

LSU Golden Girl Frequently Asked Questions

How long have the Golden Girls been at LSU?

The prestigious LSU Golden Girls first took the field in 1959 with the LSU Tiger Band. We just celebrated our 50th anniversary! They were called the Ballet Corps in 1959—the name changed to Golden Girls in 1965. The Golden Girls perform primarily for LSU football, which averages to be an exciting 90,000-plus people each home game weekend!

How many team members do you take each year?

We take anywhere from 14-18 members depending on where the natural break occurs in the scores. This year we have 14 members: 9 returning and 5 new.

How many girls audition each year?

There are generally 70-100 girls who register to audition for the team each year.

Are there any height or weight requirements?

No. We do not have specific height or weight requirements. The LSU Golden Girls aim to project an image of health and fitness, and our style of dance requires a high level of athleticism. Through the years, we have had Golden Girls under five feet and over six feet. You should be height/weight proportionate.

Do you have to have long hair or be blonde to make the team?

No and No. While the majority of the members appear to have long hair, we have had members with hair above the shoulders and very short closely-cropped hair. We've also had our share of redheads and have had lots of brunettes over the years, too.

Do you have to be a member of a high school dance line to be a Golden Girl?

No. While the majority of our members were members of their high school dance teams, every one of the current Golden Girls were members of their local dance studios.

Who choreographs the routines?

The captain of the Golden Girls serves as the primary choreographer each year and is under the direct supervision of Dr. Linda Moorhouse, who has served as the Golden Girl Director for close to 25 years.

Is it possible to be a dance major and on Golden Girls?

While LSU does not offer a dance major, it does offer a dance minor. We currently have a few dance minors on the Golden Girls. There is no conflict. We encourage the Golden Girls to participate in the LSU dance program.

How often do the Golden Girls practice?

We practice Tuesday through Friday with the Tiger Band from 3:50-5:20 pm and on Tuesday evenings for 2-3 hours. We also practice on game day Saturdays with the Tiger Band. There is no practice on Fridays of away game weekends.

Do the Golden Girls travel to away football games?

The Golden Girls travel with the full Tiger Band to selected regular season away games and bowl games. They do not travel with pep bands to away games. The Golden Girls perform at the annual Tigerama concert in the fall.

What are some of the activities the team participates in?

While our main focus is to support LSU and LSU football, we also make appearances at various athletic and charity events during the year.

Do the Golden Girls receive scholarships?

Yes, we receive \$1,000 scholarships. In addition, team members do not pay for practice uniforms, field uniforms, warm-ups, or travel. Members do pay for two pair of shoes, gloves and earrings. Golden Girls also receive class credit as they are a part of the award-winning LSU Tiger Marching Band. Out of state students are eligible to receive our Golden Oaks awards which cover up to full tuition.

What competitions do you attend?

All of our time and energy is dedicated to LSU and LSU Athletics, so we don't participate in competitions.

When are the Golden Girls tryouts?

The Golden Girls tryouts are held in the spring, typically somewhere between the last week of March and the third week of April on the LSU campus. This information is posted on our website by January each year.

Do you accept videos or DVDs in place of tryouts?

No, we do not. You must be present to audition.

Are auditions open to the public?

No. Every segment of audition process is closed to outside guests.

What are the requirements to join the team?

You must either be (1) a current LSU student or (2) be accepted to LSU by the date of the audition.*

- LSU students and transfer students must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA (Incoming freshmen who have taken college courses must possess the same GPA requirement. Most high school students have not taken any college courses.)
- LSU students must provide their LSU ID Card.
- Freshmen and transfer students must provide a copy of their acceptance letter (*or "provisionally accepted" letter). If you have not received communication from LSU prior to the week of auditions, contact the Band Department.
- All applicants must provide a copy of their Insurance Card (front and back) and Physical Exam Record (within one year).

Do the current Golden Girls have to tryout each year?

Yes. The Golden Girls are a highly competitive and prestigious dance team and every member must earn their spot each year.

Are incoming freshmen or graduate students allowed to try out?

Yes! We have had some members make the team their freshmen year and others who make the team their 3rd time to audition. Most Golden Girls have been on the line multiple years. We do have a six-year limit for team members, though.

What do the judges look for at auditions?

We are looking for dedicated young women who are physically fit, possess highly skilled dance technique and ability, have a great work ethic, work well under pressure, and are able to present themselves in a professional manner. You will be judged on dance ability, technique, appearance, fitness, and interview skills. Our audition process shows us who will be able to handle the work load and pressure of what an average week of practice would be like due to the type of skill level needed and the ability to learn material quickly.

How should I fix my hair and makeup?

Judges will see you close up at auditions. Hair and make-up should be "performance" ready. You should wear more makeup than on a normal day, but not too heavy. The Golden Girls usually wear their hair "half-up" when performing. Please check out the Golden Girl pictures on our web page. http://www.bands.lsu.edu/golden_girls

What should I bring to auditions?

You should bring water and snacks, and something to keep you warm when you are not dancing.

Do I need to bring a prepared routine to auditions?

No, you do NOT need to prepare a routine for auditions. All choreography will be taught at the audition.

What events usually take place at tryouts?

- At registration, confirmation of LSU ID or acceptance letter, confirmation of recent physical exam, and selection of audition number. We also record height, weight, and measurement information (for uniform sizing).
- “Across the floor” technique combinations
- A traditional school routine which will consist of quick arm movements, marching, and kicks
- A high energy jazz routine which will consist of various turn and leap combinations
- A short interview with the judges

What should I wear to auditions?

Your attire should flatter your figure and meet our guidelines. You must wear a **two-piece black** outfit:

- Black Sports Bra /Crop Top of some kind (long-sleeved, sleeveless, halter, etc.)
- Black Hot Shorts (no bike shorts, sports shorts or leotards). This is different from past years.
- Flesh Colored Tights
- Dance Shoes (no character shoes or dance sneakers, please). The Golden Girls wear tan colored pedis.

Personal items such as curling irons and make-up are encouraged as you will want to stay refreshed during the day.

What can I do to prepare for auditions?

Beginning now, you should brush up on dance and technique skills. Being physically fit is part of being a Golden Girl; you should maintain a healthy lifestyle. Avoid at all costs drastic changes to your diet (eating plan) prior to auditions. Members are expected to maintain their audition weight.

Can I receive extra help prior to the audition?

Yes! Everyone is eligible to receive extra preparation and tips for the upcoming tryout. We will offer three non-mandatory audition workshops. These workshops are a great way to fully understand the audition process. You will learn more about the requirements for being a member, opportunities that come along with the team, as well as learn material which will be similar to that taught on the audition day. Technical skills will be reviewed, and you can ask questions, too.

I am not eligible to tryout because I will still be in high school next year. Am I allowed to participate in the tryout process for experience purposes?

While you won't be able to participate in the actual audition, you may attend the audition workshops. We encourage you to do this.

I am coming to LSU to visit the campus. Can I meet with the Director and possibly come watch a practice?

Yes! Please email the Band Department at bands@lsu.edu or call 225-578-2384.