



2024 Miss Cumberland County Fair Queen Pageant Rules and Regulations

- 1) Contestants must be a resident of Cumberland County for at least six (6) months prior to the pageant date or attend Cumberland or Neoga School District.
- 2) A contestant must be 16 years of age by pageant date and not have reached her 22nd birthday by January 1, 2025. Please be prepared to show proof of age if asked.
- 3) Former County Miss Queens are not eligible to participate.
- 4) Contestants must be single, a natural born female, single, never been married or had a marriage annulled; contestants can never have been pregnant.
- 5) Contestants must be a U.S. citizen and must be of good moral character; never been convicted of a felony offense. Contestants should not have engaged in any activities that are characterized as dishonest, immoral, or indecent.
- 6) Entrant agrees that the time, manner, and method of conducting and judging the contestant shall be the sole discretion of the pageant director and the decision of the judges shall be final.
- 7) Contestant agrees:
 - a) To be personally interviewed by the judges in a business suit.
 - b) To introduce themselves on stage in pageant t-shirt and jeans or jean shorts.
 - c) To appear on stage in a floor length evening gown, (slits should be no further than 5 inches above the knee. Any cutouts in the front or sides of the evening gown must be filled in with sheer fabric that matches the dress. Open backed dresses must stop at the natural waistline.
 - d) To answer a pop question on stage or in the interview.
 - e) Participate in pageant fundraisers.
 - f) Present a one-minute memorized speech on stage for judging.
 - g) To have a sponsor who will pay \$50.00 non-refundable entry fee. If a contestant doesn't complete the pageant, it is her responsibility to repay the sponsor.

ALL CLOTHING AND SHOES MUST BE CHECKED, TRIED ON PRIOR TO DRESS REHEARSAL AND APPROVED BY THE PAGEANT DIRECTOR. NO EXCEPTIONS!

- 8) All contestants will limit themselves to one hole/piercing on each ear lobe. All other piercings must be approved by the Pageant Director. All tattoos must always be covered up during any events.
- 9) If chosen as the 2024 Miss Cumberland County Fair Queen, you agree to represent Cumberland County and compete for the title of Miss Illinois County Fair Queen. This contest will be held in January, 2025 in Springfield, Illinois. The Queen

will be accompanied by at all times the Pageant Director or Fair Board Member or by a chaperone approved by the Pageant Director at any time she is representing the Cumberland County Fair. This is a four-day event (Thursday-Sunday). No parents are allowed to have contact with the Queen until Friday evening at the Fair Board sponsored dinner and then not until after the pageant. This is per State Rules. If selected as State Queen, she will be required to stay through Monday.

- 10) The 2024 Miss Cumberland County Fair Queen must be available during the week of the Cumberland County Fair (August 10 - 17) for various activities and agrees to participate in functions which may arise during the year. Activities connected with the Cumberland County Fair should take precedence over all other personal appearances and activities. She agrees to not enter any other beauty pageants except the Illinois County Fair pageant throughout her reign. With the exception of High School or College Homecoming Queen or High School Prom Queen.
- 11) **The Queen must be always accompanied by a chaperone during the week of the fair and at any appearances when she is wearing her crown and sash. The Pageant Director or chaperone approved by the Pageant Director will always accompany the Queen. The Queen disciplinary action up to and including removal of title.**
- 12) The Queen will attend the Illinois State Fair, Illinois State County Fair Day in August 2024 with the Pageant Director.
- 13) In the case of marriage, pregnancy, living with a partner or any other reason the Queen is unable to fulfill her obligations as the reigning Queen, or any reason in which the Cumberland County Fair Board deems unacceptable of a Queen, the queen will relinquish her title immediately, and all privileges connected with the title, along with prizes awarded to her, and a runner-up shall be awarded all prizes as if she were chosen queen on pageant night. This includes crown, sash, trophy, banner, scholarship, and every gift not inscribed with her name. She shall be succeeded by the next eligible contestant.
- 14) Entrant agrees to abide by all rules the county and State contest have set.
- 15) Entrants must be present at all mandatory meetings/practices. All cell phones should be turned off. These practices will be for interview practices, speech practices, stage presentation, and approval of clothing you are planning to wear for the pageant. All clothing will be checked, tried on and approved by the Pageant Director before the pageant. Pageant rehearsals are mandatory! Pageant day is Monday August 12th, 2024. Interviews will be that day, time TBA, no cell phones will be allowed. Furthermore, cell phones are not allowed in dressing trailers or backstage. Phones must be turned off and can be placed in a basket with stage crew. The entrant may pick one person to be backstage with them to help the contestant the night of the pageant (this person cannot be a parent).
- 16) Parents will not be allowed at practices or near dressing trailers.
- 17) Illegal drugs, alcohol, and smoking will not be tolerated. The Queen will not partake of alcoholic beverages and will refrain from smoking while representing the Cumberland County Fair throughout her reign.
- 18) All personal appearances as Queen shall be approved in advance by the Pageant Director and the Cumberland County Fair Board as well as photo sessions and photos released must be approved in advance.
- 19) The newly selected Queen will be required to help collect prizes for next years Miss Cumberland County Fair pageant.
- 20) The Queen agrees to write personal thank you notes to individuals, businesses and sponsors that made me feel welcome, performed a service to the fair, or donated to the pageant during fair week and will continue throughout the entire year of my reign. The thank you notes from fair week will be sent out no later than August 31, 2024 including a thank you to be published in the local papers (Toledo Democrat). Throughout the year, the Queen will send out thank you notes within (10) days of events, gifts, donations, etc.
- 21) While representing the Cumberland County Fair, the Queen shall refrain from texting or talking on the phone, unless excused by the Pageant Director at events.
- 22) The Queen will refrain from public displays of affection at any time she is representing the Cumberland County Fair at events.
- 23) All social media posts, comments, or shares should be respectful and tasteful. If a contestant or Queen is found to have inappropriate social media content, it may result in disqualification or relinquishment of her title.
- 24) If for any reason the Queen is unable to fulfill her duties and obligations as the reigning Queen, or if the Fair Board or Pageant Director deem her unacceptable, she must relinquish her title and all gifts and prizes awarded to her
- 25) Good moral character is expected at ALL times by contestants/Queens. If a contestant displays poor moral character, the Pageant Director or Fair Board has the right to disqualify the contestant prior to the pageant on August 12, 2024. In addition the Fair Board has the discretion to remove the title from the Queen if integrity is not upheld.

- 26) Contestants as well as the Queen agree to not defame the pageant, the Cumberland County Fair, Fair Board Members, Pageant Director, Pageant Crew, committee, any other contestants and/or any other pageants that may be attended.
- 27) Any lost, stolen or damaged items during practices or pageant is not the responsibility of the Cumberland County Fair, Pageant Director, or pageant crew.
- 28) The Queen that is crowned on August 12, 2024, must attend a reception party at the fairgrounds following the pageant that night and must have a parent or guardian with them as there is a Queen Contract that will be signed by the Queen along with a Parent Contract. All other contestants will also attend this reception party to receive their contestant bags.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read the official rules and regulations printed on this form, and that I comply and that personal data on my application herein set forth is true and correct.

Date: _____

Contestant Printed Name: _____

Contestant Signature: _____

Parent Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____