

Official Pageant Rules

- 👑 Contestant must be a U.S. Citizen, and a resident of the State of IL and Mercer County for six months prior to pageant date.
- 👑 Contestant must be a natural born female.
- 👑 Contestant must be between the ages of 11 and 14 as of **July 7, 2026**
- 👑 Contestant may not be a reigning county fair queen or a former county fair queen.
- 👑 Once a contestant has been named Junior Miss Mercer County Fair, she cannot compete in said division again.
- 👑 No professional models will be eligible. However, attendance at a charm school or receiving expense money for modeling will not classify a contestant as a professional.
- 👑 Contestant agrees to:
 - a) Be personally interviewed by the judges.
 - b) Appear on stage in formal dress for judging.
 - c) Present a thirty second memorized speech on stage for judging.
 - d) Answer an impromptu question.
- 👑 No parents will be allowed in the dressing room or at practices.
- 👑 Anything lost, stolen, or damaged during the pageant practices or the pageant is not the responsibility of the Pageant Directors or the Mercer County Fair.
- 👑 Any official reports of misconduct or unsportsmanlike behavior of a contestant or a parent will result in immediate disqualification.
- 👑 Any visible tattoos must be covered with clothing or body makeup. (Please test this before pageant day)
- 👑 All visible piercings should be without jewelry except for one earring in each earlobe.
- 👑 Contestants will have access to the Mercer County Pageant Closet. This will be available on a first come first served basis. Any clothes barrowed must be returned within 30 days of the pageant, dry-cleaned.
- 👑 Each contestant will be required to sell a minimum of 50 raffle tickets, with a prize given to the contestant selling the most tickets. You are responsible for the purchase of the tickets if they are not sold. Proceeds will go to the Pageant Fund.
- 👑 The Miss, Junior Miss, Little Miss and all Miss Contestants will hold a 50/50 drawing every night of the fair. All Miss Contestants must work a minimum of two nights. The money earned goes directly to the pageant fund.