

PART 2 – AUDITION PROCESS

This section of the document outlines the audition process – our means of maintaining our standards and ensuring no individual that joins the line hinders its fast pace and team dynamic.

The Drumline is a high quality, precision marching percussion ensemble. The performances and music we provide to our clients require the following abilities:

1. adaptability,
2. play and memorise complex rudimental music
3. play while executing choreography
4. physical ability and stamina to execute visuals & carry instruments for extended periods
5. exemplary teamwork

There are three audition stages to joining the drumline, each has components as follows below. It is strongly recommended, but not compulsory, that candidates attend at least one semester of the D² Training Corps.

If the candidate has not had at least a year of drumline experience, it would be advisable not to audition prior to completion of the D² Training Corps, audition preparation sessions, or other similar educational opportunity.

1. Initial solo audition with Directors, Operations Manager and Musical Director – demonstrate:

- a. correct attitude and adequate preparation
- b. knowledge of drumline culture and basics (set position, mindset, posture, discipline, speed)
- c. ability to play set audition piece(s)
- d. ability to sight read.

*The candidate will be immediately informed of their success or failure.
If their knowledge and skills are deemed suitable for D²Drumline, they will progress to stage 2.*

2. Rehearsal audition #1 – across one whole rehearsal - demonstrate:

- a. teamwork, positive attitude and social blend with the other members of D².
- b. ability to play, listen & learn as an ensemble
- c. ability to sight read charts that the line is currently rehearsing
- d. visual and attitude cohesiveness with the rest of D²
- e. ability to take & follow instructions

If the candidate demonstrates all of the above, they finally proceed to stage 3.

3. Rehearsal audition #2 – conducted at the end of the next rehearsal – demonstrate:

- a. all of the above from Stage 2
- b. maximum use of the week between rehearsals to practice and refine their blend with the line
- c. ability to play their audition piece(s) solo in front of D²Drumline

At this point, **existing members of D² will be asked to forward their opinions** during an open discussion while the candidate waits outside. Final decisions regarding a candidate's suitability lie with the D²Director, Operations Manager, and Musical Director. Should they be seen fit to join D² they will be welcome to participate in the rest of the rehearsal as a **six-month probationary member of the line (see next section)**.

The Operations Manager will then, within one week, take the new member through a briefing about roles/responsibilities, instrument instructions, music, visuals and choreography as required.

Successful Candidates:

- Following a candidate's successful completion of the audition process, they will be invited to join D² on a **6 month probationary period**, during which **the directors may terminate the candidate's membership of D² at any time** if they are not performing at standard. Following the 6 month probationary period, members may only be dismissed under the **review process**.
- Once a candidate has successfully completed their 6 month probationary period, they will receive their performance uniform, and will be issued with their own instrument. Prior to this, instruments and performance uniforms will be loaned for rehearsals and performances.
- Successful candidates may be appointed to a non-performing role in the event that they are successful but there are no places available in the performance ensemble.

Unsuccessful Candidates:

- Any unsuccessful candidates may request feedback from the Senior Leadership on why their audition attempt was unsuccessful. The Senior Leadership are not obligated to provide any feedback but may decide to at their own discretion.
- Unsuccessful candidates may be offered a position as a reserve, or in the D² B Line (if currently rehearsing). These candidates may at any time be asked to fill a spot in the event of illness, injury, or other event that causes an existing D² musician to be unavailable.
- Candidates are not limited in how many times they can audition for D². Unsuccessful candidates are welcome to re-audition at the next D² auditions.

Review Process:

- If a **non-probationary** member of the Drumline is deemed by the Senior Leadership to be below the standards expected of a full time performing member in any of the key performance areas as outlined in the Operations Guide, **a formal review may take place**.
- This review may include, but is not limited to **a formal re-audition** of the member in question at the discretion of the Senior Leadership Team. Re-auditions will take place at the end of a rehearsal **no sooner than 2 weeks after the member has been notified requirement for a re-audition** and follow the same process as **Rehearsal audition #2**.
- Audition pieces will be selected by the Musical Director based on the Drumline's **current performance repertoire** (new pieces that are still being rehearsed by the ensemble may not be selected) in consultation with the Section Leader.
- Following a re-audition, the entire performance line will vote to either dismiss or retain the member. This will be a closed vote. **Before any vote takes place, the member will be provided the opportunity to address the ensemble**.
- In order for a motion to remove a member from the Drumline to pass, **at least 75% of the ensemble must vote in support of the motion**. If the vote is successful, the member will be asked to stand down from the line. They may be invited to formally re-audition for the Drumline or join the Extended Line at the discretion of the Senior Leadership.