

Members of the public, prospective employers and particularly parents who are looking for a teacher for their children, are strongly advised to ascertain the level to which the teacher is qualified.

Qualified dance teachers will normally be able to arrange, through their teachers' organization, for their pupils to take medal test assessments at an approved location (often their own premises), and to enter competitions that are restricted to medallists.

All dance teachers are justifiably proud of the qualifications that they have obtained after many years of study and they will always be willing to advertise these to prospective students.

Teacher Organizations that are Corporate Members of the British Dance Council:

The following issue recognized qualifications:-

Associated Board of Dance

Telephone: 0121 694 0012/0121 288 2055 Fax: 0121 694 0013
e-mail: abd.hq@hotmail.com
Web site: www.abdance.net

Allied Dancing Association

Telephone: 0151 724 1829 Fax: 0151 428 1312
www.allieddancing.co.uk
e-mail: info@allieddancing.co.uk

British Association of Teachers of Dancing

Telephone: 0141 427 3699 Fax: 0141 419 9783
Web site: www.batd.co.uk
e-mail: enquiries@batd.co.uk

Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing

Telephone: 020 7377 1577 Fax: 0207 247 8979
Web site: www.istd.org
e-mail: admin@istd.org

International Dance Teachers Association

Telephone: 01273 685652 Fax: 01273 674388
Web site: www.idta.co.uk
e-mail: info@idta.co.uk

National Association of Teachers of Dancing

Telephone: 01635 868888 Fax: 01635 872301
Web Site: www.natd.org.uk
e-mail: info@natd.org.uk

Northern Counties Dance Teachers' Association

Telephone: 0191 268 1830 Fax: 0191 268 2372
Web site: www.ncdta.com
e-mail: secretary@ncdta.com

Scottish Dance Teachers' Alliance

Telephone: 0141 339 8944 Fax: 0141 357 4994
Web site: www.sdta.co.uk
e-mail: office@sdta.co.uk

United Kingdom Alliance of Professional Teachers of Dancing

Telephone: 01253 408828 Fax: 01253 408066
Web site: www.ukadance.co.uk
e-mail: info@ukadance.co.uk

Teacher Organizations that are Corporate Members of the British Dance Council but do not issue qualifications:-

Association of Dance Freestyle Professionals

Telephone: 01543 577440
e-mail: mail@adfp.co.uk
Web site: www.adfp.co.uk

Welsh Alliance of Professional Teachers of Dancing

Telephone: 01443 815909 Fax: 01443 815700
Web site: www.dancewales.com

Affiliate Members of the British Dance Council:

Street Dance International

Telephone: 01322 340515
General Secretary, 104, Falconers Road, Luton, Bedfordshire.
LU2 9ET

Dance Teaching Qualifications

issued by dance teacher organizations that are Corporate Members of the British Dance Council
www.bdconline.org



Take Care!
Be sure that your teacher's qualifications for the style you are learning are recognized by the British Dance Council

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Why is this leaflet issued

The teaching of dancing is a highly specialized subject and, without the proper training in the theory and practical aspects, pupils can, at the best, be seriously misled and, at the worst, can be asked to perform actions that could cause physical damage.

There are many people who set themselves up to teach dancing without formal training. Such people seldom arrange any Public Liability Insurance, and often do not have the necessary licences issued by the Performing Right Society Ltd or Phonographic Performance Ltd, that legally allows them to play recorded music or permits the use of music in public (and a dance class is considered to be a public place). Such licences are the responsibility of the person running a dance or class and are not covered by the fact that a hall may be licensed by the local authority for dancing, or have a background music licence. Public Liability Insurance often depends, for its validity in the event of a claim, on the fact that the person in charge is qualified in the subject being taught.

Who issues qualifications

Dance Teaching Qualifications in Ballroom and Latin American, Street & other forms of Freestyle Dance, Salsa, Merengue, Rock & Roll, Sequence and Western Line Dancing, are issued by organizations that are Corporate Members of the British Dance Council (Ballet, Jazz, Stage and similar dance style qualifications are also issued by these and other organizations but are not covered by this leaflet).

Obtainable Qualifications

All qualifications shown below are issued in each style of dance. In addition to these qualifications some teaching organizations also offer Diploma or Degree courses in dance, along with other Government recognized qualifications.

ASSOCIATE:

The Associate examination is normally the first level of examination recognized as a qualification to teach.

It is worth noting that a qualification only qualifies a teacher to teach in the style in which the qualification was obtained e.g. an Associate qualification in Ballroom does not qualify one to teach Street Dance. A Freestyle qualification, however, would be acceptable for teaching Street Dance, due to the similarities between the two styles, but would not qualify a teacher to teach Ballroom, Latin American or Sequence.

MEMBER or LICENTIATE:

The candidate for this examination must usually have had one to two years teaching experience. The teacher is now considered to be fully qualified to teach that particular dance style. Teachers who are qualified to Member or Licentiate level are also permitted to hold a licence, issued by the British Dance Council, to judge championship grade competitions in the style in which they qualify.

Although not all teachers take examinations at a higher level most will continue to study in order to keep up to date with the latest developments in dance.

FELLOWSHIP:

Intensive study and a number of years teaching experience (set by the examining board of the individual teaching organizations) are required before teachers can attempt to qualify at this final and highest level.

Teachers who have this level of qualification may be appointed as Examiners.

STUDENT/PRE-ASSOCIATE/PROVISIONAL MEMBER:

In addition to the above qualifications some teacher organizations provide a Student/Pre-Associate/Provisional member preparatory examination as an introduction to taking professional qualifications. This examination is not a qualification to teach but allows prospective teachers to have access to the lectures and courses run by the organization they are training under. Holders of such certificates will normally work under the direct supervision of a qualified Teacher of Dancing.

Please note that a 'Dance Leader Award' is not a qualification to teach.

A Considered Warning

There are currently other forms of 'qualification' in dance that do not cover the practical requirements, nor do they allow for the continued professional development that is available to those teachers who are members of the organizations shown in this leaflet. There is no guarantee that full training in the basic structure of dance has been received.