



2026 Monroe County Fair Queen & Princess Rules & Guidelines

1. We will follow Indiana State Fair rules for Monroe County Queen.

Queen contestant age requirements- 18 - 21 years old: Each contestant must be at least 18 years of age and cannot have reached their 22nd birthday on or before June 1, 2027.

Princess contest age requirements- 13-17 years old: Each contestant must be at least 13 years of age at the time of the contest and cannot turn 18 before the 2026 contest.

2. Each contestant must be a Monroe County resident, a U.S. citizen and represent their home county. One the contestant's parents or legal guardians must also be an Indiana resident. The only exception: the contestant may reside in an adjoining Indiana county if the majority of their activities are in the county in which they entered the contest. Should a fair represent more than one county, the winning contestant must reside in one of the participating counties.

3. Each contestant must be an active member of at least one worthwhile organization in their community, such as church groups, Scouts, 4-H, etc. Eligibility is not limited to 4-H membership.

4. No professional model is eligible for the Monroe County Fair Queen or Princess Pageant. (A professional model is one who earns a livelihood by modeling.) A contestant, who has had training or schooling in the modeling field, has been paid on occasion for modeling or works for a fashion board is not considered a professional model.

5. Any contestant who had competed in the Indiana State Fair Queen Pageant cannot compete again.

6. The young woman crowned as the 2026 Monroe County Fair Queen will be the county representative at the 2027 Indiana State Fair Queen pageant. Only the county winner (or the First Runner-Up, if the winner becomes ineligible; the Second Runner-Up if the First Runner-Up is unavailable, etc.) may represent the county at the 2027 Indiana State Fair Queen Pageant.

7. Contestants should give thoughtful consideration to their use of social media and be advised the Monroe County Fair Queen & Princess Committee reviews all contestants' internet presence for appropriate online behavior. Additionally, the Indiana State Fair Queen pageant also reviews the social media of each county representative to the state pageant.

8. If any of the previous conditions listed in these qualifications are not followed by the contestant, the Monroe County Fair Queen & Princess Pageant chair has the right to disqualify that contestant from the competition.

9. Parents, relatives, friends, hairdressers, makeup artists etc. shall not be allowed backstage or in the contestant areas on the day of the pageant. Any contestant violating this rule will immediately be disqualified.

10. Each contestant will receive an official 2026 Monroe County Fair Queen & Princess Pageant T-shirt, which will be worn during the introductions portion of the pageant on Saturday night, June 27, 2026.

11. Monroe County Fair Queen & Princess Pageant contestants will be judged on the basis of: poise, personality and ability to converse.

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For the Winners:

1. The winners of the Monroe County Fair Queen & Princess pageant will receive the titles of "2026 Miss Monroe County " and "2026 Monroe County Princess" respectively and must be prepared to spend the entire 7-day period at the 2026 Monroe County Fair on the fairgrounds. The 2026 Monroe County Fair is June 27 – July 5, 2026.
2. The winners must agree to appear for the **Monroe County Fair Board of Directors** in official capacities as required throughout the year until a successor is crowned. All appearances made by the 2026 Fair Queen & Princess in official capacity must be approved **before the date of event** by the **Monroe County Fair Queen & Princess Pageant Committee Director only**. The Queen and Princess will also be asked to attend other community events throughout Monroe County and the State as the official ambassador representing the Monroe County Fairgrounds for the duration of their reign of one year. Public appearances by Queen, Princess and Court members, the official Monroe County Fair tiara & sash will be worn and not altered. Any violation of this policy will result in the loss of said title and all prizes.
3. The winners must agree to not accept another pageant title or endorse any commercial product as "Miss Monroe County Fair Queen or Princess" for 12 months following the 2026 Monroe County Fair Queen & Princess pageant without the written permission of the Monroe County Fair Board of Directors.
4. The winners will receive all prizes, gifts and awards at the end of the Monroe County Fair.
5. The winners will need to be connected to the Pageant Committee Directors on Facebook and Instagram. Each will also have access to the pageant accounts for posting throughout the year.
6. The Monroe County Fair Board or Committee has the right to use any photographs or video made during any activity connected with the pageant, and to use contestant name(s) with any promotional efforts on behalf of the pageant or the Monroe County Fair.

The judging is divided into three divisions: Details are as follows.

I. Interview – 50 points total

- A. Ability to converse – 20 points
- B. Personality – 15 points
- C. Poise – 15 points

Attire for Interview: Black and white attire, i.e., skirt, pants, or suit of black with a white shirt or blouse (no jackets). No t-shirts or colored bras allowed.

What to Expect: Each contestant will have one five-minute interview with each of the three judges; therefore, each contestant will give three separate interviews, for a total of 15 minutes, answering impromptu questions asked by each judge.

Interviews will be conducted on Saturday, June 27, 2026, and are private and are not open to the public.



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II. Professional Wear & Prepared Speech (QUEEN) 30 points total & Activity Wear (Princess) – 20 points total

- A. Posture and poise – 10 points
- B. Overall impression – 10 points
- C. 1-minute speech on a topic of your choice – 10 points (QUEEN CONTESTANTS ONLY)

Prepared Speech: Each contestant will prepare a speech no longer than one (1) minute, on the topic of their choice. Speeches will be scored on natural speaking ability, delivery, poise and originality. Props, music and audio visuals will not be allowed.

Attire for Professional Wear: Suit or other professional wear. A suit does not have to be of the same fabric – separates are allowed – and does not need to be a skirt/pants or jacket. Dresses and pant suits are also allowed.

Attire for Activity Wear: Choose an outfit showcasing your favorite sport, leisure activity, hobby, etc. The judges may discount an inappropriate dress for the County pageant.

Public judging will take place on Saturday night, June 27, 2026 at 7pm.

III. Formal Wear (QUEEN) & Celebration Attire (PRINCESS)– 20 points total

- A. Posture and poise – 10 points
- B. Overall impression – 10 points

Attire for Formal Wear: Formal gown or tuxedo. When choosing a formal gown, at least one portion of the hemline must be floor length (touching the floor or contestant's foot). A gown with the skirt split above the knee (more than 2 inches above the kneecap), a low-cut bodice, and/or a cut or design that is judged inappropriate for the Monroe County Queen Pageant may be discounted by the judges.

Attire for Celebration Attire: Something you would wear to a dance, celebration, wedding, etc. When choosing an outfit for this portion of the pageant, please keep in mind that there are to be NO FORMALS (nothing floor length). Outfit must be age appropriate. Length of dress or skirt should be nothing above the kneecap and no low-cut bodices. Any outfit judged inappropriate for the Monroe County Princess Pageant may be discounted by the judges.

The Monroe County Fair Court will consist of:

- Queen:
- Queen 1st Runner-Up:
- Queen 2nd Runner-Up:
- Queen Miss Congeniality
- Princess:
- Princess Miss Congeniality

NOTE: Failure to comply with the above requirements could result in the loss of judging points. Points and score sheets are for the judges' assessment only. Final selection is the judges' decision. The Monroe County Fair Queen Pageant Committee Director reserves the right to change the foregoing terms and conditions at any time as may be deemed expedient.