

2024 General Rules for Miss Monroe County Fair Queen Pageant

1. Contestant must be a US Citizen and:
 - a. Reside in Monroe County
OR
 - b. Reside within and attend(ed) a school in the Waterloo, Columbia, Valmeyer, OR Red Bud school district.Residency will require two (2) forms of verification and will be verified using the most up-to-date GIS map available. Accepted forms of residency verification include:

List A (Both Needed)

Driver's License

High School Transcript from most recent year

List B (Choose 1)

Utility Bill

Mortgage Bill

Rental Contract

Property Tax Bill

- Note:* IF address from item on "List A" does not match address from item on "List B", Contestant will be required to provide a third form of residency verification.
2. Contestant must be natural-born females and must be between the ages of 17 and 21 by the day of the county fair pageant, July 21, 2024. Newly crowned Queen cannot have reached her 22nd birthday by January 1st of the following year.
 3. Contestant must never have been convicted of a felony offense and there can be no pending adjudications against Contestant.
 4. Contestant must be single, never have been married or had a marriage annulled, and never have been pregnant. Pregnancy or marriage as a contestant and/or newly crowned Queen will result in disqualification.
 5. Contestant must obtain at least one Sponsor. The \$100 Sponsor Fee shall be made payable to "Monroe County Fair Association" (no cash). Contestant may acquire more than one Sponsor, if they wish; each Sponsor will pay the \$100 fee. This is your entry fee for the pageant and is separate from the pageant sponsorship program.
 6. Former Monroe County Fair Queens are NOT eligible to compete. Former Contestants, including Runners-Up, ARE eligible to compete again.
 7. Contestant, and the newly crowned Queen, shall have no material on any social networking site, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Tik-Tok, Snapchat, or otherwise, which the Monroe County Fair Association deems to be controversial, obscene or otherwise objectionable, in its sole discretion. Any such material shall be grounds for the disqualification of a contestant or newly crowned Queen.

8. During the rehearsals, appearances, and pageant, no apparel which displays alcohol, tobacco or drug references shall be worn, including but not limited to accessories. This rule will apply to the newly crowned Queen throughout her reign as Miss Monroe County.
9. Newly crowned Queen will always be dressed appropriate to a Queen and the event(s) attended during her entire reign. The Miss Monroe County Fair Queen crown and sash will only be worn when representing the Monroe County Fair.
10. Contestant, and newly crowned Queen, shall not be observed in public consuming alcohol, tobacco or drugs throughout her reign.
11. Newly crowned Queen must be available July 21-28, 2024 for fair events and will be available for parades or other social events as indicated on "Parades and Social Events" list. Absences will ONLY be excused by the Pageant Co-Director(s).
12. Newly crowned Queen will be chaperoned at all times when attending Fair associated events. Chaperone, age 21 or over, will be approved by Pageant Co-Directors. The Chaperone may also be one of the Pageant Co-Directors or Pageant Committee member. A boyfriend or fiancé will not per allowed to serve as the Chaperone.
13. Newly crowned Queen's cash prize will be paid in three installments: The first shall be paid during Fair week 2024; the second will be paid during her competition at State Pageant in January 2025; the third will be paid the first Sunday of the Monroe County Fair 2025, at the conclusion of the 2024 Queen's reign. Any available prize monies stated for State Wardrobe Expenses will be paid at the Pageant Committee's discretion, upon presentation of receipts for reimbursement. Failure to complete duties voids any future installments not previously made. Disqualification or relinquishing of Monroe County Fair Queen title and crown may also void any/all payments.
14. The First Runner-Up and Second Runner-Up shall receive a cash prize paid during Fair week 2024.
15. Contestants and reigning Queen are only allowed two excused absences from pageant practices. Missing more than two practices may result in being disqualified or forfeiture of crown, in the case of reigning Queen. **Please note: This is to benefit all the other contestants, because practices can be difficult if you are missing contestants. ABSENCE TO BE APPROVED BY PAGEANT CO-DIRECTOR(S) ONLY.** A file will be kept of practice attendance and applicable deadlines. This file will be provided to the Judges on the day of the pageant.

16. Contestant will be photographed individually and/or with reigning Little Miss and/or reigning Fair Queen. These photos are for the Fair paper and other publications advertising and promoting the Monroe County Little Miss and Fair Queen Pageant, either individually or in conjunction with the Monroe County Fair events and subsequent required Fair representations. The Monroe County Fair Association shall have the right to photograph, videotape and record the contestant and to use the contestant's name, face, likeness, voice and appearance in connection with exhibitions, publicity, advertising and promotional materials of the Monroe County Fair Association and the Monroe County Fair Association shall continue to have such right if the contestant voluntarily withdraws or is disqualified from the pageant.
Contestants will not be photographed, and their information included without required paperwork and signatures.
17. Contestant will participate in at least one (1) of the Monroe County Fair workdays in preparation for the 2024 Monroe County Fair. These are typically held the 2 Saturday's in July, prior to the Fair.
18. The crowned Queen will participate in a State Pageant Prep/Bootcamp days: 1 in August (before school starts), 1 on the Saturday before the Southern Zone Meeting in November, and 1 in December (during Christmas break).
19. The crowned Queen will have her speech completed and all outfits for the 2025 State Pageant purchased and approved by the Pageant Co-Directors, no later than the Southern Zone Meeting held in November 2024. Queen shall be required to visit a store of the Pageant Committee's choosing with the Pageant Co-Directors and Pageant Committee, if she is in need of purchasing a new gown, swimsuit, interview outfit, and/or practice attire for the State pageant.
20. The Monroe County Fair shall pay the cost of the 2024 Monroe County Fair Queen's room at the State Pageant, for Wednesday through Monday. This room is ONLY for the Queen, Pageant Co-Directors, and/or Pageant Committee members. No family members, or friends, are allowed to reside in the Queen's room. A professional hairdresser and/or makeup artist may also lodge in the Queen's room.
21. In the event the crowned Queen is not able to attend the State Pageant competition in January 2025, the First Runner-Up will be expected to attend. If the First Runner-Up is unable to attend, the Second Runner-Up will be expected to attend. If the Second Runner-Up is unable to attend, the Pageant Committee will determine whether or not a contestant represents Monroe County at the State Pageant.
22. Crowned Queen cannot run in any other concurrent pageants while holding the title of Miss Monroe County Fair Queen, with the exception of the State Fair Queen pageant held in January 2025.

23. The Miss Monroe County Fair Queen title may not be used for endorsement purposes, other than for the Monroe County Fair.
24. Contestants will compete in: evening gown, swimsuit, and interview outfit. All clothing and speech must be approved by the Pageant Co-Directors and Committee by the set dates and **are not** allowed to change after approval. (See 2024 Fair Queen Practice Schedule for applicable deadline(s))
25. Contestant will have no tattoos visible in swimsuit, business attire or evening gown.
26. Contestant shall wear no more than two pair of earrings during the competition (that is, no more than 2 earrings per ear). No other piercings shall be visible when wearing required pageant attire either during the pageant or after being crowned Queen, and for the entire year of the newly crowned Queen's reign.
27. Clothing guidelines are as follows:
 - a. Interview, and Speech, Attire:
 - i. Business dress, skirt suit, or pantsuit
 - ii. No strapless, off the shoulder, or one-shoulder
 - iii. No rhinestones or capes on the outfit
 - iv. Pantyhose are required
 - v. Jewelry of your choice. Please keep it tasteful; small rhinestone earrings are acceptable
 - b. Swimsuit:
 - i. One color, one piece
 - ii. No strapless
 - iii. Hip bones must be covered
 - iv. Entire bottom must be covered
 - v. Minimal cleavage is allowed
 - vi. Small earrings may be worn – button/stud style, small hoops, or small rhinestones. No dangly earrings allowed.
 - c. Evening Gown:
 - i. Floor-length (no high-low)
 - ii. Slits no further than 5 inches above the knee (be tasteful of your height)
 - iii. Bustle – gowns with a train MUST have a bustle. No more than 5 bustle points are allowed. You must know how to bustle your dress.
 - iv. Cutouts are not permitted on the front of the bodice
 - v. Sheer fabric is not permitted on the front of the bodice
 - vi. Minimal cleavage is allowed. Sheer fabric at the cleavage are is allowed down to the bust line.
 - vii. Solid nude fabric under the dress is permitted
 - viii. Earrings of choice
 - ix. Panty hose are optional
 - d. Shoes:
 - i. Taupe heels, may be open or closed-toe
 - ii. 2" or higher heel
 - iii. No high platforms, a small platform, 1" or less, under the toe is okay

28. The judging panel will consist of 3 judges. Judges must sign an affidavit form stating they have not been influenced by anyone affiliated with the Monroe County Fair and they do not live or work in Monroe County. **Decision of the judges is final.**
29. Scoring categories are as follows: Personal Interview (35%); Beauty & Physique (25%); Stage Presence (25%); Speech and Communication Skills (15%).
30. Contestant and parent/guardian will be required to complete and sign “Miss Monroe County Fair Queen Pageant Acknowledgement of Receipt of Documents”, “2024 Miss Monroe County Fair Queen Application”, “2024 Miss Monroe County Fair Queen Emergency Information”, and “Monroe County Fair Association Indemnity Agreement”. Said documents shall be returned to Pageant Co-Director Amanda Klein, either postmarked or in person, on or before April 12, 2024. **Failure to do so will disqualify you as a contestant.** (Mail or hand-deliver to: 5950 State Route 3, Waterloo, IL 62298)
31. Queen Contestants will sign a Compliance Document at Dress Rehearsal. Said document indicates she is still competing in accordance with the rules set forth herein.
32. The Fair Board, Pageant Co-Directors and/or Fair Pageant Committee cannot be held responsible for errors in the newspapers or other publications.

RULES SHALL BE INTERPRETED AND/OR ENFORCED BY THE FAIR QUEEN PAGEANT CO-DIRECTORS, PAGEANT COMMITTEE, AND/OR THE FAIR BOARD.