



AMADOR COUNTY FAIR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

WHAT IS THE AMADOR COUNTY FAIR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION?

The Amador County Fair Scholarship Competition is a prestigious youth scholarship program dedicated to the advancement of youth. It is conducted as a non-profit civic function of the Amador County Fair and the Amador County Fair Foundation for the educational benefit of youth.

WHO IS THE PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVE?

The Amador County Fair Scholarship Competition is represented by a person of merit and who is recognized for outstanding accomplishments and achievements. The title of "Miss Amador" serves as the official hostess of the Amador County Fair and Amador County. This person of distinction serves as a leader for one year as a public relation specialist for the fair industry in our county.

WHEN AND WHERE IS THE COMPETITION HELD?

The competition will be held Thursday, July 30, 2026, 8:00 p.m. at the Amador County Fairgrounds in Plymouth, California. Miss Amador and her Court will represent the Fair and the County of Amador by going out and meeting with organizational groups, service clubs, schools, businesses, etc.

HOW IS THE COMPETITION CONDUCTED?

The contestants are judged in several phases of the competition. First, they are judged on their academics, which is a point system based upon their cumulative grade point average. Second, they are judged in an interview setting, with a panel of judges that are judging their community service and fair experience, as well as their knowledge of the fair industry in an interview setting. These first phases total 45% of their score and are judged prior to the competition by a panel of judges.

On the night of the competition, a *separate panel* of judges will judge the contestants on their communication skills (which includes their poise and composure), and their on-stage presentation (which is a commentary/presentation of a given topic). These phases total 55% of their score and are added to the previous judging scores to determine Miss Amador and her Court.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM?

The purpose of the Amador County Fair Scholarship Competition is to acknowledge youth in our County for their standard of excellence and achievements and to motivate young people to a greater commitment of community service through fair and community programming.

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM MISSION?

The mission of the Amador County Fair Scholarship Competition is to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes, which will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of our community.

WHAT BENEFIT IS THE PROGRAM TO AMADOR COUNTY YOUTH AND THE FAIR INDUSTRY?

The program provides greater County-wide visibility of the California fair industry in its efforts to serve the ten million people who attend fairs. It further provides leadership training to our youth and motivates them to a greater commitment to community service, and the program offered \$8,200.00 in 2025 educational scholarships to further their quest for higher education. This form of monetary assistance provides an investment in our county's greatest resource, its youth.

WHO SPONSORS THE ANNUAL COMPETITION?

This event is sponsored by the Amador County Fair and its Board of Directors and the Amador County Fair Foundation and its Board of Directors, with the help of many generous local people and businesses throughout Amador County.

For further information contact:

Amador County Fair Office at 245-6921

Pageant Coordinators: Amanda Halvorson Carter (209) 559-8438
Tacy Oneto Rouen (209) 418-5767

**MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP
COMPETITION**

ENTRY FORMS

2026

**Miss Amador Competition
July 30, 2026 at 8:00 PM
Amador County Fairgrounds**

**Applications Must be Postmarked by:
May 8, 2026 and mailed to the Fair Office**

MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

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CONTESTANT ORIENTATION will be May 27, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Amador County Fairgrounds. All entrants must attend with parent or guardian (if under 18 years of age). Please call the fair office at 245-6921 if you have any questions or send an email to amanda_halfvorson@yahoo.com or trouen@amadorgov.org.

CONTESTANT PRE-JUDGING (for the first areas of the competition described on Page 1 of this packet) date is To Be Announced.

MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION
SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED IN 2026

Miss Amador	\$3,000.00
First Runner Up	\$1,500.00
Second Runner Up	\$1,250.00
Third Runner Up	\$1,000.00

AREAS OF COMPETITION

Academic Record - 5% **

Score will be based on current course of study and overall grade point average in a point system. The point system is as follows: 3.5 – 4.0+ = 5 points (or 5%), 3.49 – 3.0 = 4 points (4%), 2.99 – 2.5 = 3 points (3%) 2.49 – 2.0 = 2 points (2%) and 1.99 and below = 1 point (1%). Official transcripts from your high school are required. If you are a college student, transcripts from high school and your college are required. **Transcripts must be mailed to the Fair Office *separately* and not copied and attached to the Entry Forms and must be postmarked and mailed to the Fair Office by May 8, 2026.**

Community Service and Fair Experience - 25% **

Community Service will be scored based on an evaluation of the contributions described by entrant and her two references. Community service includes any school or non-school activities that, through the entrant's efforts, improve her school and community. Examples would be: service clubs, student government, athletic participation, leadership, citizenship activities through church, 4-H, FFA, Grange, Scouts, etc. Any other appropriate activities may be included. Verification will be made. Fair Experience will be evaluated using entrant's participation in fair events such as entry in judged categories (baking, sewing, agriculture project, showing an animal); working in a youth organization booth; fair attendance. **All community service activities must be from the 9th grade (or equivalent) through the due date of the application package only.**

Personal and Fair Industry Interview - 15% **

Score will be evaluated on entrant's performance in response to a variety of questions in a formal interview. The entrant's knowledge, perception, mental alertness, awareness, articulation and self-expression are carefully reviewed. This area of competition provides an opportunity for the judges to focus upon the entrant's sense of values, attitudes, future goals and aspirations, and personality. In addition, score will be evaluated on entrant's knowledge of the Fair Industry, with particular emphasis on the Amador County Fair.

Communication Skill - 25% (Self-introduction, poise and composure in answering an impromptu question and poise and confidence in the evening gown presentation.)

Score will be evaluated on entrant's ability to speak before a live audience and the effectiveness of her communication skills. Composure, confidence, and on-stage personality are important facets of this area of competition.

On-Stage Presentation - 30% (Commentary/presentation of given topic)

Score will be evaluated on entrant's articulation, manner of presentation, grammar, confidence, and overall appearance relative to her potential as a representative of Amador County. Consideration is given to the creativity and content of each entrant's address. **See Attachment #1 for further information regarding On-Stage Presentation Guidelines.**

**** - Preliminary Judging Event**

RULES FOR ENTRY

1. Entrant must be a resident of Amador County and be between 16 and 23 years of age as of January 1, 2026, and have never held the title of Miss Amador.
2. Entrant must not have been involved in, ever convicted of, or pleaded guilty to any crimes, including felonies and/or misdemeanors (exclusive of traffic violations) nor have ever used illegal drugs of any kind (now or in the past).
3. Entrant must be single, never have been married, nor had her marriage annulled, nor may entrant be living with a male in lieu of legal marriage at the time of application for competition and during the competition year. In the event that entrant is chosen Miss Amador, and decides to get married during her reign, she automatically relinquishes her title. Entrant must not be, nor ever have been pregnant.
4. Clothing requirements include an interview outfit and a dress suitable for the evening of the competition and crowning.
5. Entrant must secure a sponsor fee of \$150.00 (more than one sponsor totaling \$150.00 is acceptable).
6. **Postmarked by May 8, 2026, and mailed to the Fair Office**, Entrant must provide completed Entry Forms. **Official high school and/or college transcripts must be mailed separately** (not copied and included in the Entry Forms) to the Fair Office by the school and addressed as follows: Miss Amador Scholarship Competition, Amador County Fair, P.O. Box 9, Plymouth, CA, 95669. College students must include high school transcripts in addition to college transcripts. Entry Form Packet must include: the signed rules and entry form, the community service outline, the fair experience outline, your letters of recommendation/reference forms, high school transcripts (see above, should be mailed to the Fair Office from the school), a small (3X5 or 4X6) hard copy photo of contestant (head shot only) and the \$150.00 sponsor fee.
7. **Prompt attendance is required at all events, meetings and rehearsals. A schedule will be provided.**
8. In the event of a tie in the score, the following order will be followed to determine the winner: (1) high score in Community Service/Fair Experience; if still tied, (2) high score in Personal and Fair Industry Interview; if still tied, (3) high score in Scholastic Achievement; if still tied, (4) high score in Communication Skills.
9. Entrant agrees that, if crowned Miss Amador or selected as a member of the Court, she will at all times uphold standards of conduct, which exemplify qualities of good citizenship, fellowship, and sportsmanship, as a representative of Amador County and the Amador County Fair and its Board of Directors.
10. Entrant agrees that, if crowned Miss Amador or selected as a member of the court, she will not attend any functions in the capacity as a representative of the Amador County Fair without prior knowledge of the function by the Scholarship Competition Committee and a chaperon who has been appointed and/or approved by the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition Committee.

11. Entrant agrees that, if crowned Miss Amador or selected as a member of the court she will dress in accordance with the dignity and respect of a representative of Amador County and the Amador County Fair and its Board of Directors.
12. Entrant agrees that, if crowned Miss Amador or selected as a member of the Court, she will attend any functions requested to represent the Amador County Fair, including mandatory availability during the 4-day run of the Fair (July 30th – August 2nd 2026).
13. There *must be a minimum of 5 contestants* entered in the Competition or the Competition will be cancelled. The maximum number of final contestants is 12. Should there be more than 12, all contestants may participate through the preliminary judging. The top 12 scorers in the preliminary judging will advance to the final competition. Any Entrant not advancing to the final competition will have their sponsorship fee refunded.

RULES PERTAINING TO SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

In keeping with the philosophy of the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition to motivate scholastic excellence and to inspire personal achievement, we offer money for scholarship awards in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

14. Entrant agrees to be bound by the rules and regulations of the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition, and the scholarship will be awarded only according to those rules and regulations.
15. Each scholarship winner shall submit to the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition Committee a statement of type of education she wishes to pursue and the name of the institution she plans to attend. This statement must be submitted in writing within sixty (60) days from the date the scholarship is awarded. The Scholarship Committee will consist of the Competition's Coordinators, Amador County Fair Board Executive Committee, and the Amador County Fair Manager. The Committee will determine the acceptability of the institution.
16. Entrant understands that to qualify for the said educational scholarship award, she must be a full or part-time student enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education or training.
17. Miss Amador and other scholarship winners must submit a quarterly report to the Scholarship Committee or the Fair Board, if so requested by the Board of Directors. If it is determined that the scholarship award is not being used in accordance with rules and regulations of the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition, the Scholarship Committee may revoke the remainder of the scholarship award.
18. Scholarship awards are to be used for higher education or training and will not be disbursed in cash.
19. Unless a time extension is granted by the Scholarship Committee, the scholarship funds awarded must be used within a three-year period following graduation from high school. Any canceled or unused portion(s) of scholarship(s) will revert to the Miss Amador Scholarship Fund of the Amador County Fair.
20. Scholarship monies are paid upon receipt of statements from universities, colleges, or training institutions accredited by organizations recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, according to the following provisions:

1. Tuition fees are for academic study or other career training. Tuition fees will not be paid for non-accredited subjects.
 2. Scholarship awards may be used for required class textbook expenses and supplies, upon receipt of statements from universities, colleges, or other institutions of higher education or training.
 3. Scholarship monies may be used for housing expenses if recipient is a full-time student in an approved institution and is living on campus.
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21. Scholarships are contingent on recipient's active and consistent participation in all related activities of the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition. It is to be clearly understood by recipients that disbursement of any scholarship will depend solely upon the active participation of each recipient as an official entrant in the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition.
 22. If recipient's conduct is in any way damaging to the name of Miss Amador, the Amador County Fair or its affiliates, scholarship awards shall become null and void and will automatically be canceled without further notice.
 23. Scholarship monies and awards will not be disbursed or issued if recipient has not completed and signed all the necessary forms and documents pertaining to her participation in the events conducted by the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition.
 24. No oral or written statement with respect to entrant's rights, privileges, and responsibilities, and those of the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition shall be binding, except as set forth in this writing.
 25. The Miss Amador Scholarship Committee will not be responsible for any expenditure for any purposes beyond the stipulated amount of the scholarship.
 26. In the event that a recipient does not wish to avail herself of the educational advantages of any scholarship, which she may win, it is understood that there will be no demands for fulfilling said scholarship.
 27. If the recipient winning the title of "Miss Amador" marries or becomes pregnant during the year of her reign, the Amador County Fair and its Board of Directors may, at their will, withdraw her title and rescind the scholarship.

**Signature Form on the following page.
The signature form must be returned with application.**

RULES ACKNOWLEDGMENT & AUTHORIZATION

The undersigned Entrant and parent/guardian authorizes the Amador County Fair Board of Directors, the Amador County Fair Foundation, the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition Committee and their representatives to obtain information reasonably required to verify information provided by Entrant and authorize any party contacted by the Amador County Fair, Miss Amador Scholarship Competition Committee and their representatives to disclose information concerning Entrant upon request, including information that would otherwise be confidential. Copies of this Authorization, including those made by facsimile technology, may be used as originals for all purposes.

Entrant acknowledges that any material misrepresentations or inaccuracies in the information provided by Entrant may lead to Entrant's disqualification.

By my signature below, I hereby agree to abide by all rules and conditions of the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition as set forth above.

Signature of Contestant

Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian
(If applicant is under the age of 18 years as of
May 8, 2026)

Date

Please turn this page in with the application.

MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Must be typewritten*

Entries Close: Postmarked by May 8, 2026

CONTESTANT'S NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____ City _____ ZIP _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ City _____ ZIP _____

PARENTS:

Father _____
[Name, address and phone number]

Mother _____
[Name, address and phone number]

Present Age: _____ Birth date: _____ Birthplace: _____

Resident of Amador County Since _____ Resident of California Since _____

School: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

HONORS OR AWARDS IN SCHOOL OR ELSEWHERE: (List everything. Use additional sheets of paper if necessary. Include any prizes, trophies, scholarships, honorary clubs, sororities, etc.)

FUTURE CAREER: Describe what you want to do and why. (Use additional sheets of paper if necessary.)

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS: List what you like. (Use additional sheets if necessary.)

What **STAGE TALENT** would you be able to perform if you went on to another competition? (Explain and use additional sheets if necessary.)

*****PLEASE ATTACH A CURRENT PHOTO, 3 X 5 or 4 X 6 SIZE (LABELED ON BACK)
FOR USE IN PRESS RELEASES AND IN THE COMPETITION PROGRAM.
HARD COPIES OF THE PHOTO WILL NOT BE RETURNED*****

*Online Form is available in a "fill-in" format. Please visit the website, www.amadorcountyfair.com, and click on the "Fair & Entry" tab and then scroll to the "Miss Amador Scholarship Competition" to access the Competition Packet. **PLEASE TYPE YOUR APPLICATION**

MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

COMMUNITY SERVICE OUTLINE

Must be typewritten

(Activities from 9th grade, or equivalent, through 5/08/26 only)

Deadline: Postmarked by May 8, 2026 (No exceptions)

MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

FAIR EXPERIENCE OUTLINE

(Must be typewritten)

Deadline: Postmarked by May 8, 2026 (No exceptions)

MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

OFFICIAL REFERENCE FORM

By May 8, 2026 - form must be completed, postmarked, and submitted to the:

**Amador County Fair
Attention: Miss Amador Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 9
Plymouth, CA 95669**

_____ is a contestant in the Miss Amador Scholarship Competition. Twenty percent (25%) of her score will be based on community service and contributions as well as Fair Experience. Please describe your knowledge of the entrant and her activities in this regard.

.....You may include a signed letter rather than this form if desired.....

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

SPONSORSHIP

The Scholarship Competition provides educational assistance for young people in Amador County.

Your sponsorship will be acknowledged in all local advertising and by the contestant you have generously agreed to sponsor the night of the competition.

Miss Amador Contestant - \$150.00 Sponsor Fee

Your sponsorship dollars help create a unique and life-enhancing experience for each contestant.

Please make checks payable to Amador County Fair

SPONSOR'S NAME _____
Please Print

ADDRESS _____

CITY/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

CONTESTANT'S NAME _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!!

MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

CHECKLIST

What you will need to complete the Entry Forms:

1. Read Entry Rules-Contestant's signature and parent/guardian's signature _____
2. Complete Entry Form _____
3. Type your Community Service and Fair Experience outlines _____
4. References/letters of recommendation _____
5. School transcripts mailed to the Fair office (see Page 1, Areas of Competition, Academic Record, and Page 2, Rules for Entry, #6) _____
6. Sponsorship(s) (one or more totaling \$150.00) _____
7. Entry Forms must be Postmarked by May 8, 2026 _____

CONTESTANT PRE-JUDGING (FOR THE FIRST 3 AREAS OF COMPETITION DESCRIBED ON PAGE 1 OF THIS PACKET) DATE IS TO BE ANNOUNCED.

PLEASE CALL THE FAIR OFFICE AT 245-6921 OR EMAIL TO AMANDA_HALVORSON@YAHOO.COM OR TROUEN@AMADORCOUNTY.GOV IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

Check out the website - www.AmadorCountyFair.com and Miss Amador Scholarship Competition Facebook Page!

MISS AMADOR SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

ON-STAGE PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

“More Cowbell!”

July 30th through August 2nd 2026

Your On-Stage Presentation should reflect the Fair theme and what that may mean to you. Reflect upon the Fair poster for your inspiration or guidance.

On-Stage Presentations *should be between 3 and 3½ minutes (maximum of 4 minutes)*, cannot include another person on the stage besides the contestant, and may include props of any kind (keeping in mind the size of the stage) to make your presentation topic understood to the audience and the judges. Singing, dancing, playing instruments, displays, props, all of these are acceptable!

More discussion about this portion of the competition will be addressed at the Contestant Orientation meeting.

2026 DATES TO REMEMBER**Fair Dates July 30th - August 2nd 2026**

- May 8 Date Contestant Application Packets must be Postmarked and Mailed
- May 27 6:00 p.m. - Orientation – Mandatory for contestant and parent (if under 18 years of age) Main Office, Fairgrounds – **Photos taken for publication purposes (wear a solid color shirt, no prints and not white). No crop-tops please.**
- June 7 9:30 a.m. - Italian Picnic Parade, Sutter Creek
- TBA – Possibly June 7th after the Italian Picnic Parade -- **Get Together!** – Interview Skills Clinic; Review On-Stage Presentations; Review Formal Dresses/Shoes; Eating; Co-Mingling and getting to know each other – more info at Orientation meeting
- TBA – 6:00 p.m. - Pre-Judging – (starting at 6:00 p.m., come 10 minutes prior to your assigned time which will be decided at Orientation) - Fairgrounds Office
- July 18 5:30 p.m. – Amador County Fair Foundation Dinner Kick-Off BBQ – Picnic Hill, Fairgrounds
- July 30 8:30 a.m. – Fair Opening Day Parade – downtown Plymouth (in front of City Hall)

Rehearsal Schedule (All rehearsals are mandatory and are set for 5:30 p.m. They are held on the Bandstand at the Fairgrounds, unless otherwise notified). Most rehearsals will last until 8:00 p.m.

- July 20, 21, 22 & 23 5:30 p.m. @ Fairgrounds
- July 27 & 28 5:30 @ Fairgrounds – Full Dress Rehearsal
- July 29 8:00 p.m. @ Fairgrounds – Full Dress Rehearsal w/sound and lighting
- July 27, 28 and 29 will be full dress rehearsals – bring all clothing and props

Dance Rehearsals Dance number will be taught for opening on Competition Night

Time and place to be determined, could be in conjunction with evening rehearsals or at a studio, and will last for approximately 1 hour each.