



Shippensburg Community Fair

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2023 Shippensburg Community Fair Queen Contest Rules

Fair Queen Contest Information

1. The purpose of the Pennsylvania State Fair Queen Program (PSFQP) is twofold: (1) to promote the education of young women in Pennsylvania through the operation of a scholarship program providing educational opportunities for selected applicants; and (2) to promote greater public understanding and awareness of agriculture & its importance to Pennsylvania.
2. The purpose is to select a Fair Queen and Fair Sweetheart (first runner-up) who will serve as ambassadors to promote the fair and community of Shippensburg in a positive way.
3. The contest will be held Monday, July 24, 2023, at 7:30 PM at the fairgrounds stage.
4. There will two (2) **mandatory** rehearsals held Tuesday, July 18th and Thursday, July 20th at 7:00 PM at the fairgrounds stage.
5. Contestants **will be required** to attend a photography session for program pictures. Location, date, and time will be announced once scheduled.

Fair Queen Contest Rules

1. Contestant must be a female who is a U.S. citizen and resident of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, or surrounding Cumberland and Franklin County area.
2. Contestant must be at least age 16, but no older than 20 years of age as of June 1, 2023.
3. Contestant must be single, have never been married, have not been pregnant nor given birth to a child.
4. Each contestant must have a local sponsor. A sponsor can be an organization or business. Contestants cannot be sponsored by other individuals.
5. Contestant must not have been a former Shippensburg Fair Queen winner, nor a former State Fair Queen contestant.
6. Contestant must not hold any other title for any other commodity group or pageant during her reign.
7. Contestant must have her parent(s)' or guardians(s)' consent to enter the competition.
8. Contestant must be of good moral character.
9. Contestant must act in accordance with the PA Fair Queen "Behavior Policy."
10. Contestant must be able to meet all time commitments, obligations, and dress code as set forth by the committee and Pennsylvania State Fair Queen Program.
11. Each contestant will submit: 1) completed entry form, 2) wallet-sized picture, and 3) brief biography (to be included in the local newspapers and program). You may use the entry form as a guide for the biography. Biographies should be typed and submitted with the contestant's online application. **Biographies will be printed as they are received.**
12. Contestants are **required** to attend a personal interview with the judges on the day of the contest. The committee will schedule interviews and inform contestants of their appointment time.
13. Contestants will complete a minimum 500-word essay. **Essay is due no later than July 18th.** Essay is emailed to

fairqueen@shippensburgfair.com or can be brought to the first night of rehearsals. If essay is not received by July 18th, points will be deducted for each day thereafter from overall essay score. Judges will score the essay and add the points to the contestant's score. **Essay topic: "Why you should come to the 2023 Shippensburg Community Fair".**

14. Contestants will appear in an interview outfit and evening gown with appropriate accessories.
15. Contestants are judged on appearance, attire, poise, speaking ability, personality, personal interview, timeliness, and responsiveness. This is not a beauty pageant; it is a contest where we are looking for the best representative/ambassador to represent not only the fair but also the community throughout the year.
16. **If the contestant requires any special accommodations due to a disability, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to make the committee aware and provide the accommodations needed prior to rehearsals.**
17. If named Shippensburg Community Fair Queen or Fair Sweetheart, it is **mandatory** to attend all fair activities you are scheduled for during fair week and throughout the year. Events include, but are not limited to, other fairs, parades, and community events.
18. The Fair Queen and Fair Sweetheart are expected to represent the fair at various activities throughout the year and agree to return on July 22, 2024, to crown the new Fair Queen and Fair Sweetheart. Should the Fair Queen be unable to fulfill her duties, the Fair Sweetheart will be asked to fill in.
19. If the Fair Queen or Fair Sweetheart fails to appear at 50% of the events requested, they will be asked to step down. To qualify for the scholarship at the end of the year, 80% attendance/participation is required.
20. The Fair Queen is expected to represent the Shippensburg Community Fair at the State Fair Queen Contest held in Hershey, PA on January 18th – 21st.
21. The Fair Queen and Fair Sweetheart may only wear their tiaras and sashes when attending events to represent the Shippensburg Community Fair. If the Queen or Sweetheart are requested to attend events not scheduled by the Fair Queen Committee, they must contact the committee for Fair Board approval.
22. Contestants chosen as Fair Queen and Fair Sweetheart **must** always have one (1) adult chaperone with her for all events at the fair and throughout the year. **This chaperone is in addition to a Fair Queen Committee member.**
23. The Queen and her court will refrain from the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. Any usage (including clothing advertising) of such products while the girl is wearing the title or representing the Shippensburg Community Fair will result in her title being passed on (to the Fair Sweetheart, or the second runner-up in the case of the Fair Sweetheart). The use of profanity or inappropriate language is prohibited.
24. Contestants agree to abide by all the rules of the contest. Failure to abide by these rules will result in forfeiture of the title. The tiara and sash will be passed to the Fair Sweetheart who will assume the responsibilities of the Fair Queen. The second runner-up will assume the responsibilities of the Fair Sweetheart.
25. Decision of the judges is final. No score sheets or judges' comments will be given out following the competition.
26. Good sportsmanship is a must by the contestants, her guests and family. **Contestants are expected to stay for pictures immediately following the announcement of winners.**

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 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 rule.
2. **Use of illegal controlled dangerous substances or abusing the use/drinking of alcohol and other dangerous substances including smoking, chewing gum, foul language and/or public displays of**

affection to dates/boyfriends while wearing crown and/or sash and representing the Queen Program is prohibited.

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, TikTok, etc.).
4. 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.
5. Any uncooperative or unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after the competition.
6. Appearing in crown and banner at any event without an official invitation from an authorized event coordinator or event board member and without approval from the fair queen committee director.

Fair Queen Dress Code

Wearing of the Fair Queen crown and/or sash is to be considered an honor and privilege. The bearer represents herself, her family, her community and Fair. Therefore, professional appearance is expected while in 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.
3. No visible piercings (other than earrings) or tattoos.
4. No outfit that shows cleavage.
5. Dresses/skirts must be no shorter than the height of a dollar bill placed between the top of the kneecap to the bottom of the dress/skirt hem. A detailed dress code will be provided at rehearsals.
6. No clothing that advertises, promotes, or glorifies the use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or anything inconsistent with the dignity of the Queen Program.

Entries may be submitted online in their entirety at shippensburgfair.com/fairqueen.