

PRE-REQUISITES:

All High School Seniors and transfer students must be eligible for admission into Alabama A&M University for the Fall semester and proof of acceptance is required. Current Alabama A&M students must have a cumulative GPA of at least a 2.5 and include verification of their cumulative GPA (ex: print out from Banner System).

1. **Completed Application Form:** Complete our online application, which can be found at www.aamuband.org. It is highly important that you read thoroughly, complete and submit the electronic form.
***Registration closes on April 18th @ 1159pmCST*
2. **Non-refundable Application Fee** (Electronic Payments Only): Payment link can be found at www.aamuband.org. Please indicate the candidates name in the notes section before sending the payment. No other forms of payment will be accepted. (\$50 March 1-31st; \$60 April 1-18th). *Registration closes on April 18th @ 1159pmCST*.

WHAT TO BRING:

Recent 8X10 Headshot Photograph. "Selfies" and full body pictures are **not** suitable for submission as a headshot. *Photos will not be returned.*

- Liability Form (www.aamuband.org)
- Audition Agreement (www.aamuband.org)
- Proof of acceptance to the University (**Incoming Students Only**)
- Banner Printout which shows cumulative GPA (**Current Students Only**)
- Letter of Recommendation – **MUST BE EMAILED by April 23rd** to aamudanceauditions@gmail.com with the applicant's name in the subject line. **All candidates are required to submit a letter of recommendation from their current dance coach/instructor/director that can attest to their character, dedication, time management and teamwork skills.**

AUDITION PROCESS:

The Dancin' Divas audition process consists of two main components. To continue to the final phase of auditions, a dancer must be called back. Candidates must receive a majority vote from the judges panel to advance. Callback criteria include demonstration of prior dance training that has offered an understanding of both technical dance language and body alignment; a high level of stamina; overall appearance and stage presence; and artistic potential for success as a Dancin' Diva team member.

Audition components will be conducted in 2 phases. **Phase 1** is the Semi-finals and **Phase 2** is the Final Audition and is by invitation only. Semi-finals will consist of the Technique/Flexibility Component and Solo Performance Component. At a minimum, **Phase 2** consists of the Advanced Technique/Flexibility Component and the Field Show Style Group Dance Component. Please note that all dancers are given equal consideration. The team typically consists of 10-12 dancers; however, the size of the team varies due to the talent level during the audition process. All former members are required to audition each year unless a waiver is granted by the Director of the Dancin' Divas.

PHASE 1 / SEMI-FINALS:

All applicants must prepare a 30 second choreographed dance in the style of their choice to a portion of one of the four songs listed below. The routine should highlight the dancer's strengths and show them as a performer. The purpose of the solo is to show the candidate's range as well as their ability to project. The solo performance should demonstrate the dancer's artistic qualities and flow of movement. Please note that a portion of the song has been identified for each selection using Apple Music.

Houdini- Dua Lipa (0:51-1:24)

Schoolin' Life- Beyonce' (1:10-1:40)

Physical- Dua Lipa (0:42-1:12)

My Power- Beyonce' (1:45-2:15)

*** In person auditions are highly encouraged; however, **dancers who reside outside a 500-mile radius of Huntsville, Alabama** are given the option to submit a virtual audition for Phase 1 only. All virtual submissions must be received no later than April 18th. Audition Videos should be uploaded to YouTube and marked "unlisted". Please email the link to aamudanceauditions@gmail.com and be sure to include the candidates name in the subject line. **Please understand that late submissions will not be accepted.** Please be sure to state your name, years of dance experience and current school or dance affiliation at the beginning of the video. Videos should be clear and should only include the candidate (no group routines). Video should include a portion that clearly demonstrates the candidate's flexibility and technical abilities. Please see the required elements below. Candidates will be notified of their invitation status within 72 hours of submission. **If an invitation is extended, the candidate would still be required to attend in person on Saturday, April 26th.**

CLOTHING/ APPEARANCE: During Phase 1 Dancers are permitted to wear fitted dance attire of their choice. No skirts, no loose-fitting t-shirts, no leg warmers, and no costumes. Dancers are highly discouraged from wearing attire that is overly revealing or distracting. It is recommended that care be taken to wear attire that is most suitable for your body composition. Hair and make-up should be neat (refrain from wearing bold colored hair), all tattoos must be covered, natural color nails and all body piercings must be removed. Tattoos that cannot be easily concealed are prohibited.

TECHNIQUE/FLEXIBILITY: At a minimum, dancers will be expected to demonstrate the following required skills. If you have additional technical skills or tumbling you'd like to showcase, you will be given the opportunity to do so. The objective is to assess each dancer's confidence and overall audience appeal, showmanship, and projection.

***Turns-** Double Pirouettes- (Right Required), A la Seconde Turns

***Leaps-** Grand Jete (Right or Left), Calypso

***Jumps-** Toe Touch, Turning Disc

***Leg Extensions-** Right and Left

***Splits-** Right and Left

**Dancers will receive a video in advance containing a technical combination that must be learned prior to arriving for auditions. The objective is to evaluate their technical ability and assess how quickly the dancer picks up choreography, how they respond to and incorporate corrections, and how they function as a member in a rehearsal-like setting.

PHASE 2/FINAL AUDITIONS:

Based on the evaluation of each applicant's performance during the Round 1, a select group of applicants will be asked to return for the final audition round. **All candidates who receive an invitation must be available to return, IN PERSON the following day. **Round 2 finalists will be notified on Friday evening if they are selected to move on.** If you do not receive notification from a staff member inviting you to Phase 2, we welcome you to audition again next season.

During Phase 2, each dancer must be in fitted 2-piece black dance attire that clearly enables the viewer to observe the dancer's technique. **Dancers must wear a black sports bra or sleeveless crop top** (no mock neck tops), **black dance briefs, dance tights, and the dance shoe of their choice.**

GROUP PERFORMANCE: All applicants will be required to learn a field and stands style routines for the final round of auditions. The same routines will be taught to all candidates, and ample time will be allowed for review and questions. The panel will be evaluating the applicant's ability to execute the Dancin' Diva style and perform in a group setting. The routines will be performed in groups of two to four. All dancers will be judged on the following: enthusiasm, projection, ability to recall choreography and incorporate showmanship without significantly altering the movements, agility, overall performance, and potential as a prospective Dancin' Diva.

INTERVIEW: The purpose of the interview is to gain insight into the student's character, maturity, poise, sincerity, ability/desire to commit for one full year given the team's rigorous schedule; and help assess their suitability as a prospective team member. Business attire is required.

PHYSICAL FITNESS ASSESSMENT: All finalists will be required to complete a timed one-mile run. Ideally, the one-mile run should be completed in 10 minutes or less. The objective is to assess each candidate's physical readiness and stamina for the demands of our program.

ADDITIONAL INFO: All finalists who are invited to become members of the 2025-2026 team will be required to remit a \$250 **non-refundable commitment fee** immediately following notification on Sunday, April 27th. The payment will be deducted from the total amount of team fees. Failure to submit payment would provide grounds for the invitation to be rescinded. All members are required to pay a team fee to cover a portion of the expenses associated with being a member. Fees typically range between \$1900-\$2500. Please consider this prior to auditioning. Performance scholarships are available for those who qualify. Mandatory Band Camp typically occurs at end of July and is required for all members.

All judges' decisions are final. For all questions regarding the Dancin' Divas or the audition process, please EMAIL the Director at aamudanceauditions@gmail.com .