

BLUE RIBBON APPLE PIE CONTEST



INSTRUCTIONS TO BE USED BY FAIRS AT THEIR 2026 EVENT

Each county/local fair is encouraged to conduct a 38th Annual Blue Ribbon Apple Pie Contest at their 2026 event. Listed below are the criteria which we would like each fair to use in their contest. The certified first place winner from each fair will then have the opportunity to enter an apple pie in the BLUE RIBBON APPLE PIE CONTEST at the 2027 PENNSYLVANIA FARM SHOW.

RULES for local Fair and the PA Farm Show contests are as follows:

1. Open to any individual amateur baker who is a Pennsylvania resident. One entry per person.
2. Entrants may **NOT** have won 1st place in this Blue Ribbon Apple Pie contest at any other fair in 2026.
3. The Apple Pie, including fillings and crust, must be made from scratch with edible ingredients. No pre-packaged ingredients may be used (ex: no pre-made mixes, cookie dough, pie crust, frosting, etc.) Any decorations must just be edible.
4. Recipe must include at least 60% apples in the filling. It does not need to be a "traditional" two crusted apple pie and it can have a variety of fillings.
5. The entire pie must be submitted for judging in a food safe disposable pie pan. (All pans, plates and dishes are considered to be disposable and will not be returned.)
6. The Pie entry and its recipes will become the property of the Fair or PA Farm Show and will **not** be returned
7. Recipe(s) for the Pie and Crust must be submitted with the entry, printed on one side of 8-1/2" x 11" sheets of paper. Recipe must list all ingredients, quantities, and preparation instructions. Entrant's name, address and phone number must be printed on the back side of all pages.
8. Refrigeration is **not** available at the Fair or PA Farm Show. Entries that require refrigeration after baking must indicate so in the recipe. Those entries will not be sold, auctioned or otherwise distributed for consumption after judging for food safety reasons.
9. Judging will be based on the following criteria:

Flavor (aroma, taste, good balance of flavorings)	35 points
Filling (consistency, doneness, moistness, flavor)	25 points
Crust (color, flavor, texture doneness)	20 points
Overall Appearance (surface, shape, size, color)	15 points
Creativity	5 points
TOTAL	100 Points

Creativity is essential to a varied competition. Do not limit your contest to a "traditional" two-crust apple pie. We are looking for a variety of fillings in the pie; the pie must include at least 60% apples in the filling.

Each Fair must submit the Contest Summary Report verifying the winning apple pie baker. This person will then be eligible to enter the state competition at the 2027 PA Farm Show and will receive the Official PA Farm Show Certification Entry Form directly from the PA Fairs Special Baking Contest Committee.

NOTE: If an individual has already won 1st place at another fair in 2026 for this Blue Ribbon Apple Pie contest, that individual is now considered qualified through that Fair to compete at the 2027 PA Farm Show and is no longer eligible to enter this contest at any upcoming Fairs.

First Place Winner is eligible for the 2027 PA Farm Show competition.

Premiums for the 2027 PA FARM SHOW competition

First Place - \$500.00 Second Place - \$250.00 Third Place - \$100.00
Fourth Place - Rosette Ribbon Fifth Place - Rosette Ribbon

Sponsor: PA State Association of County Fairs

2026 Participating Fair and 2027 PA Farm Show Contest Rules

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