st May of that year.
 - The Justine Summers Award entry form must be signed by the studio owner, the student and their parent/ guardian if under the age of 18 years and must be accompanied by:
 - copy of birth certificate (extract or full) or passport or other legal document.
 - copies of all examination results required for the entry qualification as above or A.T.O.D. Ltd. computer printout of candidate's results.
 - Payment from the studio owner for entry fees made payable to ATOD Ltd.
 - No entries will be accepted without these submissions.
 - Open to ATOD students who are ineligible to enter all other Championships due to being previous winners of ATOD Championships.
 - Previous State or National Championship winners are eligible to enter.

Qualifying Exams – must be Classical Ballet exams

Junior (minimum of 3 of the below listed exams, one of which must be a qualifying mark level)

- Test 3
- Bronze Medal
- Bronze Star (must have received Honours or above)
- Silver Medal (must have received Honours or above)
- Silver Star (must have received Honours or above)
- Gold Medal (must have received Honours or above)

Senior (minimum of 3 of the below listed exams, one of which must be a qualifying mark level)

- Silver Star
- Gold Medal
- Gold Star (must have received Honours or above)
- Elementary (must have received Honours or above)
- Intermediate (must have received Honours or above)
- Advanced (must have received Honours or above)

Class

- Junior – 1hr unseen classical class with adjudicator. No pointe work.
- Senior - 1.5hr unseen classical class with the adjudicator. No pointe work.

Dances

- **Students will perform in full make-up and costume on stage.**
- **2 dances – each no longer than 3 minutes maximum duration.**

JUNIOR 12YRS & UNDER

Dance 1 - Classical Ballet (short tutu)

Dance 2 – Contemporary (lyrical & neo classical not acceptable)

SENIOR 13YRS & OVER

Dance 1 – Classical Ballet or Repertoire (appropriate costume for classical ballet/Repertoire)

Dance 2 – Contemporary (lyrical & neo classical not acceptable)

UNIFORM

DRESS REQUIREMENTS FOR UNSEEN CLASS: NB The dress criteria will be advised to all adjudicators.

FEMALE

- Any style of one colour leotard with matching ballet skirt (Studio logos not permitted)
- Classical ballet tights
- Classical ballet shoes with ribbons and/or elastic, Senior Entrants to bring pointe shoes also
- All hair needs to be in a neat, tidy bun off the face with a single ribbon colour matching leotard around the bun

MALE

- Boys leotard with plain boys tights (Studio logos not permitted)
- Black or White ballet shoes with black or white socks
- Hair is to be neat and tidy

GENERAL RULES

- A minimum of 4 entrants is required for the event to be held.
- The committee will strictly adhere to the closing date for all entries, that being 5.00 p.m. on 1st March each year.
- Appointed by the committee, the Adjudicator's decision is final.
- Students perform at their own risk.
- Except for the Committee, there should be no communication between the Adjudicator and any participating teacher, student, parent or other interested party. Should a breach of this rule occur the Adjudicator should advise the Committee immediately.

DAVID ATKINS AWARD

JUNIOR – 12YRS & UNDER

SENIOR – 13YRS & OVER

THE A.T.O.D. MUSICAL THEATRE AWARD For Potential / Excellence in Musical Theatre.

RULES & ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS

- ATOD students studying dance parttime / fulltime are eligible to enter this Championship whether they are primary, secondary or tertiary students.
- Primary and Secondary students must have been studying with the studio owner listed on the entry form for the previous calendar year or prior to their entry to full time secondary dance training.
- No professional performers are eligible to enter.
- Tertiary students must have been studying with the studio owner listed on the entry form for the previous calendar year or prior to their entry to full time tertiary dance training.
- The studio owner listed on the entry form must have full financial membership of ATOD Ltd. and have been so for the previous calendar year.
 - The studio owner must have had within 12 months prior to the David Atkins Award, examinations to the value of the current metropolitan half-day rate.
 - The studio owner must contribute a minimum of \$150.00 by way of either competition entries or monetary payment by the 1st May of that year.
 - The David Atkins Award entry form must be signed by the studio owner, the student and their parent/ guardian if under the age of 18 years and must be accompanied by:
 - copy of birth certificate (extract or full) or passport or other legal document.
 - copies of all examination results required for the entry qualification as above or A.T.O.D. Ltd. computer printout of candidate's results.
 - Payment from the studio owner for entry fees made payable to ATOD Ltd.
 - No entries will be accepted without these submissions.
 - Open to ATOD students who are ineligible to enter all other Championships due to being previous winners of ATOD Championships.
 - Previous State or National Championship winners are eligible to enter.

Qualifying Exams – must be Jazz exams

Junior (minimum of 3 of the below listed exams, one of which must be a qualifying mark level)

- Test 3
- Bronze Medal
- Bronze Star (must have received Honours or above)
- Silver Medal (must have received Honours or above)
- Silver Star (must have received Honours or above)
- Gold Medal (must have received Honours or above)

Senior (minimum of 3 of the below listed exams, one of which must be a qualifying mark level)

- Silver Star
- Gold Medal
- Gold Star (must have received Honours or above)
- Elementary (must have received Honours or above)
- Intermediate (must have received Honours or above)
- Advanced (must have received Honours or above)

Class

- Junior – 1hr unseen jazz class with adjudicator.
- Senior - 1.5hr unseen jazz class with the adjudicator.

Dances

- **Students will perform in full make-up and costume on stage.**
- **2 dances – each no longer than 3 minutes maximum duration.**

Dance 1

- Jazz up-tempo

Dance 2

- Either Tap or Hip Hop

Please note: The Jazz routine must not be Hip Hop, Slow Jazz, Funk or Contemporary styles.

UNIFORM

DRESS REQUIREMENTS FOR UNSEEN CLASS: NB The dress criteria will be advised to all adjudicators.

FEMALE

- Any style of one colour leotard with matching or contrast $\frac{3}{4}$ leggings
- Skintone dance stockings
- Jazz shoes
- All hair needs to be in a neat, tidy bun off the face with a single ribbon colour matching leotard around the bun

MALE

- Any T-shirt or singlet. (Studio logos not permitted) Long pants or shorts are acceptable
- Black socks and black jazz shoes
- Hair is to be neat and tidy

GENERAL RULES

- A minimum of **4** entrants is required for the event to be held.

- The committee will strictly adhere to the closing date for all entries, that being 5.00 p.m. on 1st March each year.
- Appointed by the committee, the Adjudicator's decision is final.
- Students perform at their own risk.
- Except for the Committee, there should be no communication between the Adjudicator and any participating teacher, student, parent or other interested party. Should a breach of this rule occur the Adjudicator should advise the Committee immediately.