 Local Competition Guidelines and Phases of Competition 2025

**Age and City requirement:** Miss age: 18-28 Teen age: 14-18

Teen Contestant will be between 14-17 as of Feb 15, 2026. Miss Contestant will be between 18-27 as of June 15, 2026. Ask directors about 17-18 gap age.

Both Miss and Teen contestants should be residents of Orem City (Consult directors with questions)

Local Competition Scoring

 Private Interview 30%

 Talent/HERStory 20%

 Health & Fitness 20%

 Evening Gown 20%

 Onstage Conversation 10%

**Private Interview (30%)**

*Wardrobe:* Contestant’s choice- Age appropriate, fashionable, interview attire

*Timing:* 30 second opening statement- 9 minute Q&A, 30 second wrap-up or closing statement

*Purpose:* *The Private interview allows insight into the contestant’s*

* Ability to fulfill the qualifications, responsibilities, duties, and term of the titleholder
* Personal qualities and attributes relevant to the titleholder position
* Commitment to her Community Service Initiative (CSI)
* Ability to express her own beliefs in an authentic relatable manner
* Sense of accomplishment/goals above and beyond the fact sheet
* Spontaneity, intelligence, sense of humor, charm, and charisma
* Authenticity and ability to answer questions in a conversational unrehearsed manner
* Ability to serve as a role model and if she is reflective of her generation

**On Stage Conversation (10%)**

*Wardrobe:* Contestant to be in Opening Number apparel

*Procedure:*

* A single question will be asked onstage regarding the contestant’s Community Service Initiative. The contestant will have up to 30 seconds to respond to the inquiry.

*Purpose: The Onstage Conversation phase allows insight into the contestant’s:*

* Commitment to the Service point of the crown
* Unique perspective on community service and its local impact
* Desire to create interest in her Community Service Initiative
* Brings the interview to the stage in an interactive, engaging way to showcase each contestant
* Highlights intelligence, personality, charisma, and aptitude for the titleholder’s opportunity
* Allows a look at the sense of composure in presenting ideas onstage
* Allows a look at interactivity with the Panelists and the audience

**Health & Fitness: (20%)**

*Wardrobe:* Rebel wear

[**https://rebelathletic.com/collections/curated-styles-for-miss-america-organization**](https://rebelathletic.com/collections/curated-styles-for-miss-america-organization)

**7% discount code: MAOUTGB**

*Procedure:*

Each contestant will learn a pre-blocked walking/modeling pattern that will not exceed 20-30 seconds per contestant.

*Purpose:*

This phase of competition is where the contestant showcases her commitment to health and fitness initiatives. At the local organization’s discretion, this phase may include a voiceover or statement read by the emcee on the Contestant’s experience with self-care and health goals, and related initiatives, or a health/fitness statement. A contestant’s discipline and commitment to being physically healthy is a key to success in all other areas of life, and the rigors of representing the Miss America program as a titleholder

*The Health and Fitness phase allows insight into the contestant’s:*

* Comfort and confidence level onstage
* Overall impression of health and fitness commitment
* Onstage presentation and energy, confidence, and comfort in front of an audience
* Spontaneity and lack of “robotic” stage presentation
* Ability to serve as a national health and fitness ambassador

**Performance Takent/HERStory (20%)**

*Wardrobe:* Contestant’s choice- Performing arts talents or HERStory presentation

*Timing:* Up to 90 seconds

Performance Talent: Talent must be approved by local directors

*Purpose:*

To underscore the Miss America and Miss America’s Teen commitment to supporting performing arts education initiatives and women’s individual efforts in dance, music, opera/vocal, drama, magic, oratory, and circus arts.

*The Performance Talent phase allows insights into the contestant’s:*

* Preparatory, performance, or storytelling skills
* Overall presentation skills and ability to deliver a captivating presentation
* Interpretive ability and entertainment value relative to the category of performance art.
* State presence, onstage personality, and personal connection to her story
* Ability to capture the attention of an audience while preforming onstage
* Allows a look at the totality of the performance elements of onstage presentation.

**Evening Gown (20%)**

*Wardrobe:* Contestant’s choice- Evening wear

*Purpose:*

The contestant will publicly present her sense of Style wearing an evening gown in a fashion suitable for an appearance as a local Teen/Miss. Part of a titleholder’s role is to attend galas, fundraisers, awards shows, and other formal events. This often involves walking a red carpet, posing for press photographers, modeling in fashion shows, or participating in publicly visible events.

*The Evening Gown phase allows insight into the contestant’s:*

* Ability to capture attention onstage, and individual stage presence
* Comfort, confidence, and composure
* Overall impression of ability to represent the Miss Orem or Miss Orem’s Teen at a high profile event

**Scoring is based on how the contestant carries herself/performs in this phase of competition, not on the actual gown she is wearing or the perceived cost of that gown**

**Panelists**: There are 5-7 panelists who follow the guidelines from the Miss America Organization (MAO). They score the contestants from 1-10 in each area of competition with 10 being the highest. The scores are averaged together with the high and low score being dropped in each area. At least one panelist must be a novice to the program, meaning they have never served as a Judge/Panelist in a MAO local, state, or national competition. Paperwork: The Panelists will be given a copy of the Contestant’s Fact Sheet, a Headshot (taken at workshop), and Community Service Initiative (CSI) Statement for discussion in the Private Interview phase. Instructions for the paperwork are available on the MissOrem.com website **.** Instructions also included with this packet.

**Community Service Initiative:** Each girl is asked to choose a service platform issue which she will promote during her year of service. This issue/platform should be something the contestant has an interest in and something she can present to the community through the schools and other organizations.

**$25 Local Commitment Fee**: The $25 fee will pay for the opening number outfit and other gear for the contestants. This may be paid by cash, check, or Venmo during the first two weeks of workshops.

**Registration:** Each Candidate will register with Miss America for the Utah local competition with a $35 registration fee. See below for links and instructions.

**Scholarship/Responsibility:** The Miss Orem Royalty is a Queen and 3 Attendants. The Miss Orem’s Teen Royalty is a Queen and 2 Attendants. The royalties will be awarded scholarships after their year of service. Other scholarships are awarded on competition night for Community Service, Spirit of Miss Orem & Teen, Hannah Harkness Madsen Talent Award, Service Hours, Ticket sales, People’s Choice and Director’s Award. These young ladies in the royalties work as a team during the year as Orem City Ambassadors. They participate in parades, ribbon cuttings, SERVE, promote Community Service Initiatives, participate in city events, SERVE , etc. Refer to the Code of Conduct available on the Miss Orem website (missorem.com) for specific/required responsibilities.

Current scholarship amounts:

Miss Orem $4,000. All three attendants: $1500 each. Community Service Award $500. Hannah Harkness Madsen Talent Award $500. Other misc awards totaling $300

Orem’s Teen: $1,500. Two attendants $700 each. Other misc awards totaling $300

Ad sales and People’s Choice funds raised by the contestants go directly to scholarship awards. The past 2 years these additional scholarship funds averaged $5,000 per year.

**Service Hours:** The four points of the Miss America Crown include:  *SERVICE*, STYLE, SCHOLARSHIP, AND SUCCESS. In keeping with this we ask that each Miss Orem Candidate perform at least *30 hours* of service in conjunction with the local competition. The Miss Orem’s Teen contestants are asked to perform at least *20 hours* of service. This should most likely be related to the chosen Community Service Initiative of each young lady. *Hours are counted from this date to competition date.*

**Workshops:** Workshops will be held every Thursday night 7:00-9:00 at the Orem Senior Friendship Center 93 400 E in Orem. Notice will be given of possible location changes on the 2025 GroupMe Account and a group text thread. Workshops are required—you may miss 2 if cleared with directors ahead of time. We cover interview/public speaking skills, carriage, personal style, current events, talent consultation, opening number and paperwork help.

**Ad Sales:** We offer the opportunity to sell ads for the program book. This is NOT required however it does give the panelists a good idea who knows how to network and advocate for themselves. These ads could also include good luck or support wishes from grandparents, aunts, uncles, parent, or friends. The girl who sells the most ads will receive a cash award competition night and will be the first to choose her candidate number on Lottery night. Money from Ad sales goes directly towards scholarship funds.

$200 Full Page 7 ½ X 9 5/16 $100 half page horizontal 7 ½ X 4 ½

$50 quarter page 3 5/8 X 4 ½

**People’s Choice:** We sponsor a People's Choice contest beginning a few weeks before competition night. Funds raised go to the winner and towards scholarships.

**Opening Number:** Girls will perform an Opening Production Number which involves some dancing. This will be learned during the Workshops. This is not judged.

**Photographs:** The Miss Orem Organization will provide a headshot for each of the ladies participating to be used in the program book and for the panelists. A complimentary 8X10 will be available after the evening of competition.

**Sponsorship:** We rely on sponsors for many of our scholarships and activities. If you have a business or know of a business who would like to contribute services or funds, please let us know!

Summary of REQUIRED PAPERWORK/Tasks

* Local Code of Conduct
* Local Application
* Contestant contract including verification of eligibility
* Interview Fact Sheet (for Panelists- instructions below or MissOrem.com)
* Choose Community Service Initiative and write CSI Essay (for Panelists- instructions below or at MissOrem,com))
* MAO Registration ($35 fee) first year only <https://www.club.missamerica.org/join-page>
* If you are a repeat contestant, use this link to register for MAO
* <https://www.club.missamerica.org/bypass-page>
* As part of our campaign to raise funds for Go Red for Women (American Heart Association), MASF (Miss America Scholarship Foundation), and our local State Scholarship funds, local contestants must raise a minimum of $30 per local competition they enter/participate. Link below-
* <https://storage.googleapis.com/msgsndr/2kD74R4iVusddhxXy8hi/media/6657a6b5810356da77c8a30e.pdf>
* Prepare 90 second talent
* Local $50 Commitment Fee

Thank you for your interest in the Miss Orem Scholarship Organization. If you have further questions, please contact

**Donna Millard- Miss Orem Director** Missoremdirector@gmail.com 801.380.5291

**Danielle Meeves & Cortlyn Tanner- Teen Director** missoremteendirector@gmail.com 801.541.3215. or 801.368.7635

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 **Miss Orem & Teen**

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