



### **Miss American Teenager National Delegate-Parent Code of Conduct & Title Agreement**

Miss American Teenager is excited to welcome you as a state queen and national delegate for the 2021-2022 national pageant season. Our system requires a high standard of conduct from our representatives and their families, in order to project a wholesome, positive image for our organization and pageantry as a whole.

This Code of Conduct and Title Agreement applies to all activities coordinated through Miss American Teenager including any local, state and national events – as well as personal activities carried out by the titleholder while holding any local, state or national title in the organization during her reign. The Delegate and Parent/Guardian are required to sign this Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the Code of Conduct and Title Agreement as stated herein. Failure to sign does not waive the delegate's agreement to the Code of Conduct and Title Agreement, as acceptance of a title with Miss American Teenager is the acknowledgement that the delegate agrees to the Code of Conduct and Title Agreement and all rules herein upon acceptance.

State titleholders are required to compete at nationals to represent their state or regional title. If a delegate does not fulfill her responsibility to compete at the national pageant for any reason, a withdrawal fee of \$100 shall be paid by the delegate to withdraw from her contractual obligation to represent her title at nationals and terminate this contract, and the delegate agrees that Miss American Teenager has the delegate's permission to process the delegate's credit card on file to complete this payment. If a delegate does not fulfill her responsibility to compete at the national pageant, she will be required to relinquish her title, and return any and all prizes, including but not limited to the state crown, state sash, any and all scholarship money and prizes that may have been received at the state pageant or during the reign within 10 days. If the crown and sash are not returned clean and in good condition and within 10 days, the titleholders will be responsible for paying a \$150 replacement fee. No refunds will be given for any state or national fees paid. Holding a state or regional title in a prestigious national organization is an honor, and the responsibility should be taken seriously.

Delegates are required to attend all mandatory events during national competition week to represent their state or regional title. Delegates are not to leave the venue until the conclusion of the pageant, and must be present on stage during all required times, including post-pageant photos. Delegates who are not present during all required times agree to pay a fine of \$250 due to the national office which the

delegate agrees to pay, and delegate agrees that Miss American Teenager has permission to process their credit card on file to complete this payment if necessary.

Delegates are required to make a minimum of two appearances each month in crown and sash during their reign, which begins from the moment they are crowned or receive their title, until they return to crown their successor at next year's pageant. **In the case of appointed titles, the delegate's reign expires after the 2022 national pageant.** One out of the two required appearances each month should be charitable in nature, to support a personal platform, worthy cause or the Miss American Teenager national platforms of Crown CARES or Ryan's Case for Smiles. Delegates are to arrange school visits, local groups or create an event to talk to children about our anti-bullying national platform or create pillow cases to donate. Delegates under the age of 18 are required to have an official chaperone with them at all events and appearances.

Miss American Teenager expects all delegates to conduct themselves in a manner that is courteous, professional and reflects positively for Miss American Teenager and the state organization. Delegates acknowledge that their behavior towards others is a direct representation of Miss American Teenager. Disrespectful behavior toward other delegates, staff, directors, participants, and sponsors will not be tolerated and is grounds for immediate dismissal. Being a titleholder is a job that should be taken seriously. The titleholder's job is to promote their title, promote Miss American Teenager, and be a role model and serve her community through the Miss American Teenager crown. **Because this job requires commitment, titleholders are not allowed to compete in any other national pageant prior to the 2022 national pageant and can only compete in local and state pageants, during the current reign with approval from the state or national office, to ensure that the titleholder is not hindered from fulfilling this contract.** Delegates understand that the Miss American Teenager crown should take precedence over any other titles they may have. Accepting a state or regional title with Miss American Teenager confirms that the delegate will hold Miss American Teenager as their first priority.

Delegates are expected to exhibit positive character and uphold exemplary behavior in their personal life as well as when representing Miss American Teenager in public. We believe that all queens involved in the organization, and their families, are to be held to a higher standard of morals and ethics, in order to represent the organization in a dignified manner. Delegates must be of upstanding moral character and must not have any type of criminal record or history. Delegates must not have posed for inappropriate photographs, videos or any other media. Any delegate found to have a criminal history or involved in any indecent scandal must immediately forfeit her state title with Miss American Teenager, and she will forfeit all prizes received, including but not limited to the state crown, state sash, any and all scholarship money and prizes, and gifts or travel stipends awarded to them as state royalty and throughout their reign. Such items and reimbursements of any funds should be received at the national office within 10 days of notice of forfeit. If the delegate does not return the required items within 10 days, she agrees to pay a fine of \$250 associated with this violation, and the delegate agrees that Miss American Teenager has permission to process their credit card on file to complete this payment.

Delegates should dress appropriately, use appropriate language and act in a dignified manner at all times. Delegates should have a natural hair color and should cover up any tattoos when appearing in the Miss American Teenager crown and sash. The display of body piercing is not allowed while in the Miss American Teenager crown and sash other than one earring in each ear. Public displays of affection are not acceptable when representing Miss American Teenager.

Delegates should communicate with state and national directors in a timely fashion, out of respect for others' time and schedule. Delegate agrees to comply with all deadlines required by the national office. Failure to comply with national deadlines will cause the delegate to pay a \$25 late fee for any deadline items submitted past the deadline.

Delegates understand that all their personal social media sites are a direct representation of Miss American Teenager and will monitor its contents to ensure that no materials posted violate this agreement. Provocative photos, inappropriate language, offensive slang, public negative comments, content containing alcohol/tobacco/drugs, and behaviors deemed inappropriate, unsportsmanlike or divisive are not acceptable. This pertains to all personal, as well as Miss American Teenager related social networking sites, blogs, websites, public appearances, etc.

Delegates agree that they will not post negative or disparaging comments about Miss American Teenager, our staff, titleholders, directors, sponsors, volunteers, national pageant, state pageant, or any other party or event affiliated with Miss American Teenager on any social forum, website, blog, networking site, chat boards, social media outlets, etc. If a delegate is found to be engaging in this type of behavior, she will be immediately dismissed from Miss American Teenager and may be subject to litigation.

Delegates should utilize social media outlets to promote their title, upload photos of appearances and generate interest for Miss American Teenager in their state. Delegates are NOT allowed to create titleholder social media pages but will instead be given access to a shared page that correlates to their title for promotion during their reign. Said page will remain the property of Miss American Teenager. Delegates can not update contact information, change profile or cover photos but instead can create original content that includes them and their community service activities. Delegate should strive to post at least once per week.

Delegates should attend pageant related events, other pageants, community events, parades, charity functions, and other activities wearing the Miss American Teenager crown and sash in order to promote their title. Delegates should be available to take photos, speak to groups, meet political figures and celebrities, and find ways to promote their title in areas of interest to them. Delegates will be responsible for booking their appearances and arranging their travel. The state and national office may provide opportunities for bookings as available.

Delegates should dress appropriately for every event to project a polished and professional appearance. Clothing should be modest yet fashionable, and the delegate should maintain proper grooming. Crown and sash should be worn to every public event as representative of Miss American Teenager.

Delegates may not use alcohol, drugs, or tobacco, nor be associated with or remain in the presence of others using the substances while they are representing Miss American Teenager. Delegates may not behave recklessly, engage in sexual misconduct, assault, threaten or harm another person nor may they misuse or abuse public or private property. They should speak and act respectfully to adults, including their parents, while representing Miss American Teenager.

### **Queens of Character Pageantry Expectations:**

Miss American Teenager is a bully-free pageant organization and as such, we will not tolerate bullying in any form. Any delegate found to be engaged in any type of bullying of another delegate or someone within the organization, will immediately be disqualified from the national pageant and no refunds will be provided. This includes parents and guardians.

In this zero-tolerance organization, Miss American Teenager does not entertain drama, gossip, negativity and bullying – on or off the stage. These types of behaviors are at complete odds with our positive approach to pageantry and will not be tolerated within our system and will be cause for immediate removal.

If a Delegate exhibits behavior that is deemed inappropriate, commits a crime, is expelled from school, is involved in any type of scandal, is being divisive or causing a disruption, is engaged in bullying, exclusion or drama, is found to have a law enforcement record, or is at odds with any stipulation mentioned in this agreement, her title will be forfeited and all money, prizes, gifts, and crown and sash shall be returned to the national office within ten business days of the decision to remove the state queen from the organization.

Parents and guardians are expected to teach tolerance to their daughter's and do everything in their power to end the behavior and support positive teamwork among their state and national sisters. Parents are to work directly with the state directors to resolve any issues that occur and be advocates of a solution.

As delegates under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a female parent or guardian, if a parent is involved in any of the bullying or negative behavior both the delegate and parent will be removed from Miss American Teenager permanently.

Any offense, regardless of its seriousness, will be handled at the national director's discretion with a warning, probation period or removal of title as outlined in the Miss American Teenagee Rubric attached. If a delegate is removed from the organization, and the required items are not returned within 10 days, the delegate/parent-guardian agrees to pay a fine of \$250, and delegate agrees that Miss American Teenager has the right to process their credit card on file to complete this payment. Delegates will also be subject to fees and contractual agreements at the state level.

I have reviewed the Code of Conduct and Title Agreement and I, as well as my parent or legal guardian, agree to uphold all of its provisions. I hereby release and forever discharge Miss American Teenager, its directors, employees, volunteers and staff from any and all claims and demands arising from damages or liabilities due to theft, accident, loss of injury resulting from participation in the Miss American Teenager program. I further covenant and agree that I will not sue the organization, its directors individually, its employees, volunteers or staff for any claim for damages or liability. I have read and understand all of the above policies and agree to abide by them. I also give permission for photographs, videos, or audio tape to be used for promotional and publicity purposes in print media as well as the Internet. I understand that Miss American Teenager is not responsible for any prizes forfeited by sponsors. I understand that this contract is enforceable in court under state and federal laws.

Delegates representing a state or local pageant system are required to follow the same code of conduct set forth by Miss American Teenager. This means that the organization under contract with Miss

American Teenager is also protected under the rules stated above. All delegates and their parents/guardians further covenant and agree not to sue the organization, its directors individually, its employees, volunteers or staff for any claim for damages or liability. I agree to abide by all of the rules and regulations set forth by Miss American Teenager and its state directors. By signing this agreement either online or below, I am certifying that I have read and agreed to all rules, which are published on the organization's website, handbooks and applications.

By accepting a local, state or regional title at Miss American Teenager, you are agreeing to the terms above regardless of signature below.

Please sign below for our records and acknowledge you have read the Agreement in its entirety and will comply.

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Titleholders Title and signature

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Parent or Legal Guardian signature

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Date of signature

**MISS AMERICAN TEENAGER QUEENS OF CHARACTER RUBRIC**

<b>Behavior</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Final</b>
Teasing/Taunting, Gossip, Exclusion, Causing Dissension	Verbal Warning with plan	Written Warning	Dismissal
Physical Violence, threats of violence or harassment	Immediate Dismissal	X	X
Negative Social Media post, cyberbullying, Sexual Harassment	Immediate Dismissal	X	X
Violence or breaking laws	Immediate Dismissal and contacting the authorities	X	X
This rubric is used for delegates and parent/guardians of Miss American Teenager.			
*Delegates will be disqualified if parents or guardians cause any of the above issues.	*All friends or relatives other than guardians will be removed immediately if they participate in the above behaviors.	*This Rubric is used in conjunction with the Miss American Teenager Conduct Policies	