



CERTIFICATE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Overview

Choose between our Teacher Training Course as a stand-alone option OR choose the FULL CERTIFICATE track. You have till the last day of the course to decide if you would like to join the Certificate Program.

This comprehensive certificate program is designed to elevate the standard of teaching practices in our industry. Trainees are required to log observation and assistant teaching hours, and pass an assessment to show that they are applying the concepts learned in the teacher training course.

It's important to note that at this time, there is no official regulating body in the aerial arts/circus industry in the US or in the UK (where Paper Doll Militia is based). So there are smaller organizations who are tackling the large job of creating and organizing standards. Paper Doll Militia's certificate program is often recognized by both studio owners and their insurance companies as it shows ongoing commitment and accountability to safe and quality aerial instruction.

Levels 1 & 2 Certificate Costs (per level / per apparatus)

Certificate Program = \$350

Personalized Enrichment Module Costs (per level / per apparatus)

Fee to Paper Doll Militia = \$500

Price includes 3 mentorship sessions and covers program overhead and administration. Additional costs paid directly to the provider for continuing education credits. The total cost of this module will be determined after the first mentorship meeting, and will be tailored to the individual's needs and budget.



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Level 1 Certificate Requirements (75 hours)

1. 50 hours – Successful completion of a Level 1 Paper Doll Militia Teacher Training with skills assessment
2. 10 hours – Class Observation
3. 10 hours – Teaching Practice (minimum 4 Lead Teaching hours)
4. 2 hours – Teaching Assessment of Full Class (Lead Teaching)** – 2 (60-min) classes
5. 3 hours – Written reflections and evaluations

Level 2 Certificate Requirements (75 hours)

1. 50 hours – Successful completion of a Level 2 Paper Doll Militia Teacher Training with skills assessment
2. 10 hours – Class Observation
3. 10 hours – Teaching Practice (minimum 4 lead teaching hours)
4. 2 hours – Teaching Assessment of Full Class (Lead Teaching)* 2 (60-min) classes
5. 3 hours – Written reflections and evaluations

*Optional Mentorship hours (up to 4) can be added and would count towards your observation hours. Cost is not included in the certificate fee; an additional fee would be paid directly to the mentor. Mentorship fees range from \$85 to \$120 per hour.

**Participants will receive feedback on their first Full Class, and will be asked to apply the feedback on the second full class (Lead Teaching).



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Personalized Enrichment Module (50 Hours)

Once you have completed both Level 1 (75 hours) & Level 2 (75 hours) of any ONE apparatus, you will be eligible to participate in our **Personalized Enrichment Module**. Once you complete this you will receive the Paper Doll Militia **200-Hour Certificate**. The Personalized Enrichment Module is focused on individualized specialties and areas of focus.

The first step is your mentorship meeting, where you will work with your PDM mentor to customize your course. We will talk about personal teaching goals, strengths, weaknesses, and how to build your skill set to find your niche identity in the fast-growing industry of aerial arts. Focus areas could include (but are not limited to) integration of creative movement, dance, or theatre; specialization in a unique skill set; advanced spotting techniques; aerial theory; circus inclusion, or line pulling. When you have completed your focus area studies, we will end with a second mentorship meeting to reflect on what you have learned and what your future aspirations may be.

Personalized Enrichment Module Requirements (50 hours)

- 3 hours – One-on-one Mentorship with Paper Doll Militia Trainer
- 15-20 Hours - Skill Based Education*
- 10-15 Hours – Theoretical Continued Education*
- 10-15 Hours – Creativity & Artistry*
- 5 Hours – Written Assignments, Evaluation and Reflections

* Up to 5 hours of approved independent study for each category with an asterisk

To fulfill these requirements, participants may work remotely with specialized instructors from around the world; others may choose to travel to work with master instructors, or to bring in a Paper Doll Militia instructor to your studio. Your mentor will advise and connect you with the instructors who best fit your vision of focus. It will be your responsibility to arrange the skills classes and travel where necessary.



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Certificate Renewal

Your Paper Doll Militia Certificate is valid for **up to 3 years** from your completion date, at which point you will need to renew the certificate.

Our renewal requirements are designed to encourage our certificate holders to stay current on the latest skills and teaching methods in the industry. We aim to make this process as seamless and affordable as possible. Once your renewal is complete your **expiration date will be updated on the website** and you will receive an **updated printable PDF certificate**. Here are your options for renewal:

Option 1 Cost: \$200	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repeat the Teaching Assessment Process. This includes two 60-min long classes, with feedback from a PDM mentor• Submit a current CPR and First-Aid Card
Option 2 Cost: See website for current Teacher Training Prices. No additional charge for your Certification Renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take a Teacher Training advancing to the next level on your current apparatus• Submit a current CPR and First-Aid Card
Option 3 Cost: See website for current Teacher Training Prices. No additional charge for your Certification Renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take a Teacher Training on a new apparatus• Submit a current CPR and First-Aid Card
Option 4 Cost: \$300	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Paper Doll Militia Mentorship hours in the topics of your choosing• 5 practicum hours determined by your PDM mentor• Submit a current CPR and First-Aid Card

Non-Renewal

If you do not renew your certificate, you will no longer be permitted to use the Paper Doll Militia Teacher designation on any promotional materials, websites, printed materials, social media, or verbal platforms.



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Observation and Mentorship Hours

You are required to complete **10 Observation hours** or **Mentorship Hours (max of 4)**.

Mentorship Hours

Mentorship hours (up to 4) can be used towards this category. Mentorship hours are optional, and cost is not included in the certificate fee. An additional fee would be paid directly to the mentor. Mentorship fees range from \$85 to \$120 per hour.

Choose a **Paper Doll Militia Mentor** from our **Mentor List**. Most meetings will be held virtually, and you can use the time to discuss any topic or topics that you think would be helpful to you in this process.



Observation policies

You can choose ANY movement arts class to observe, it does not need to be an aerial class. We encourage you to find a good balance between **aerial classes** and **non-aerial classes**. This could be yoga, martial arts, parkour, flow arts, dance, creative movement, Zumba, etc... (maximum of 5 non-aerial based classes).

We would like for you to observe in-person classes, rather than virtual classes. However, we are allowing up to 2 of the observation hours to be done virtually, if needed.



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Teaching Practice Hours

You are required to complete a total of **10 Teaching Practice Hours**. You can use a mixture of **Assistant Teaching** and **Lead Teaching** hours. You must do a minimum of **4 Lead Teaching** hours.



Teaching Practice Policies

- Teaching assessment is best left towards the end of your certificate process. We encourage you to complete your observation and teaching practice hours before submitting your first assessment class.
- You must complete your teaching hours in the apparatus and level of your certificate.
- You can use up to 2 of your teaching practice hours with virtual classes.
- Whether or not you are paid for your assisting hours will not affect your certificate requirements.
- If you are already teaching, you are welcome to count your current classes towards your teaching practice hours.
- Private lessons or small group lessons will be accepted as teaching hours.



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Teaching Assessment

Level 1 & 2 requirements



The final step of the Certificate is to submit a video of you teaching a **full 60-min class**. You will receive feedback from one of our PDM mentors. Take time to implement your feedback into your classes, then submit a **second video** for final review. If your second Video Assessment does not meet our quality and safety standards, you will be given 6 months to film and submit a third Teaching Assessment. This will cost an additional \$100.

Teaching Assessment Policies

- You must complete your teaching assessment class in the apparatus and level of your certificate. Private lessons or small group lessons will be accepted as your teaching assessment submission.
- Allow up to 4 weeks to receive feedback.
- If there are areas of study that your mentor advises you to review, please take the time to do so before your second filming

Once you are Certified

Feel free to share the good news that you have been Certified through Paper Doll Militia! Share on your website, resume, CV, bio, and social media and feel free to tag us @paperdollmilitia

Remember that we are all leaders in our industry and our online presence carries responsibility. We value sharing content that models safety, good technique, and welcomes open and kind conversation.