



## 2024 FAIR QUEEN CONTEST RULES

### OVERVIEW

The Montgomery County Fair Queen Contest provides Highschool Junior girls the opportunity to vie for the title of Montgomery County Fair Queen, receive scholarships and awards, and present candidates with an opportunity for training and development in the areas of etiquette, public speaking, and teamwork. The Fair Queen is an official Montgomery County Fair and Rodeo ambassador and represents the Fair Association at many events and functions regionally.

### APPLICATION

Applications will be available online at [mcfair.org/events/fair-queen-contest/](https://mcfair.org/events/fair-queen-contest/)

Each applicant's official entry must be turned into the Fair Office (not mailed) at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds, or emailed to [madison@mcfair.org](mailto:madison@mcfair.org), no later than **Friday, October 6, 2023, by 3:00 p.m.** All entry forms must be accompanied by a RECENT photo of the applicant (PHOTO MUST BE A 5 X 7 SIZE), and essay explaining "what being selected Fair Queen would mean to you". **APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE. NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

All complete and on time applications will be accepted and the applicant will at that point be a Montgomery County Fair and Rodeo Fair Queen Candidate and be subject to the rules and regulations of the contest.

### ELIGIBILITY FOR APPLICATION

Candidates must be a High School Junior enrolled and attending a Montgomery County High School or must permanently reside in an area zoned to Montgomery County School District if Homeschooled.

Candidate must be a female, as recorded on their birth certificate, single and have never been married, pregnant or have children.

Candidate must have parents' written consent to enter contest.

Candidate must reside with parents or guardian at time of application, throughout the entirety of the competition, and if selected as Fair Queen or a Court member, also during their entire reign.

Candidate MUST have an entry in the 2024 Montgomery County Fair, either in the Livestock and/or Non-Livestock Division and MUST COMPLY WITH LIVESTOCK AND/OR NON-LIVESTOCK GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS AND ENTRY FORM DUE DATES.

## **MAINTAINING ELIGIBILITY**

Candidate **MUST** represent herself in an appropriate and positive manner through ALL forms of social media. All Candidates social media will be monitored, if there is any inappropriate activity this will be an automatic disqualification.

Candidate must have never been married or pregnant. Fair Queen or court members that become married or pregnant during their reign will forfeit their titles and scholarships.

Candidate must be willing to represent the Montgomery County Fair Association at official activities should she be crowned Fair Queen. For example: 4-H Club meetings, support group functions and/or community activities. The Fair Queen must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or Fair representative to any such activity.

Candidates will be required to sell Rodeo tickets to the Rodeo performances. All ticket money is due for turn in on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, by 6:00 p.m. at Speech Practice. Selling of tickets is mandatory.

Each candidate will be responsible for obtaining her own Supporter. A Supporter will donate \$350 to Fair Queen scholarship program. Supporter forms are due in the Fair Office by Thursday, November 30, 2023. Thank you notes must be written to the supporter and will be required to be turned in with the supporter form on November 30.

As part of Fair Queen and Queen Court duties, Queen and Queen's court will be required to attend and assist with the 2024 Montgomery County Fair Livestock Shows, Auctions, etc. following Saturday nights crowning. At least 75% of these events must be attended by each lady or her scholarship will be forfeited.

The reigning Fair Queen, as well as the runners up and Miss Congeniality **MUST** participate and have a project the year following the contest, or their scholarship will be forfeited.

Should the reigning Fair Queen be contacted by any other organization to participate in an event, the Fair Office or Fair Queen Chairman must first approve the participation. "Example: NO political events"

If the Fair Queen is unable to complete her duties, the 1st runner-up would be asked to accept the position of Fair Queen and assume all duties from that date forward.

Should a candidate decide to remove themselves from competition, they **MUST** contact the Fair Office as soon as practicable.

## **MEETING AND EVENT REQUIREMENTS**

Candidates will be furnished with a full schedule of meetings/events/due dates as well as any additional requirements for each meeting/event/due date. If these events cannot be attended, the Committee Chairman **MUST BE NOTIFIED**, and the Fair Staff emailed. Committee leadership will review the cause for absence and determine if it is an excused/allowable absence. Candidates can have no more than two (2) excused absences to remain eligible. All deadlines will be strictly enforced. If a deadline is missed, or an unexcused absence occurs, the candidate will be disqualified from competition.

Candidate **MUST** wear a western outfit, including hat and boots for final judging. Blue jeans and western hat **WILL BE REQUIRED** for Parades, unless outfit needs to correspond with parade theme. This will be determined by the Fair Queen Committee. Western attire, **INCLUDING BOOTS** – no hat will be required for Press Party. Western attire must be worn to all functions. Appropriate and tasteful dress is expected at all functions. All dresses and skirts must be knee length or

longer and front of dresses and shirts must not be too low or too revealing. If the committee feels dress is inappropriate, candidate will not be allowed to compete from this point forward.

Candidates may be required to meet with newspaper personnel (if present) for pictures and possible interviews at the Press Party on **Monday, January 15, 2024**, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lone Star Convention Center. On this date, each candidate is required to turn in ten questions. These in turn will be used for the final judging. Each candidate will be asked one of the questions that she submitted. This question will be randomly selected by the judges.

Candidates will be required to participate in the following parades: Magnolia Christmas Parade the evening of **Saturday, December 2, 2023**, at 4:45 p.m. and the Go-Texan Parade the afternoon of **Saturday, February 17, 2024**, at 1:00 p.m. Candidates **MUST** stay to tear down float after the parades.

### **CONTEST JUDGING / WINNER SELECTION**

Final judging will be held on **Saturday, April 13, 2024** and will consist of a full day of candidate, judge and public interaction which will all be observed and factored into results.

A 2-3-minute speech on “What the Montgomery County Fair and Rodeo means to you” will be required by each candidate for the public speaking portion of the competition.

Candidates will be judged on their poise and personality (10%), personal interview (40%) and public speaking (50%).

Judges will all be selected from outside of Montgomery County.

Judges will not give candidate feedback.

In the case of a tie for Miss Congeniality (voted on by peers), the judges will break the tie.

### **AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

1. The Fair Queen winner will be awarded a \$3,500 scholarship\*, a crown, trophy, buckle, banner, jacket, and bouquet.
2. The 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up winner will be awarded a \$2,500 scholarship\*, a trophy, banner, and bouquet.
3. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up winner will be awarded a \$1,500 scholarship\*, a trophy, banner, and bouquet.
4. The Miss Congeniality winner will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship\*, a trophy, banner, and bouquet.

\*Scholarships earned **MUST** be used within one year of High School graduation. The Fair Queen Scholarship recipient **MUST** enroll in at minimum ½ of a full course schedule at an accredited College, University or Vocational School. To receive payment, scholarship recipients must submit their official course schedule along with their Student ID and payee information (where to send payment directly to the school) to the Fair Office.