



DNSP DANSEUR EN APPRENTISSAGE

2026/2027

Introduction to the Rosella Hightower PNSD curriculum

The PNSD Rosella Hightower is a national establishment and professional training center based in Cannes-Mougins for higher education in dance.

It is one of the “pôles d’enseignement supérieur culture” accredited by the French Ministry of Culture. It trains dancers from the age of 11 with a dual classical and contemporary culture, and offers a wide range of dance training courses, as well as international dance workshops.

What is an apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship alternates between work experience in a company and training at the apprentice training center (CFA). It's a training program that leads to both a qualification and a diploma.

The PNSD Rosella Hightower is the only CFA in France to offer training for the Diplôme National Supérieur Professionnel de Danseur through an apprenticeship scheme.

Today, three dance companies in the PACA region are partners in the PNSD apprenticeship scheme: Ballet Preljocaj, Ballet National de Marseille and Opéra Grand Avignon.

In the company, the person in charge of training is the “apprentice master”. His role is to support the young dancer and pass on his or her knowledge and skills related to the dance profession.

Apprenticeship contract

The apprenticeship contract is a fixed-term employment contract. It generally covers one season, i.e. eleven to twelve months from September to the end of July or August.

The contract is signed by the company manager and the apprentice. The apprentice has employee status. They enjoy the same rights (vacations, sickness, maternity and workplace accident cover, etc.) as the company's employees, including those covered by collective bargaining agreements, insofar as these provisions are compatible with the situation of the young person in training. Like all employment contracts, apprenticeship contracts have a two-month trial period, during which the company and the apprentice can decide whether or not to accept the contract. After this period, the apprenticeship contract can be terminated under certain conditions. Employee status applies for the duration of the contract. The apprentice is an employee and under the employer's responsibility, even when training at the CFA.

How does the training work?

Training is free for the apprentice and is scheduled by the PNSD at several locations in the Aix-en-Provence area, Marseille and at the Pôle National Supérieur de danse Rosella Hightower in Mougins. Training lasts 490 hours over a year, spread over 14 weeks, under the responsibility of a tutor.

The schedule of alternating training and company periods is defined in consultation with the three partner companies in the PACA region: Ballet Preljocaj, Ballet National de Marseille and Ballet de l'Opéra du Grand Avignon.

The training program, which combines technical, theoretical, cultural and professional training, is structured and assessed on a continuous and final basis, leading to the award of a diploma. Attendance is compulsory. PNSD Rosella Hightower delivers a DNSP in classical AND contemporary dance, in line with its identity and ministerial accreditation.

No apprenticeship contract without associated diploma training: the two aspects are part of a whole and inseparable.



Training objectives

Corresponding to the final year of training in a 3-year cycle leading to the DNSP dancer diploma, the training provided under the apprenticeship contract is based on the DNSP dancer competency framework and the accredited PNSD model. The professional aspect of the training is emphasized, building on and complementing company experience. CFA training brings diversity in terms of choreographic styles and universes, by approaching choreographers and repertoires other than those worked on in the company, in both the classical and contemporary fields.

The training also aims to support young dancers in their professional integration during their apprenticeship year and beyond, to help them build their early career. Personalized follow-up is at the heart of the program.

The three main training objectives are :

- ⊕ Maintain and develop versatility as a dancer
- ⊕ Build autonomy to meet professional expectations
- ⊕ Acquire tools for professionalization



Apprentice remuneration

Age and the number of years under contract determine the level of remuneration for an apprentice on an alternating apprenticeship contract.

Salary calculation is based on the gross monthly SMIC (1,823.03 euros as of January 01, 2026). Salary levels are then categorized according to the apprentice's age, for the 3rd year of work-study.



Des aides particulières pour les apprentis

Apprentices on work-study contracts are issued with a "student of the trades" card. This card entitles the holder to various discounts. Apprentices benefit from reductions on transport costs, fast food and sports and cultural activities. The card also gives access to university accommodation and restaurants. From the first month of training, the apprentice is issued with a special student card, which can be used in all regions of France.

The SUD region also offers assistance for apprentices. For more information, visit www.maregionsud.fr

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L'article L.6316-4 II du code du travail reconnaît
la qualité de l'établissement d'enseignement
supérieur au titre des 4 catégories d'actions
concourant au développement des compétences.

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CCN Ballet national de Marseille
direction (LA)HORDE

