



JUDGES/EMCEE ELIGIBILITY RULES

State and Local Judging Rules and Affidavits

The judge's panel should consist of between five (5) and seven (7) individuals. At least one of these individuals are required to be a "novice" judge. Novice is defined as anyone who has never judged a local, state, or national competition within the Miss America system. In addition, if a panel has a total of (5) judges, one judge must be a person of color or Hispanic. The expectation of all panels is that there be equal representation of the diversity in which is represented in the United States.

Judges may only judge four (4) local/State competition events in any given competition year but may NOT judge in consecutive years for the same local competition.

State Directors are limited to judging in one (other) State program per cycle/year.

A person is ineligible to judge or Emcee a Local Competition if a Family Member is a delegate within that local competition. Family Members are defined as daughters, nieces, siblings, cousins, whether by whole or half blood, or by marriage, including stepchildren or adoption.

Individuals, their company/business, spouse, immediate family, domestic partner or significant other,

who in any way benefit, financially or otherwise, from working with contestants or the organization are barred from judging or hosting the particular competition in which they have these type affiliations. This means that a competition/pageant coach, competition vocal coach, hairdresser, retailer, make-up artist, fitness trainer, wardrobe specialist, interview coach, choreographer, or any other profession which works directly with contestants, may not judge or emcee the particular competition in which they have these types of relations.

State Board Members may not judge or emcee locals within the state they serve. It is recognized that some states have rules in place that require the state organization to place judges on first year local competitions. In those cases, the judges placed on those local judge's panels may not have direct contact with their state contestants or their state judges during the state competition.



Relatives of state/local board members may not judge in the state and/or the state's local competitions for which the relative serves as a board member. Using any person which could compromise, or appear to compromise, the integrity of the judging process is prohibited. This includes such relations as business associates, social relationships, etc.

Former contestants and their family members, whether from a local, state, or national Miss America Competition or a competition similar in nature to the Miss America Competition, and regardless of if they won one of said competitions, cannot judge or emcee until a minimum of one (1) year after they have aged out of competition, or one year after they have concluded their state titleholder term.

A judge may not judge any contestant at the State Level Competition, whom they judged in any other local competition, including but not limited to the Miss America's Teen Program for a period of four (4) years. Only at the Local Competition Level may a judge be allowed to judge a contestant whom they previously judged, however, they must do so with absolute objectivity and without bias. It is important that the Local Organization's leadership, to the best of their ability, limit the number of judges who have previously judged the contestants competing in their local competitions.

Judges who are related by blood or marriage, romantically involved, business associates, or roommates may not serve on the same judging panel. The impression that two judges may collude on the panel because of their close relationship must be avoided.

State organizations may not use two individuals from the same state organization in the same year. In addition, state organizations may not use individuals from the same state organization within two consecutive years, which includes the state's local volunteers. At the local level, two individuals from the same local competition may judge another local in the same year, but no members of a local board may judge the same local two consecutive years.

The state competition's judge's panel can only include a maximum up to three (3) active state organization volunteers, including, without limitation, the Executive Director, members of the State Board of Directors (BOD) or Committee, and/or any affiliate BOD, such as a state's 501c3 Scholarship Foundation.



Notwithstanding the foregoing, the three (3) active state organization volunteers selected to judge a state competition must not have judged together on another State Judges Panel within a three (3) year period. Sponsors, partners, and contributors (financial or in-kind), as well as their employees and family members are barred from judging or emceeing. Donors to the general scholarship are allowed to judge.

Anyone who engages or has engaged in conduct, in the sole or exclusive judgment of MAIP, which adversely reflects and considered harmful to MAIP's reputation, including the uttering or publishing of any disparaging comments regarding MAIP, affiliates, or participants in the Miss America Program; and/or fails to present communications to members of the public in a professional manner to maintain and enhance the Miss America Program's broad public acceptance and in order to prevent damage to MAIP's business or reputation are barred from judging and emceeing.

State and Local organizations may have rules regarding judging which are more restrictive, but not otherwise contradictory to the rules outlined above. In addition to the Judges Eligibility Rules, please be aware that the national organization (MAIP) makes final determination on additional rules regarding judging for the State and Local organizations. If you have a question regarding the interpretation of these rules as they apply to a local competition, please contact MAIP for clarification.



Panelist Affidavit

Name:	Street Address:	Occupation:
Title/Position:	Company:	Volunteer Organization (if applicable):
Phone:	Email:	Social Media URL(S):

I have received, read, and understand the Judges Eligibility Rules/Judges Protocol and confirm that I meet the eligibility requirements to participate as a judge for a Competition.

I affirm that I, my company/business, spouse, domestic partner, significant other, or immediate family member, have not and will not provide for profit or otherwise (compensated or uncompensated) any product or service directly to any potential or actual contestant in any Miss America or Miss America's Teen program. An immediate family member is defined as parent, child, or siblings, whether by whole or half blood, by marriage including stepchildren, or adoption.

I also affirm that I, my company/business, spouse, domestic partner, significant other, or immediate family member, do not act directly as a director of a competition or competition coach, competition or vocal coach, hairdresser, make-up artist, fitness trainer, wardrobe specialist, interview coach, choreographer, or any other profession that works directly, with contestants either compensated or uncompensated in connection with the particular program I am judging.

I also attest that I have not served as a panelist for these same contestants competing in the same age division and competition within the same year period for either Miss America or Miss America's Teen.

I acknowledge I have been provided with and understand the selection criteria and methods of scoring for the competition, titled "Competition Scoring Criteria & Phases of Competition". To the best of my ability, I will objectively apply the selection criteria and abide by its requirements. In performing my duties as a panelist, I will not permit geography, race, religion, age, political view, type of talent, or choice of platform of a contestant to interfere with my objective application of the judging and scoring criteria.



I understand I have been/will be provided with confidential information about each contestant in the competition. I will review the information and disclose any Conflicts of Interest, actual or perceived, which may or will not permit me to select any of the contestants objectively.

“Conflicts of Interest” for this purpose includes: any facts or circumstances which would, from the commonsense standpoint of a member of the public, be perceived as compromising the ability to serve as a panelist to perform your duties objectively; and, specifically, any relationship or interest of a panelist, the employer, the business, or the family of a panelist, with a participant in the competition, the family of a participant.

I will perform my duties in a dignified and professional manner that is appropriate and sensitive to the feelings and impressions of the women who are competing. I will maintain an environment to the end that each and every contestant receives a fair, objective, and unbiased opportunity to compete for the job of Miss or Teen Local/State.

I will maintain the confidentiality of the information entrusted or known by me by virtue of my position as a panelist, regardless of the source of information (contestants, competition personnel, or any other person). I will not allow, under any circumstance, any person to exert or try to exert any influence upon me in my capacity as a panelist. If anyone should attempt to influence me, then I, as part of my fiduciary responsibility, agree to immediately disclose such attempted influence on the Miss/Teen Coordinator and Auditor(s).

In maintaining the confidentiality of the information known by me by virtue of my position as a panelist, I agree not to discuss anything that transpired during the selection process with anyone during or after the competition concludes. I will decline all requests from contestants, parents, competition coaches, or anyone else for advice on how to improve, as the entire process is, and remains, confidential. I also agree that all contestant paperwork in my possession will be disposed of in a manner that will protect the confidentiality of the selection process and the contestants' privacy.

I agree I may not serve as a judge or an emcee while I am within the age range considered eligible for competition unless I have married and/or have custodial children and no longer qualify to compete within the Miss America or Miss America's Teen system. I may not judge Miss America's Teen local/state or nationals while competing within the Miss America system.



I also agree to not engage contestants outside of the normal panelist duties before, during, or after the competition, especially in any form of social media. I understand I have a fiduciary responsibility to notify competition leadership if I am contacted by a contestant, a contestant's parent/relative, or a coach. I also agree to not engage my fellow panelists before, during, or after the competition concerning contestants and the selection process unless otherwise directed to do so within the provided judging criteria.

(If applicable) To maintain the actual and perceived objective integrity of the selection and scoring system, listed below (or attached) are, to the best of my knowledge, any facts or circumstances that may constitute a Conflict of Interest or may be perceived as a Conflict of Interest. I request a prompt review of these disclosures to advise if they may be perceived as Conflicts of Interest.

I understand anyone who engages or has engaged in conduct, in the sole or exclusive judgment of MAIP, which adversely reflects and is considered harmful to MAIP's reputation, including the uttering or publishing of any disparaging comments regarding MAIP, affiliates, or participants in the Miss America or Miss America's Teen Program; and/or fails to present communications to members of the public in a professional manner to maintain and enhance MAIP Program's broad public acceptance and to prevent damage to MAIP's business or reputation are barred from serving as a panelist.

Disclosure(s):

If I am found to violate any portion of this affidavit, I understand and agree that I may be prohibited from serving as a panelist at any level of the Miss America or Miss America's Teen Organization's Competition System.

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____