

Miss Massachusetts

Rules, Regulations, and Overview of Participation in a Miss America Local “Miss” or “Teen” Scholarship Competition

Titleholder Qualities & Attributes

- Well-Spoken
- Intelligent
- Talented
- Enthusiastic
- Charismatic
- Approachable
- Innovative
- Competent
- Organized
- Flexible
- A Team Player
- Professional in her appearance
- Engaging with people of all ages
- Positive role model
- Understands, believes in, and executes her Social Impact Initiative
- Builds partnerships
- Uses social media strategically and tactically

Eligibility

Never competed in any National Finals of the Miss America Organization.

Must be a legal resident of Massachusetts for at least one hundred and twenty (120) days prior to competing in the Local Competition.

OR: Must be a full-time, in-person employee (no less than 40 hours per week) working in the Massachusetts for at least one hundred and twenty (120) days prior the Local Competition.

OR: Must be enrolled as a full-time student (full-time status as determined by the school) at a college or university within Massachusetts by the day of the Local Competition. **Enrollment in

an “online” educational program does not qualify for this Eligibility option. You must meet one of the other Eligibility requirements, Residence or Employment, listed above to compete.

Age Requirements

“MISS” Division: The eligible age range for any “Miss” applicant for the 2025-2026 Local Competition season is delegates must be no older than 28 years of age as of September 30, 2026, and no younger than 18 on September 1, 2026.

“TEEN” Division: The eligible age range for any “Teen” applicant for the 2025-2026 Local Competition season is delegates must be no younger than 14 as of September 1, 2026, **OR** no older than 18 on September 30, 2026.

Citizenship

Must be a citizen of the United States of America at the time she enters her first Competition.

Additional Requirements

- Competitor is Female. “Female” means a born female or an individual who has fully completed Sex Reassignment Surgery via Vaginoplasty (male to female) with supporting medical documentation and records.
- Must be in good health and can participate fully and without limitation in any Program activities.
- Must have never been married, had a marriage annulled, or will get married during her Year of Service. You can become engaged, however.
- Must not now be pregnant, is not a parent or adoptive parent, nor become a parent/adoptive parent during her Year of Service.
- Must never have been convicted of any criminal offense.
- Must not have have criminal charges presently pending.
- Has not been involved in any act or behavior that could be perceived contrary to the mission, vision, goals, objectives, or policies of the Miss America Program. This includes activity on social media.
- Must not use or consume or distribute any illegal or controlled dangerous substances other than those obtained under a valid prescription and taken according to the directions of a licensed healthcare professional. Must not abuse the use of alcohol.

- See the Local/State Delegate Agreement for additional requirements.

Miss America Opportunity Membership Program

Competitors must be a member of MAO's Club America to participate in the Local Competitions.

STEP 1:

- Please go to www.missamerica.org and click on "Sign Up" at the top of the home page.
- On the drop down menu, click "Register".
- Then complete the form.
- Pay the ONE-TIME PER SEASON Membership fee costs of \$49.99.
- Submit your membership

STEP 2:

Once membership is established, Competitors will receive the Delegate Agreement to complete and submit to MAO. This Agreement must be submitted before Competitors can choose which Local Competitions to participate in.

Please note: This is now a subscription that will renew each year on your join date!

Also: Don't forget to sign your delegate agreement and upload your proof of eligibility documents!

STEP 3:

American Heart Association "Go RED For Women" Fundraising Campaign



The American Heart Association's Go Red for Women movement is the Miss America's Scholarship Foundation's national health thought leader.

Each Competitor is required to create one (1) profile on the official Miss America's fundraising platform, Spotfund, and encouraged to fundraise and seek donations for Miss America's Partner, the American Heart Association "Go RED For Women". Donations are tax deductible.

Once you complete the MAO Membership Registration, you will receive from MAO the link for the Spotfund platform to create your account. Each contestant will receive a unique, personalized link via email to set up their GRFW page.

Each “Miss” and/or “Teen” competitor at the Local level must raise a minimum of \$30.00 to compete at each Local Competition they choose to participate in during the Local Competition season. At the State level, the minimum requirement is \$300.00 to compete.

IMPORTANT: Competitors only are to create one profile on Spotfund. They will then create “profiles” under that account for each Local Competition they wish to participate in.

Competitions and Scoring for Local Competitions

Competitions scored on a scale of 1 through 10 using whole numbers only.

- 30% Private Interview
- 20% Performance Talent/HERstory
- 20% Health & Fitness

- 20% Evening Gown
- 10% On-Stage Conversation

The Private Interview – 30%

Attire: Stylish Business Attire, pantsuit, or dress of Competitor’s choosing

- ❖ A podium will be used.
- ❖ After Competitor is introduced, Competitor gives a 30 second opening statement of their Community Service Initiative (CSI)
- ❖ Interview continues with questions/answers for 9:30 timing mark.
- ❖ Interview ends at the 10 minute timing mark.

The private interview provides an opportunity to learn as much as possible about the Competitor’s qualities and attributes to fulfill the Titleholder position; her insight on how to advance her Community Service Initiative for a full Year of Service; allows her to express her beliefs and have a true knowledge of the world around her; and to get a sense of accomplishments above and beyond her Fact Sheet.

Performance Talent/HERstory Competition – 20%

Attire: Appropriate Costume or Outfit of Competitor’s choosing

The time limit for talent presentation is 90 seconds.

Nothing longer will be accepted, and this will be strictly enforced! Competitors should plan a performance that will not exceed this limit. Judges will be informed immediately if it runs over

her allotted time. Each judge will then use this information to assist in determining his/her score of the Competitor's talent competition.

The Talent phase allows an insight to the Competitor's performance skills; a look at technical ability and stage presence; and most importantly how enjoyable, relatable, and entertaining the performance is. Presentations can consist of not only singers, dancers, instrumentalists, or acting monologues but also non-traditional ones like poetry/slam poetry, science experiments, fashion, martial arts, speed painting.

Guidelines:

Accompanying Oneself with a Pre-recorded CD

A Competitor may pre-record herself as a back-up vocalist or instrumental accompanist and use that CD to accompany her live talent performance. However, it cannot be announced to the judges that the accompaniment CD contains any performance by the Competitor. She will be judged solely on what she is doing live, and no exceptions will be made.

A talent cannot be performed electronically (i.e. video tape) or with live accompaniment.

CD Enhancements

Regardless of the talent performed, the background CD cannot have voices, instruments, or other noises that mimic the talent of the contestant. (Example: A vocalist may have background vocals with "oohs and aahs" or other background lyrics, but cannot have a CD with a voice singing the melody line for the Competitor to sing along with. The same would be said for instrumentalists, dancers, and any other talent which could provide for an unfair advantage if a judge could not delineate from the talent on the track versus the live performance of the Competitor.)

Double Talents

If a Competitor wishes to perform a double talent, i.e. singing and dancing, or singing and piano playing, she must do both live on stage. She will only be judged for what is done live. For example, if a Competitor danced to a pre-recorded tape of herself singing, she would only be judged on her dancing. If she sang on stage and performed a dance segment with it, she would be judged on both singing and dancing.

Talents Involving Original Work or Material

Any Competitor who plans to present a talent act that involves prior original work on her part; i.e. own painting, dressmaking, music arrangement, song writing, dramatic reading, etc., must have notarized authentication that she created that work if she wishes to receive credit for the

same. The Local Organization will require this authentication. This responsibility will rest with the Competitor and her Local Director.

Additional Talent Guidelines

- At the Local level, there can be no duplication of a talent act among the Competitors. This is determined on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Also at the Local level, a Competitor may not include in a vocal medley the same song another Competitor is planning to sing as a solo or as part of a different medley. The same song, though, maybe played on a musical instrument by a second Competitor or used as accompaniment for a dance.
- Talents involving published literary material. Any Competitors performing a talent presentation involving the reading of a literary work (i.e. dramatic reading) must contact the author and/or publisher for "Permission Letters". These letters should indicate that we have the owner's permission to use his/her material, both in a live production and/or in a live broadcast.

Props

Any article brought on stage must actually be NEEDED. Non-functional props tend to distract from the performance.

Use and Restriction of Props

No props will be permitted unless they are absolutely functional!

- No mood setters or background enhancers
- No props that imitate those used in a Broadway or screen version of your music
- No props that require excessively large stage areas and complicated setting up
- No use of motion pictures, slides or projection of any kind
- No live animals
- No props involving safety hazards, such as fire batons, sword and/or knife twirling, bow and arrow skills
- No lighting enhancements

Health & Fitness – 20%

Mandatory Attire: REBEL Athletic Wear. The Miss America Collection product line in Red. REBEL Athletics is a National Sponsor of MAO.

To purchase: www.rebelathletic.com Use Massachusetts code: "MAOMA8" at checkout.

A modeling/walking/posing pattern to perform onstage will be given.

This phase is designed for the competitor to showcase her commitment to health and fitness initiatives, comfort and confidence onstage, and her spontaneity and energy during her onstage presentation.

Evening Gown – 20%

Attire: Appropriate Choice for a Red Carpet appearance of Competitor's choosing

A modeling/walking pattern to perform onstage will be given.

This phase is designed for the judge to assess the Competitor's personal style, beauty, poise, grace, and commanding stage presence. The Competitor's total look is considered. Her evening wear (not the value of the evening wear) should complement the Competitor's individuality.

Onstage Conversation – 10%

Attire: Either Opening Number Outfit or a stylish interview outfit.

Serving as a continuation of the Competitor's private interview and her Community Service Initiative by bringing it on stage in an interactive energetic way to showcase each Competitor's intelligence, personality, charisma, communication skills, and aptitude for the Titleholder's job. It will allow the audience to get to know the Competitor through this discussion and to see if she can serve as a role model of her generation.

The young women who compete in the Miss Massachusetts program are intelligent, articulate, highly motivated, caring, talented, ambitious, and hard working. They are passionate about executing on their Community Service Initiatives and are major contributors to public service. They exemplify leadership skills, strength of character and spirit.

The woman who holds the Title of Miss "Local" or Miss "State" must be willing to put others before herself, see herself as someone who does for others, works in a collaborative team mindset, and sees her year of service as a launchpad for her future education and career.