

Pennsylvania State Fair Queen Program

2021 PA FAIR QUEEN STATE COMPETITION

January 22-23

APPLICATION PACKET

We have received your Fair's request for an Application for the 2021 PA Fair Queen Contest. We look forward to your Fair Queen's participation in our state competition!

INSTRUCTIONS:

This application is designed to be submitted completely online. <https://forms.gle/Sw2kDmgLoquK7L7g8>

You will need a **computer**, access to the **internet** and a **Google email account** (Gmail).

Contact Karen Dobson (kardob@msn.com or 610-212-6180 cell) if you have issues with any of these.

1. **Download Official Application Documents** from the website –
<https://www.pafairs.org/p/convention/queen-contest>
 - a. **01-CERTIFICATION**
 - b. **02-RESUME**
 - c. **03-HOTEL RESERVATION**
 - d. **04-HOTEL PAYMENT**
 - e. **05-REGISTRATION**
2. Complete each APPLICATION DOCUMENT FORM and save to your computer
3. Create a SHORT BIOGRAPHY (see sample below)
4. Select a digital CONTESTANT PHOTO (see specifications below)
5. Create the ESSAY – “What My Fair Means To My Community” (see sample below)
6. Go to **GOOGLE FORMS** - <https://forms.gle/Sw2kDmgLoquK7L7g8>
7. Complete the
 - a. CONTESTANT INFORMATION
 - b. COORDINATOR INFORMATION
8. Upload the APPLICATION DOCUMENTS
 - a. **01-CERTIFICATION form** (download from website)
 - b. **SHORT BIOGRAPHY** *See Sample below*
 - i. Word processed document
 - ii. Maximum length = 150 words

Amy Smith – Best County Fair

Amy is the 18-year old daughter of John and Mary Smith of Anytown, PA. She is currently studying nursing at the University of Pennsylvania. Sue received the Knights of Knowledge Award as an Honor Student at the Anytown High School from which she graduated in 2019. While in High School, Sue was a member of the FFA, Student Council, Pep Club, Band and was the Feature Twirler/Majorette for the Band Front. Sue was a runner-up in the 2018 Junior Miss before competing in the 2019 Best County Fair Queen Contest. Her employment experiences include Hamburger Harry's, babysitting, and working at her local fair in the French fry stand. Sue also serves as a volunteer at the Anytown Community Hospital. In her spare time, she enjoys skiing, swimming, dancing and reading.

Submit online application and required documents **by December 5**. <https://forms.gle/Sw2kDmgLoquK7L7g8>

Mail payments to PSACF, 128 Cumberland Rd, Bedford, PA 15522 postmarked by December 5.

An **Official Contestant Packet** will be sent to all contestants who complete both steps above by the December 5 deadline. Late applications will receive a -30 points deduction.

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- c. **CONTESTANT PHOTO** (and PHOTOGRAPHER'S RELEASE if required)
 - A. Vertical/Portrait orientation
 - B. .JPEG file format
 - C. Resolution: minimum of 1065 x 750 pixel dimension
 - D. Color or black & white acceptable
- d. **02-RESUME form** (download from website)
- e. **ESSAY**
 - A. Topic: "What My Fair Means To My Community".
 - B. Word Count: 300 words or less (don't count the title).
 - C. Format: typed or word-processed; handwritten essays will receive a scoring deduction of -5 points.
 - D. 1" on top, bottom, left and right.
 - E. Font Size: 12 pt
 - F. Font Color: Black
 - G. Spacing: Double space the essay
 - H. Header: include Contestant's name and name of Fair she is representing on the top right-hand corner of each page
 - I. Footer: include total word count on the bottom right-hand corner of the last page.

Contestant: Amy Smith Fair: Best County Fair
Application Item #5: Essay What My Fair Means To My Community
(insert essay text here, typed/word-processed, 1" margins on all sides, font size 12", black print and and double-spaced)
Essay Word Count: 295

- f. **03-HOTEL RESERVATION form** (download from website) – CONTESTANT ONLY
- g. **04-HOTEL PAYMENT form** (download from website)
- h. **05-REGISTRATION form** (download from website)

9. Mail payments

- a. Contestant Registration (\$75)
- b. Any extra tickets for banquet meals
- c. All payments are made payable to "PSACF Convention Account"
- d. Mail all payments to PSACF, Attn: Harry Reffner, 128 Cumberland Road, Bedford, PA 15522

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REFERENCE INFORMATION

A. DATES

The PA Fair Queen State Competition is a 2-day event held at the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center in Hershey, PA. Queen Contest begins on FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 and concludes with the Coronation Luncheon on SATURDAY, JANUARY 23. Each Contestant is expected to arrange her personal schedule **as she must attend all contest activities and judged events.**

B. COMPETITION STRUCTURE:

PSACF member fairs in good standing may send a contestant to the State competition. Contestant cannot be a former Fair Queen winner (*unless the Fair elected to promote its 2019 Alternate*) nor a former PA Fair Queen contestant.

The purpose of the State competition is to select the new PA Fair Queen and one (1) Alternate who will represent the PA State Association of County Fairs and the Department of Agriculture for one (1) year. They receive a \$2,500 and \$1,000 scholarship, respectively, upon meeting all obligations.

After the State competition, the new PA State Fair Queen will serve in the following capacities:

1. Attend and participate in events/activities at Fairs across Pennsylvania.
2. Represent Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs at sanctioned events and appearances
3. Promote greater public understanding, awareness and interest in Pennsylvania agriculture.

C. RULES:

Below are the Official PA Fair Queen Program rules. All Fairs participating in the Program must use all of the Contest Rules listed below for their Queen contest. Rules must be listed in the Fair's Premium Book. The same rules will be used for the State Competition. All contestants must comply with all the rules in order to be eligible for competition. The PA Fair Queen Program is not responsible for any other rules that a fair adds to PA Fair Queen Program-approved rules (*ex: county residency, talent, entry fees, etc.*)

Each Fair Queen contestant must

1. Be a female who is a U.S. citizen and a resident of Pennsylvania.
2. Be at least age 16, but no older than 20, years of age as of June 1 of the year entering the local contest.
3. Be certified as the winner by the local fair where she was crowned.
4. Have not been a former local Fair Queen winner, nor a former PA Fair Queen contestant.
5. Not hold any other State title for any other commodity group or pageant during her reign.
6. Have her parent(s)' or guardian(s)' consent to enter the competition.
7. Be single, have never been married, have not been pregnant nor given birth to a child.
8. Act in accordance with the PA Fair Queen "Behavior Policy" – *see attached*

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9. Meet all time commitments, Queen obligations and "Dress Code" as set forth by the PA Fair Queen Program – see attached.

D. FAIR QUEEN BEHAVIOR POLICY:

The Contest's governing Board shall have the sole discretion to determine whether, in its judgment, the Queen, Alternate or Contestants may continue to participate in the Program, in the event that the Board determines that any statement or representation is not true and accurate, or that any action is inconsistent with the rules, standards and dignity of the Program.

The following will be considered violations of the Policy and will be grounds for immediate disqualification, dismissal and/or being banned from future Queen competitions:

1. Any infractions of any Queen Contest rules.
2. Smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, chewing gum, foul language and/or public displays of affection to dates/boyfriends while wearing crown and/or sash and representing the Queen Program.
3. Engagement in any illegal, unpartisan, unethical, indecent and/or morally questionable behavior, including but not limited to online representations on the Internet such as social networking sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram).
4. Use of any illegal controlled dangerous substances or abusing the use of alcohol or other dangerous substances.
5. Any defamation of the Queen Contest, its winners and contestants, and the Fair or the PA Fair Queen Program and their Directors and Committee members, whether it be oral or written. This includes postings on the Internet.
6. Any uncooperative or unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after the competition.
7. Appearing in crown and banner at any event without an official invitation from an authorized event coordinator or event board member.

E. FAIR QUEEN DRESS CODE:

Wearing of the Fair Queen crown and/or sash is to be considered an honor and privilege. The bearer is now an ambassador representing herself, her family, her community and Fair.

While fashion styles may change, good taste does not!

Therefore responsible, appropriate and professional appearance is expected while the Queen is wearing her crown and sash:

1. Attire that is conducive to the specific appearance or event (i.e. business casual, formal, etc.)
2. No jeans, sneakers, flip flops or boots. Alterations may be made to this jean-footwear rule only if
 - a) severe weather or unsafe conditions exist and
 - b) the Fair Queen's official coordinator or Board Member has approved an alteration consistent with the professional appearance expectation.
3. It is strongly recommended that closed toe shoes be worn when in livestock areas, for safety reasons.
4. No visible piercings (other than earrings) or tattoos.
5. No outfit that shows cleavage.

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6. Dresses/skirts must be no shorter than the height of a dollar bill (approx 2.5") from the bottom of the dress/skirt hem to the top of the knee cap.
7. No clothing that advertises, promotes, or glorifies the use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or anything inconsistent with the dignity of the Queen Program.

F. APPLICATION:

The complete Application must be **submitted online by December 5** via Google Forms. Application must include

- Completed online Google Form - <https://forms.gle/Sw2kDmgLoquK7L7g8>
- Uploaded 01-CERTIFICATION form
- Uploaded SHORT BIOGRAPHY (Word or Adobe .pdf document)
- Uploaded CONTESTANT PHOTO (.JPEG format, vertical orientation)
- Uploaded PHOTOGRAPHER'S RELEASE (if required)
- Uploaded 02-CONTESTANT RESUME form
- Uploaded ESSAY – "What My Fair Means To My Community"; 300 words or less
- Uploaded 03-HOTEL RESERVATION and 04-HOTEL PAYMENT forms
- Uploaded 05-REGISTRATION form

Application Forms can be downloaded from <https://www.pafairs.org/p/convention/queen-contest>

Handwritten or re-formatted applications will receive a scoring deduction of -5 points off the Essay score. Late entries (postmarked after December 5) will receive a scoring deduction of -30 points.

The Queen Program reserves the right to refuse a Contestant's eligibility if a complete Application is received after December 5. The Fair Queen Coordinator will be notified in this case.

G. CONTESTANT FEE:

UPDATE!

The 2021 fee has been reduced considering the canceled 2021 PSACF/PSSA Convention.

A \$75.00 Application Fee (payable to "PSACF Convention Account") must be submitted to the PA State Association of County Fairs Executive Secretary Harry Reffner, 128 Cumberland Rd, Bedford, PA 15522 **postmarked by December 5**. This fee covers the Contestant's contest registrations, a ticket for the Friday Banquet, and a ticket for the Coronation Luncheon. The PA Fair Queen Program is not responsible for any other costs associated with the State contestant's participation in the competition including travel, clothing, hotel accommodations and other meals.

Submit online application and required documents **by December 5**. <https://forms.gle/Sw2kDmgLoquK7L7g8>

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H. CONTESTANT REGISTRATION:

Contestants must register using the official **05-REGISTRATION form** through PSACF.

Deadline – form submitted online by December 5; payment postmarked December 5.

Instructions:

1. Use **05-REGISTRATION FORM**
2. List Contestant's Name (*exactly as it is to appear in all contest documents*)
3. Enter "1" for "Queen Contestant Fee - \$75"
4. A ticket for the Banquet (Friday) and Queen Coronation Luncheon (Saturday) are included in the Contestant Fee.
5. Register for any other desired ticketed events.
6. Note any dietary special needs.
7. **Register all other Contestant guests (parents, chaperone, friends, family, etc) as applicable on the same form.**
8. Mail **payment** to PSACF, 128 Cumberland Rd, Bedford, PA 15522 **postmarked by December 5**



I. CHAPERONE:

Application must designate an adult chaperone to be responsible for their Queen Contestant at all times during the PA Fair Queen Contest. Chaperones may be the Queen Coordinator, a Fair delegate, or a family member/guardian, and need not be the same person during the 2-day contest event. A chaperone must check-in with the Contestant on the first day of the contest.

J. MEALS:

The Contestant's \$75.00 fee includes her ticket for the Banquet (Friday) and her ticket for the Coronation Luncheon (Saturday). Use the **05-REGISTRATION form** and **submit online by December 5.**

Other guests (parents, chaperones, friends, family, etc.) may also order tickets for these meals. These must be listed on the 05-REGISTRATION form and payment received by the deadline. The PA Fair Queen Program does not handle any meal registrations.

Due to Pennsylvania's restrictions on indoor gatherings, the banquet and luncheon will have a limited number of tickets available. First preference will be given to Contestants and the guests listed on their 05-REGISTRATION form. After the deadline, any remaining tickets will be sold to other guests on the waiting list.

Any other meals, other than the Friday night banquet and Saturday Coronation luncheon, are the responsibility of the contestant/fair/family.

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K. HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

A block of rooms at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center is on hold for the Queen Contestants only. Each Contestant's reservation will be guaranteed by submitting the **03-HOTEL RESERVATION** and **04-HOTEL PAYMENT** forms with the online Application **by the December 5**.

The first night's deposit payment is required by the **Room Block Cutoff Date of December 5**. The room costs are NOT included in the \$75 Contestant Fee. The PA Fair Queen Program will transmit all Hotel Room Reservation forms to Hershey Lodge for processing. The Queen Program does not set up nor pay for hotel accommodations. Anyone else requiring a hotel room must make reservations directly with Hershey Lodge by calling the group reservations team at 855-923-8089 to make reservations or make changes to their existing reservations by phone.

L. STATE COMPETITION JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. **Written Essay** on the topic "**What My Fair Means To My Community**". (300 words or less)
Judging Criteria: Content, Grammar, and Spelling.
2. **Personal Interview** - each contestant will meet alone with the panel of 3 judges.
Judging Criteria: Conversational ability, the answers to the questions, appearance/poise, activities, and knowledge of the fair industry.
3. **Speech Presentation** on the topic "**Why You Should Come To My Fair**" (3-5 minutes; timed event).
Persuasive speech appropriate for an audience of adults. The audience is the panel of 3 judges along with any other parents, fair members, or guests who wish to view the presentations.
Props that enhance this speech for this targeted audience are permitted, but not required. Contestants are judged on the effectiveness of their public speaking skills; not "entertainment".
Overhead projectors or Powerpoint presentations are not permitted.
Judging Criteria: speech content (to include agriculture), speech format, conveying a message, public speaking ability, and poise/presence.
4. **Stage Introduction** - conducted on stage in front of the convention banquet guests (approximately 300 people) including the 3 Judges. Each Contestant makes a personal introduction to the audience, similar to that which a Fair Queen would give when visiting a Fair or other public event. The Contestant has approximately 15 seconds to make this introduction.
Judging Criteria: content, stage presence, and appearance.
****NOTE**** - the contestants will be required to wear **BUSINESS ATTIRE** for the 2021 Stage Introductions on Friday night. (Business Dress appropriate for a job interview). **NO EVENING GOWNS for the Friday Stage Introductions competition.**

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M. OBLIGATIONS:

If selected as the new PA Fair Queen, the Queen will receive her scholarship upon fulfilling the following obligations:

- a. Attend all PA Fair Queen Program sanctioned events including, but not limited to: Cornucopia (Harrisburg), Ag Progress Days (Rock Springs, PA), Farm-City Day (Harrisburg), the Pennsylvania Farm Show (Harrisburg), and the PSACF Convention (Hershey).
- b. Attend fairs in all four (4) zones of the PSACF, when invited.
- c. Attend other events/obligations that may arise on behalf of the PSACF.
- d. Keep an Event Summary log (Event name and location, purpose/target audience, number of attendees, and contact person).
- e. Make a scrapbook and create a display for the 2019 PSACF Convention showing how she promoted fairs and agriculture during her reign.
- f. Attend and participate in the entire 2019 State Fair Queen competition and crown the 2019 State Fair Queen.
- g. Show proof of scholarship eligibility by presenting a current tuition bill or grade report from her college/university.
- h. Was exclusively the PA Fair Queen for her entire reign and did not participate in any other pageants nor hold a title for any other commodity group during that time.

In the event of her marriage, pregnancy or any other reason that would keep her from fulfilling her obligations during her reign as the PA Fair Queen, the new Queen will relinquish her title, crown, privileges and all gifts, and will be succeeded by the First Alternate.

N. CONTEST:

Contestants are to bring only their Fair Queen Sash – **NO CROWNS!** The Dress Code policy (*Section D*) will be enforced (*may bring crown if getting photos taken by the contest photographer*).

The time, manner and method of conducting the State Contest are solely within the discretion of the PA Fair Queen Contest Coordinators and their Board of Directors, and the decision of the Judges is final. Judging comments and judging scores are **not available** for distribution during or after the competition.

A complete and detailed **Official Contestant Packet** will be available in December from Contest Coordinator Karen Dobson. The Contestant Packet will be available for download online. Copies will be mailed only if requested.

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O. Tentative 2021 Schedule and Attire ¹

Sunday, January 17	Contestant Orientation	Via Zoom	
Friday, January 22	<u>Judged: Personal Interviews</u>	Assigned time slot 7 am – 11:30 am	Business Dress (appropriate for a job interview) <i>(Fair Sash, Suit, dress pants, skirts, blouse, blazer, dress, etc)</i>
	<u>Leadership Seminar</u>	11:00 am or 2:00 pm	Business Dress (appropriate for a job interview) <i>(Fair Sash, Suit, dress pants, skirts, blouse, blazer, dress, etc)</i>
	<u>Judged: Speech Presentations</u>	Assigned time slot 1:45 pm – 5:00 pm	Business Dress (appropriate for a job interview) <i>(Fair Sash, Suit, dress pants, skirts, blouse, blazer, dress, etc)</i>
	<u>Judged: Stage Introductions</u>	6:00 pm	Business Dress (appropriate for a job interview) <i>(Fair Sash, Suit, dress pants, skirts, blouse, blazer, dress, etc)</i>
Saturday, January 23	Seminars	8:45 am – 9:30 am and 9:45 am – 10:30 am	Business Dress (appropriate for a job interview) <i>(Fair Sash, Suit, dress pants, skirts, blouse, blazer, dress, etc)</i>
	Contestant Group Photo & Coronation Rehearsal	11:30 am	Evening Gown
	<u>Coronation Luncheon and Ceremony</u>	12:30 pm	Evening Gown

¹ Subject to change; A complete and detailed Official Contestant Packet will be available in December from Contest Coordinator Karen Dobson. The Contestant Packet will be available for download online. Copies will be mailed only if requested. For questions regarding the Contest schedule, contact Karen Dobson, kardob@msn.com or 610-212-6180

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