

Dear Lucas County Fair Queen Contest Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in running for the 2026 Lucas County Fair Queen!

The Lucas County Fair Queen Contest and Crowning will be held on Saturday July 18th, 2026 @ 5pm at the fairgrounds. If you wish to enter the contest, please complete the enclosed entry form and questionnaire, and submit them with a \$25 entry fee (payable to Lucas County Fair Association) and one recent wallet sized photo. Please mail to Lucas County Extension Office 48293 Hy-Vee Rd Chariton, Iowa 50049 or drop off at the Lucas County Extension Office no later than **June 1, 2026**.

If you have questions you may contact Megan Loynachan (641) 203-3769. Once I receive your information, I will send you more information about the contest and the events of the day.

Entries must be postmarked by June 1, 2026 to compete.

Enclosed is a copy of the Iowa State Fair Queen Contest rules. The Lucas County Fair Contest will follow these rules.

**** Make sure you are familiar with the rules and the schedule of the Iowa State Fair, as you will be expected to be there to represent Lucas County for the entirety of the schedule if you are the crowned winner.**

Thank you for your interest in running for the 2026 Lucas County Fair Queen.

4-H & FFA Queen Contest Rules/Regulations and Consent Form

General Rules:

1. Queen will receive State Fair crown, sash, and \$500 scholarship from Lucas County Fair Association . Other gifts might be available if there are sponsors.
2. A \$25.00 fee is required for all queen contestants. School photo and fee are due with entry form and questionnaire. They must be turned into the Kim or Lucas County Extension Office by June 1, 2026.
3. Queen Contestants must be 16 years of age and not more than 21 years of age on the first day of the 2026 Iowa State Fair which is August 13, 2026.
4. Queen Contestants must never have been married, nor had children. Queen contestants can't be knowingly pregnant at the time of the Lucas County Fair, or the Iowa State Fair Queen Pageant or title will be forfeited to the 1st Runner Up.
5. Competition is open to the public, not limited to being a 4-H or FFA member. However, each contestant must be an active member of at least one service organization in her community, such as, but not limited to a church group or girl scouts.
6. 4-H members participating in the Queen contest must have attended 50% of their club or organizations meetings.
7. No professional model is eligible to compete in the Lucas County Fair Queen competition.
8. Any contestant who has competed at the Iowa State Fair level may not compete again. Contestants, other than person selected as County Fair Queen, who entered the county contest previously but did not participate at state level, may enter the county fair queen contest.
9. Winner of the Lucas County Fair Queen contest and her court will be required to remain at the fairgrounds and enthusiastically appear and help with shows and sale. No crown or sashes are to be worn while the contestant is showing or selling.
10. The Lucas County Fair Association reserves the right to change and interpret the foregoing rules and regulations at any time as may be deemed expedient.
11. Each entrant in the State Fair competition must be selected from a competitive Queen contest at her county fair. Only contests sponsored by county fairs that are members of the Association of the Iowa Fairs will be eligible to compete at the state level.
12. Iowa State Fair will accept only one entry per county.
13. It is the responsibility of each contestant to make arrangements for transportation to and from Des Moines to the Iowa State Fair. Accommodations will be made for County Fair Queen only.
15. **The Lucas County 4-H and FFA Queen contest will follow Iowa State Fair Queen Contest rules.**
16. Fair Queen will need to help with the 2027 Fair fundraiser and Auction, and also appear in the Homecoming and 4th of July parades.

**This contest is held by the Lucas County Fair Association. For more information, please contact Megan Loynachan (641) 203-3769

Signature _____ Date _____

I(We) as parent(s)/legal guardian of _____ do hereby consent to my/our daughter taking part in the Lucas County Fair Queen Contest. We do also grant permission for her to participate in the state contest and also release all photography rights for publicity in connection with the Lucas County Fair Queen Contest.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

2026 Lucas County Fair Queen Application

Applications must be postmarked by June 1, 2026

Fair Queen is the only crowned position that can move onto the Iowa State Fair

Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthday

Address:

Phone#: _____ Email:

Organization Representing

_____ School attended/ Attending:

Presently working at:

School Activities (List leadership positions):

Community involvement:

Hobbies and Interests:

Future Plans (Goals, work, school, etc.):

Please explain on a separate sheet of paper typed how you would best represent the Lucas County Fair by being selected 2026 Lucas County Fair Queen. In addition, please explain why you would like to be chosen as Queen.

Please enclose a wallet size photo, along with a **\$25** entry fee.

Return by mail to Lucas County Extension Office 48293 Hy-Vee Rd Chariton, Iowa 50049 or take to the Extension Office and drop off by June 1st.

Please contact Megan Loynachan (641) 203- 3769 with any questions.

2026 Iowa State Fair Queen Competition Rules and Regulations

1. Each contestant must be female and at least 16 years of age and not more than 21 years of age on Aug 13th, the first day of the 2026 Iowa State Fair.
2. Contestants must have never been married.
3. A county fair queen must reside in the county she represents or an adjoining county if most of her activities in the county she represents. If a fair represents more than one county, the winning contestant must reside in one of the participating counties.
4. Each contestant must be an active member of at least one service organization in her community such as a church group, Girl Scouts, 4-H, FFA, etc. (Eligibility is not limited to 4-H or FFA membership.)
5. Each entrant in the State Fair Competition must be selected from a competitive queen contest at her county fair. If an Iowa fair does not have a contest, it may sanction another queen contest in their county as the "Official County Fair Queen Contest." The winner of this is then eligible to compete at the Iowa State Fair. Only contests sponsored by county fairs that are members of the Association of Iowa Fairs will be eligible to compete at the state level.
6. Only winners as indicated under Rule 5 are eligible to represent counties at the state pageant. In the event the county queen is unable to participate, alternates will be considered in order of selection.
7. No professional model (one who has had ongoing employment in which modeling was the primary part of the job) is eligible to compete in the state competition.
8. Any contestant who has competed at the Iowa State Fair Queen level of the competition may not compete again.
9. Any county fair queen selected after the 2025 Iowa State Fair and meeting the above qualifications is eligible for the 2026 competition
10. The Iowa State Fair will accept only one entry per county. Should there be more than one queen contest in the county, it will be the responsibility of the fairs concerned to hold an elimination contest. The only exception to this rule will be in those counties where more than one fair qualifies for membership with the Association of Iowa Fairs. In those cases, both fairs will be eligible to submit candidates for competition.
11. It is the responsibility of each contestant to plan transportation to and from Des Moines.
12. The county fair queens will be the guests of the Iowa State Fair Tuesday, August 11th, through the time of the crowning Saturday evening, August 15th, 2026.
13. The Iowa State Fair will provide a sash and crown for each county fair to award their queen at the county fair. This must be worn when she appears at the Iowa State Fair and is included in the \$450.00 entry fee. The entry fee for entries received after April 30 is \$500.00. Absolutely NO entries

will be accepted after May 31! Online payment for 2026 will only be accepted. The link has been attached to this email.

14. County fairs are requested to select their candidates by competition in which personality, leadership, and beauty are judged.

15. A competent committee will select the “Iowa State Fair Queen”. Judging comments are not available to the contestants or county representatives. Judging will be based on the following:

16. Each contestant should be prepared to appear in a variety of attire, such as business attire or a suit, evening attire, or casual wear.

17. The winner of the state competition will be crowned “2026 Iowa State Fair Queen.” The 2026 Queen will be required to remain at the Fairgrounds for the remaining time of the 2026 Fair.

18. The state competition winner must agree to appear for the Iowa State Fair Board in official capacities as requested throughout the year until her successor is crowned. This includes daily appearances at the 2026 Fair and the first three days at the 2027 Fair. The Iowa State Fair will help with food and transportation expenses for these appearances.

19. If the winner cannot reign until a new queen is crowned at the 2027 Fair, she must forfeit the title, and all awards associated with it to the first runner-up. She may then accept the title and all awards associated with it to the first runner-up. She may then accept the title and awards for the first runner-up.

20. The winning contestant at the Iowa State Fair must agree to accept no other queen titles nor endorse any commercial product as “Iowa State Fair Queen” for 12 months following the 2026 Iowa State Fair without the written permission of the Iowa State Fair Board.

21. The winning contestant will receive all the prizes at the time of the finals except the scholarships. The scholarships will be presented to her after the 2027 Iowa State Fair Queen is selected.

22. The reigning 2026 “Iowa State Fair Queen” is expected to conduct herself in a manner that reflects positively on herself, her family, and the Iowa State Fair. Should the reigning “Iowa State Fair Queen” become involved in any activity, including drug, alcohol, or tobacco-related offense that reflects negatively on herself, her family, or the Iowa State Fair, she may be required to forfeit her crown, title, and rights to the scholarship award to the first runner-up.

23. Should the 2026 “Iowa State Fair Queen” marry or become ineligible before the 2027 queen is crowned, she will forfeit her title, crown, and rights to the scholarship award for the first runner-up. Should the first runner-up marry or become ineligible, she will forfeit the title, crown, and rights to the scholarship to the second runner-up.

24. The Iowa State Fair Board reserves the right to change and interpret the foregoing rules and regulations at any time as may be deemed expedient.

2026 IOWA STATE FAIR QUEEN COMPETITION

Subject to change before the event

Tuesday

2:00 – 4:00 pm Check-in at Prairie Meadows (1 Prairie Meadows Drive, Altoona, IA 50009). Queen candidates can check into their room and turn in their pictures, questionnaire, permission form, and any additional information. Check-in will take place in the **Event Center Entrance** and chaperones will be there to assist.

4:30 pm Ice Breakers and Orientation meeting (Queens ONLY)

6:00 pm Dinner

7:00 pm Stage Practice Workshop

Wednesday

7:30 am Continental breakfast

8:00 am Individual interviews begin (**Business Attire**)

8:30 am Workout class/Workshops begin

11:30 am Lunch

12:30 pm Interviews continue

2:00 pm Stage Practice Workshop

6:15 pm Parade (**Casual Outfit such as a sundress**)

8:00 pm Dinner

Thursday

6:30 am Continental breakfast

7:30 am Healthiest State Initiative Walk at the Fairgrounds

7:30 am Some queens volunteer on fairgrounds

8:00 am Individual interviews (**Business Attire**)

12:30 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Workshops begin

4:00 pm **Introduction of candidates on Knapp Stage (Casual Dress)**

4:30 pm Scavenger Hunt

5:00 pm Dinner at the Fairgrounds

7:00 pm Free time on the fairgrounds (partner up)

8:30 pm Buses leave the fairgrounds

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9:00 pm Pool Party

Friday

7:00 am Continental breakfast

7:30 am Some queens volunteer on fairgrounds

9:00 am Workout Class/Workshops begin

9:00 am Group Interviews begin (**Formal Wear**)

10:30 am Individual pictures start (**Formal Wear**)

11:45 am Lunch

1:00 pm Group picture taken (**Formal Wear**)

4:00 pm **Introduction of candidates on Knapp Stage (Casual Dress)**

5:30 pm Dinner and Dessert at the County Fair BBQ

7:00 pm Giant Slide/Sky Glider rides

Saturday

7:00 am Continental breakfast

7:30 am Some queens volunteer on fairgrounds

8:00 am Short individual interviews begin in **Casual Wear**

8:00 am Workshops begin

Noon Lunch

2:00 pm **Must be checked out of hotel room. Family or friends may pick up your belongings.**

7:00 pm **Presentation of the queen candidates on the Bill Riley Stage, Crowning of the 2026 Iowa State Fair Queen and her court (Formal Wear)**

Immediately after the crowning, all candidates are released to family/friends. We would appreciate all the candidates planning to have their belongings picked up at the hotel before 4:00 pm