

THE JOFFREY BALLET COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Last updated 8.23.21

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the health and safety of all students, faculty and staff has been our highest priority. In response The Joffrey Ballet has created best practices and procedures for a phased return to classes, Company rehearsals, and administrative activities. The following information incorporates advice and directives from state and local authorities, health experts, the CDC and OSHA, and has also been discussed and shared amongst our colleagues across the nation. The Joffrey Ballet continually assesses the safety of remaining open with regard to city and state mandates. These procedures are subject to change.

COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement

In accordance with The Joffrey Ballet's duty to provide and maintain an environment that is free of known hazards, Joffrey has adopted a policy requiring all eligible students/participants to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to participate in classes and activities at Joffrey properties. As of August 2021, a vaccine for individuals under the age of 12 has not been approved; therefore, students/participants under the age of 12 will be required to wear a mask and always maintain six (6) feet of social distance while onsite. Students/participants ages 12 and above who are in the process of becoming fully vaccinated (two weeks after final dose) will be permitted to participate but must wear a mask, always maintain six (6) feet of social distance, and submit proof once acquired (to be completed by October 1, 2021). Proof of vaccination for all eligible participants will be required by October 1, 2021. This policy will comply with all applicable laws and is based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local health authorities.

Admittance to Joffrey Tower and South Loop Studios (1920 S. Wabash)

Only those who are required to be at Joffrey Tower or the South Loop studios are allowed to enter, including Academy staff, faculty, and students enrolled in a program. Joffrey Ballet administrative staff will also be on site. The protocols listed below must be followed by everyone entering Joffrey Tower or the South Loop studios, whether or not that person is fully vaccinated.

Procedures for Arriving and Departing Joffrey Tower and South Loop Studios

The following procedures are implemented for all students, faculty, and staff entering Joffrey Tower.

- Masks must be worn at all times upon entering the building, including during class
- Prior to attending class each day, each student, faculty member, and staff member must self-review the following questions. These questions are also prominently displayed at the entrance to the building:
 1. Have you had a body temperature over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or have you used a fever reducer in the previous 24 hours to treat a body temperature over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit?
 2. Do you have a new cough that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
 3. Do you have a new or worsening sore throat that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
 4. Do you have new shortness of breath that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
 5. Have you recently developed a complete loss of smell or taste?
 6. Have you traveled to an area experiencing a surge in new COVID-19 cases in the past 14 days?

- If a person answers yes to any of the questions above, they should contact Academy Reception and advise that they answered yes to one or more of the questions and do not report to class or enter the building for any reason. That person should then contact their doctor to determine next steps in personal care.
- Only students and faculty with a scheduled class will be permitted inside Joffrey Tower and the South Loop studios. Parents/guardians, siblings, and guests will not be permitted in the building unless otherwise required as noted below.
- With the exception of students in the Children's Division, parents must drop off and pick up their dancer at the entrance to the building. Students ages 2-6 enrolled in Creative Movement, Pre-Ballet, and Little Movers must be accompanied in and around the building by a parent or guardian. One parent or guardian will accompany them to class and remain in the building during the duration of class. Students in Ballet I, IIB, and IIA may be dropped off and picked up at the 3rd floor Reception desk (Joffrey Tower) or South Loop Reception desk.
- Elevators in Joffrey Tower are limited to four people at a time. Each person should occupy one corner of the car.

Enhanced Sanitation Procedures

The following procedures will continue daily.

- The buildings have undergone a thorough cleaning/disinfecting before the start of classes
- Hand sanitizer is available upon building entry and in all studios
- High-touch handles/buttons/levers/railings are disinfected multiple times a day
- Lobbies, hallways, stairwells, and common areas are cleaned/disinfected daily at minimum
- Studios are cleaned and disinfected daily at minimum
- All studios have sanitation wipes and students wipe down barres after each use. Barres are professionally cleaned/disinfected daily
- Per recommendation, air filters of a Minimum Efficiency Rating Value (MERV) of 13 have been installed at Joffrey Tower and South Loop
- Air handlers may run for extended periods of time, up to 24 hours per day, to continue introducing outside air and purge air within the building overnight
- Restrooms are cleaned/disinfected daily at minimum
- Locker rooms and showers are open and cleaned daily
- Water fountains are cleaned/disinfected daily at minimum. Water fountain use is limited to filling water bottles
- Faculty wipe down each studio's sound equipment after use
- Accompanists wipe down piano keys after use
- Marley floors are cleaned/disinfected as necessary after certain classes
- Yoga mats are not available for use

Class Social Distancing Safety Procedures

The following policies and procedures are in place until further notice.

- All students and faculty must wear masks during class.
- 6 ft of social distancing is maintained throughout the building wherever possible
- Studio occupancy will not exceed the ability to maintain at least 6 ft. distance between dancers during barre and center and will not exceed City of Chicago guidelines.
- Students have an assigned area in the studio, marked off with tape
- Students should keep personal belongings with them in the assigned studio space

- Any student who is injured and needs to observe class may do so from an assigned space in the studio
- There is no physical contact during class, including hand corrections and partnering
- Persons using the stairs in Joffrey Tower to travel between the 3rd and 4th floor must travel on the right side of the stairway only and allow space for anyone traveling in the opposite direction to pass. No student or faculty member should linger or socialize in the stairway.
- Signage is displayed with regard to social distancing and directional guidelines

Protocol for Suspected or Confirmed Case of COVID-19

The following protocols will be followed should a student, faculty, or staff member become ill.

- If someone becomes ill during the course of the day with symptoms potentially related to COVID-19, that person will be isolated in a specified area until they can leave the building
- Anyone with symptoms potentially related to COVID-19 should contact their doctor regarding next steps in personal care, including testing
- If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19, Joffrey Ballet will coordinate with local health officials to assess the risk and communicate information to families. No personal information about the affected student will be shared.
- If someone is identified as being COVID-19 positive by testing, cleaning and disinfecting will be performed according to CDC guidelines. There may be a short-term dismissal to allow a disinfectant cleaning and determine further courses of action.
- If a Joffrey student or staff member contracts COVID-19, that person must follow CDC guidelines before returning to Joffrey Tower or the South Loop studios, no matter their position. This typically includes home isolation for at least 10 days and being symptom free for 3 days.
- Anyone who is considered to be in close contact with a person (within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes or more or had direct physical contact) with a confirmed case will follow CDC quarantine and testing guidelines before returning to Joffrey Tower or the South Loop studios. Those within close contact who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and those who are fully vaccinated should obtain a negative test result 3-5 days after exposure and do not need to quarantine unless they show new symptoms.

Additional Policies Regarding COVID-19

- All students (or parents of minor students) participating in in-person classes must sign a participation waiver pertaining to COVID-19 during registration
- Anyone traveling from outside of Chicago may be subject to quarantine requirements as determined by local health officials
- All Academy students and staff are expected to be vigilant of guidelines set in place by the City of Chicago while outside of the building, including masking
- Should in-person classes be suspended, they will resume online during the mandated closure
- The Academy is unable to provide refunds or tuition adjustments should classes move between in-person and online formats during any session

Any person who wishes to report a case of the above policies and procedures not being followed, by either The Joffrey Ballet or a specific individual, should contact Joffrey Academy leadership or a trusted staff member.

Additional Information Regarding COVID-19

The following is a complete list of COVID-19 symptoms per the CDC. Any student experiencing these symptoms should refrain from taking class:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

For the most up to date information on COVID-19, please refer to these websites:

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

State of Illinois: <https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19>

City of Chicago: <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home.html>

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JOFFREY.ORG/academy

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Joffrey Academy of Dance, Official School of The Joffrey Ballet, is the only training program owned, operated or endorsed by The Joffrey Ballet. The Joffrey Ballet is not affiliated with any other dance training or school program, including the Joffrey Ballet School in New York. The Joffrey Academy, located in the Exelon Education Center at Joffrey Tower in Chicago, Illinois is the only school that follows the organizational mission, training syllabi, and artistic vision of The Joffrey Ballet. No other program, including those holding the Joffrey name, is sanctioned by The Joffrey Ballet. For more information, please contact Academy Reception at 312.784.4600.