

What is the UKA?

The UKA is the United Kingdom Alliance of Professional Teachers of Dance & Kindred Arts. Teachers can only join the UKA by examination. It also offers awards for pupils in a huge array of dance disciplines – including salsa and bachata!

How long will the exam take?

It depends if you are dancing with someone else who is also being examined, or if it is just you. Approx 4 minutes, on your own, 6 minutes with someone else who is being examined.

What will I have to do?

You will have to dance the routine agreed with your teacher. The examiner will expect you to keep dancing the routine until they ask you to stop dancing.

When will I know the result of the exam?

You can be told the result on the day of the exam, after everyone has taken their exam. If successful, you will receive your certificate and medal approximately 6 weeks after the examination.

What do I wear?

Marks will be awarded for presentation, so it is important to 'dress to impress'. Dress as if you were going to a salsa club.

For ladies: - a salsa-style dress or a salsa-style skirt + a glamorous top or dance trousers + a glamorous top.

For gents: - smart trousers and a smart shirt + tie. If you cannot dance wearing a tie, wear the smart shirt or a new black T-shirt.

For everyone: - wear shoes that won't fall off or cause you to slip / stick to the floor. If in doubt, bring two pairs of shoes and try them out in class.

For Gold, couples taking their exam together may consider colour co-ordinated outfits e.g. matching shirt/dress colour etc. n.b. Black is always acceptable!

What will I get out of this?

- Improvement in dance technique – it is not always possible in a social class to go into great detail, however in a medal class it is essential e.g. body posture, weight distribution, hand holds and timing
- A chance to accelerate your own progress
- An appreciation how much skill you have acquired
- An independent assessment of your dancing skills
- Pride in your achievement
- A certificate and a medal

Will my medal be recognised anywhere else?

Yes. The UKA is an internationally recognised examination body.