

Tax Tips for Freelance Dancers



1. Keep a detailed record of your earnings.

Create a simple spreadsheet that includes the name of the organization who hired you as well as how much and in what method they paid (see Income Report Template).

Keeping a spreadsheet allows you to be aware of your tentative gross income, and it also helps you keep track of who will be sending you a 1099 and what that total should be.

2. Keep track of your receipts for your deductions.

Many of our purchases can be written off as business expenses (classes, costume purchases including hair and makeup, meals, etc.). Also keep track of the mileage you use traveling back and forth between rehearsals, classes, and shows. Check with your tax specialist for a complete list of potential deductions.

3. Save for tax season throughout the year.

Set aside a percentage of each check to pay your taxes. Start with 5-10% until you figure out what works best for you. No matter what you decide to save, the mere fact that you're saving for your taxes ahead of time is half the battle.