

# Dance



The evolving dance scene is continually evolving and diversifying yet it's also one that's continually searching for people who can meet these requirements. Dancers incorporate a mixture of practical and theory into their performances ranging from jazz and contemporary techniques, ballet, choreography, hip hop and drama.

## INDUSTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To become a dance teacher for an educational institute you need to have a tertiary qualification in dance or dance teaching, although sometimes experience is enough.

## HOW MUCH COULD I EARN AFTER MY DEGREE?

Most dance teachers do freelance work or have their own studios. Earnings vary. Choreographers can be paid up to \$100 a minute for a choreographed routine. Those who work for educational institutes earn about \$40 an hour.

According to the 2006 Census, dance teachers earned an average of \$20,000 a year and worked an average of 20 hours per week. This includes full and part time workers.

## WHAT ARE THE CHANCES OF GETTING A JOB?

Demand for dance teachers has been growing due to a number of factors:

- Dance became a compulsory part of the Arts curriculum in schools after 2003
- Dance became an approved subject for University Entrance in New Zealand schools from 1 June 2007

## WHAT TYPE OF EMPLOYERS CAN I WORK FOR?

Dance teachers work for a variety of employers, including:

- Primary and secondary schools
- Specialised dance schools
- Ballet, theatre and opera companies
- Film and music companies

## CAREER PROGRESSION

Dance teachers may move into related areas such as rehabilitation therapy, film directing, theatre management and photography. Dance teachers may also become national or international dance examiners.

Information Source: [www.careers.govt.nz](http://www.careers.govt.nz)

*Information in this brochure was correct at time of printing May 2010*

Adam initially looked at sport and recreation, but after doing some papers from both degrees he decided on dance. "I discovered I loved dancing and wanted to make it my living, and I didn't care about other people's perceptions." Adam says he may teach dance one day, but for now, he is focused on performing. "I encourage more males to consider dance, especially at AUT with its theoretical as well as practical components."



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