



Miss Teen Independence County

“Sharing and Building Dreams, Friendships and Memories”

1. ALL Miss Teen Independence County Contestants must be **13 through 16** years by **July 1**. All contestants **must be a legal resident of Independence County. Attending school in Independence County does not constitute legal residency. All contestants must reside in Independence County, and have been a resident since July of 2014.** Contestants that participate in the Independence County Fair contests are not permitted to participate in any county contests. Please adhere to Arkansas State Fair Rules.
2. **NO PROFESSIONAL MODEL** (one who has been paid for modeling) is considered eligible. The contestant must have been born a female and be a legal resident of Independence County. The contestant cannot be or at any time have been married, pregnant, had/have children, miscarried or had an abortion, be engaged, or become engaged. This rule applies to all contestants with special attention pertaining to the new queen in addition to the first and second runners up during the course of their reign. The contestant must have never been convicted of a crime nor have criminal charges pending.
3. Contestants in the Arkansas State Fair Queen Pageant may no longer be Contestants in the Arkansas State Fair Youth Talent Contest in the same year alternatively.
4. Previous Miss Teen Independence County queens are ineligible to compete again. **The winner of the Miss Teen Independence County pageant may not hold another title during the year of their reign. The First-Runner Up and Second-Runner Up may not hold another title, without grated permission from the pageant director until they have completed their district competition.**
5. Contestants are **required** to be on time for all rehearsals and events. **Absent or tardy contestants may be disqualified at the discretion of the Contest Director.** If you are unable to attend or be on time due to an emergency, contact Ms. Pam at 612-4446. Traffic, hair appointments, nail appointments or caught in line at Sonic are invalid excuses!!!
6. Miss Teen Independence County contestants will interview individually **July 14**. The purpose of the interview will be to help determine the personality qualifications in addition to, speech qualities. **A suit is required for this phase of the pageant. THE INTERVIEW IS MANDATORY OF EACH CONTESTANT.** No opening and closing statements will be required and are unnecessary. **This phase of the competition is private.** No visitors, parents, chaperones, coaches, etc. are allowed. **NO TOLERANCE.**
7. The Independence County Fair Association will not be responsible for anything **STOLEN, LOST, DAMAGED, OR TORN.**
8. **No scores will be returned.**

9. The new queen will represent the county at the State Fair Queen Pageant. The new first and second Runner-Up will participate at the district level. However, if either contestant is unable to attend, the Independence County Pageant Association will choose a delegate. Title winners who cannot fulfill this duty will forfeit their crown, title, returning all awards and repaying all monetary awards. The pageant director will determine if the excuse is valid in being unable to fulfill this duty.
10. In the event a contest winner cannot, for any reason, fulfill her duties or becomes ineligible during the course of her reign, a chosen delegate will then take her place. **Any display of poor sportsmanship and/or unbecoming conduct, any interference and/or disturbance, or any other behavioral problem created by a contestant, chaperone, parent, relative, or even a supporter of a contestant could result in disqualification of the contestant not only from this year's contest but also from future contests.**
11. The reigning Miss Teen Independence County as well as the First and Second Runners-Up must conduct themselves properly at all times. Inappropriate behavior bringing unfavorable publicity to themselves and/or the Independence County Pageant Association may result in the winning contestant relinquishing their title and the forfeiture and return of all prizes and monetary awards.
12. THE DIRECTORS OF THE INDEPENDENCE COUNTY FAIR PAGEANT RESERVE THE FINAL AND ABSOLUTE RIGHT TO INTERPRET THESE RULES AND ARBITRARILY SETTLE AND DETERMINE ALL MATTERS, QUESTIONS AND DIFFERENCES IN REGARD THERETO, OR OTHERWISE ARISING OUT OF OR CONNECTED WITH, OR INCIDENT TO THE CONTEST, AND THE RIGHT TO AMMEND OR ADD TO THE RULES AS THEIR JUDGEMENT MAY DETERMINE. THE CONTEST DIRECTORS WILL DISQUALIFY ANY CONTESTANT WHO FAILS TO ABIDE BY ANY RULE THAT IS STATED OR ORALLY GIVEN, FROM THIS CONTEST, ANY FUTURE CONTEST AND THE STATE FAIR FINALS.

Entry Forms:

Contestants may obtain entry forms at the fairgrounds or access the website, www.icfair.com. All registration forms may be downloaded. All forms must be mailed and received by the July 7 deadline with the entry fee of \$25 attached. The photogenic contest is encouraged but not required. It is in the best interest of the contestant to answer all questions on the entry form in complete sentences. **THE OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM MUST BE USED. All other formats will be denied and returned. No attachments will be accepted. NO E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED NOR DISBURSING OF APPLICATION VIA E-MAIL.** All entry forms should be mailed to the address on the bottom of the application. Once the entry form is received, additions or corrections will not be allowed. If you have any questions or need assistance completing the application, please call one of the directors. The Independence County Fair Association is not responsible for entry forms that are lost or delayed by any means of shipping.

Rehearsal:

A mandatory rehearsal and contestant meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9, 6:00 p.m. at the fairgrounds in the pageant building. Attendance is mandatory. Rehearsal will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. **Contestants must be present in order to compete in Tuesday evening's competition.** Emergency situations will be the only reasons for excused absences. The director will determine if the situation is an emergency. All excused absences must be made up on Sunday July 12 at the time and discretion of the director. The contestant will be held responsible in rescheduling the rehearsal. A 20% deduction will occur for not attending the mandatory rehearsal. Valid excuses are illnesses of the contestant, immediate family or unforeseen hindrances in route to rehearsal. All other circumstances will be reviewed by the pageant director to determine if excused or unexcused. Tardiness will also result in a deduction in the final score of 15%. Please be on time as tardiness will delay everyone involved with the contest.

Competition Clothing:

Each contestant will have a private interview with the judges being assessed individually and comparatively in sportswear and Evening Gown competitions. Contestants will need the following clothing for the contest:

Rehearsal: Contestants are free to wear comfortable clothing of good taste. Contestants are to rehearse **in the same shoes** they will wear in each phase of the competition. The rehearsal is closed to the public. Please adhere to the rehearsal policy referenced above.

Private Interview: A suit is required for the interview. The suit should be a business suit. Jewelry and shoes are at the contestant's discretion but should complement the contestant. No hats, gloves or purses are allowed.

Sportswear: Contestants will model in denim shorts , a matching tank top and tennis shoes/cowgirl boots. This will correlate with the "Western" Theme of "Saddle Up" for the 2015 Independence County Fair. **NO SPORTS BRAS are allowed. If you are in doubt of what you will need, please call one of the directors for clarification. ALL sportswear outfits must be approved the evening of rehearsal.** This phase is upbeat and exciting for the contestant, judges and audience.

Evening Gown: Evening Gowns are at the discretion of the contestant. The evening gown should be of good taste with no low backs, low fronts, open spaces or high slits. Jewelry should be tasteful and compliment the gown. High-heeled shoes are recommended but not required. **No rings, bracelets or necklaces should be worn.**

***Please be aware, body piercings and tattoos are unacceptable. All piercings will be removed and it is to the contestant's best interest that all tattoos be covered and not seen at any point in the competition. Many judges will find this unbecoming in a "young lady" and may possibly deduct points from the contestants score.

Interview:

Interviews will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 14. **Tardiness will not be accepted.** The interview will account for 30 percent of a contestant's total score. All interviews will be five minutes long, timed, and monitored by a contest director. Judges will be instructed to avoid all questions pertaining to current affairs, religion and politics. All questions will be taken from your application and a list of impromptu questions that each contestant will receive the evening of rehearsal. Contestants are free to leave at the end of their interview. Opening and closing statements are unnecessary and should not be made. Please be advised **that no contestant should shake hands with the judges nor have any physical contact with them.**

Sportswear:

Sportswear will consist of denim shorts, a matching tank top and tennis shoes/cowgirl boots. **NO SPORTS BRAS are allowed. If you are in doubt of what you will need, please call one of the directors for clarification. ALL sportswear outfits must be approved the evening of rehearsal.** This is an upbeat and exciting portion of the competition for the contestant, judges and audience. This phase will account for 20 percent of the contestants score. All contestants will be judged on over-all first impression, physical fitness, energy level, proportion to figure in relation to height and weight, posture, poise, personality, stage presence and confidence are also included.

Evening Gown:

The evening gown competition will account for 40 percent of the contestant's total score. Judging will be based on over-all first impression, beauty, stage presence, personality, grace, charm, walk, appropriateness of evening gown and composite appearance. Adhere to the recommendations pertaining to this phase in the competition clothing section of these rules.

Dressing and Backstage:

Contestants **must** report to the dressing room at the fairgrounds no later than 5:30 to prepare for evening competition. Line-up will begin at 5:50 for the 6:00 performance. All contestants must be ready to line up at that time. The show will not be delayed for contestants who are not ready. The Independence County Fair Association is not responsible for the loss or damages to clothing or other personal items left in the dressing room or in other areas. Contestants, pageant directors and dressing room attendants **only** are allowed backstage at anytime. **This rule includes FOLLOWING the pageant as well. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE GIVEN TO THIS POLICY.** Failure to abide by this regulation will result in automatic disqualification from the contest. **Cell phones will not be allowed in the dressing room.** Time is a crucial factor. Phone calls and texting can take place after the competition. No tolerance will be given to this policy, **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Admission and Parking:

Each contestant will receive a gate admission pass for one contestant and one adult the evening of rehearsal. The pass will only be valid at the pass gate. Should you choose to enter through another gate, admission will be charged and no refunds will be given. If the pass becomes misplaced or lost, no second pass will be reissued and you will pay the \$6 gate fee. Please bring only what is needed for competition as you will be walking through the fairgrounds. There is no unloading area. You will be entering the fair along with the “rush” crowd of the general public. Please allow yourself enough time to park and check-in at the pass gate. All admission matters will be addressed the evening of rehearsal. Please ask all questions at that time.

Judging:

The judges will be appointed by the Pageant Association. They will be persons will qualified to judge a contest of this kind. Their decision will be final. **Critiques will not be provided to anyone, nor will any contestant or any representative of a contestant, be allowed to approach the judges at any time.** Please adhere to rule # 10 concerning disorderly conduct.

Awards:

Three winners will be chosen as royalty of Miss Teen Independence County. Two Runners-Up and a Queen will be chosen by qualified judges. Additional titles, Miss Congeniality and an Overall Interview Winner will also be awarded. Contestants will elect the winner of Miss Congeniality by private the evening of the contest. The contestant with the highest interview score will receive the title of Overall Interview Winner. The following awards will be given:

Interview Award Recipient: The contestant with the highest interview score will be chosen as the Overall Interview recipient. The winner of this award will receive a plaque and custom sash.

Miss Congeniality: The contestant chosen as Miss Congeniality will receive a plaque, bouquet and a custom sash.

Second Runner – Up: The second runner-up will receive a plaque, bouquet, custom sash, and crown pin.

First Runner-Up: The first runner-up will receive a plaque, bouquet, custom sash, and crown pin. **Miss Teen Independence County:** The new Miss Teen Independence will receive a bouquet, plaque, round crown, crown pin, custom sash, \$100 cash award.

Royalty Duties:

The new Miss Teen Independence County and the new runners-up are expected to work at the fair following their crowning. The duties below will be expected of each contestant:

Queen Responsibilities:

- ❖ **Thursday Morning School Day 9:00-???**
- ❖ **Friday Morning Senior Citizens Day 9:00 – ???**
You are REQUIRED to wear an evening gown for this event.
- ❖ **Saturday Morning Veterans Day 9:00 – ???**
*You MUST wear clothing representing that of a patriotic nature.
This day is UNEXCUSABLE. FAILURE TO ATTEND WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION WITH ITS CONSEQUENCES.*
- ❖ **Each evening's pageants will be hosted by Miss Independence County and Miss Teen Independence County. They are as follows:**
 - **Wednesday – Prize Baby Girl/Boy Contests**
(Attire should be something such as a cocktail dress/sun dress)
 - **Thursday – Little Miss/Little Mister Independence County**
(Attire should be Capri's and an appropriate top. Comfortable shoes MUST be worn as you will be walking each child to center stage.)
 - **Friday – Petite Miss/Petite Young Miss Independence County**
(Attire should be something of a homecoming dress...of a formal nature but does not have to be an evening gown. You may wear an evening gown if you so desire.
- ❖ **The new queen is expected to ride in the annual Water Carnival Parade(if possible the Christmas Parade would be appreciated), conduct at least four public appearances in the course of her reign and return for all MANDATORY meetings and rehearsals for all contests in the 2016 fair year. ALL APPEARANCES AND INTERVIEWS that are scheduled must be approved by the Contest Director. Failure to comply with this rule will result in automatic disqualification and its consequences. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Runner – Up Responsibilities:

❖ **Thursday Morning School Day 9:00-???**

General Rules for all royalty:

- **All clothing must be of good taste. You are each an example and are expected to dress and act as such.**
- **Your attitude MUST be pleasant and sincere with each appearance.**
- **YOU and ONLY YOU are to be in your vehicle as you pull in the back gate for each appearance. You are being admitted through a private gate. If you are caught with someone in your car rather than yourself, you will pay their admission and yours, move your car to the hill and will pay to get in the remainder of the week. NO EXCEPTIONS. As fair directors we must follow this policy and you will do the same.**
- **Always use good manners and respect when dealing with any of your directors, assistants, board members and the general public. Remember who and what you are.**
- **ALWAYS ask if your day is complete and let a contest director know prior to your departure.**
- **Your crown, sash and crown pin are to be on your body at each appearance you make. DO NOT wear your crown in your car. It is tall and will break and will NOT be replaced.**
- **Be good, be respectful, use sunscreen, drink milk and have a good time!!!**

