



PAGEANT CONTESTANT INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

State Pageant Director:
Elvia Harris, 2967 Curie St., San Diego, CA 92122
email: contact@mssrcalifornia.net
Cell: (619) 261-4451

We invite women who have reached the "Age of Elegance" – 60 years or more – to share the "Elegance Experience" and accept the recognition waiting for them in their Community, State and Nationally. Participation is open to California residents, regardless of one's residence in the city or county in which the state pageant is held.

Pageant Profile

1. Contestants must be a citizen of the United States of America.
2. At the Ms. Senior California State Pageant, one woman will be selected to represent California at the Ms. Senior America Pageant held in Atlantic City, New Jersey in October of the same pageant year.
3. The woman crowned "Ms. Senior California" at the State Pageant may have the opportunity to make television, publicity, and promotional appearances; participate in radio and media interviews, and appear at other high-visibility events as she represents the State of California during her reign.
4. The newly crowned Ms. Senior California will receive: Ms. Senior California crown, plaque and sash, and expenses-paid participation in the Ms. Senior America Pageant in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

*Meet other California Senior Women and
Share the "Age of Elegance" Experience*



PROCEDURES FOR JUDGING

Interview (30% of score)

Judges meet with each contestant individually. Each judge rates the contestant based on personality, charm, conversational skills and her ability to meet the ideals of Ms. Senior America.

Evening Gown (20% of score)

Contestants are judged on stage presence and the ability to project poise, grace, and quiet confidence in this category.

Philosophy of Life (20% of score)

This segment of the Pageant seeks the woman with inner beauty and wisdom – proving that true beauty is a matter of “insight” as well as “eyesight.”

Talent (30% of score)

This is an integral part of the Pageant as it demonstrates that talent does not diminish with age. We encourage talent in the Arts, Dance, Vocal, Drama and other creative endeavors.

Penalties will be assessed in the Ms. Senior California Preliminary Pageants and the Ms. Senior California State Pageant for any contestant who exceeds the specified time limit for the Philosophy of Life and Talent portions of the Pageants. (The time limits are: 35 seconds for the Philosophy of Life and 2 minutes 45 seconds for the Talent portion. Exceeding the time limit will affect your score and could preclude you from being one of the top two finalists.)

Preparation for the Interview (30%)

The Interview will last 5 minutes total. Each judge will ask you one question. Be succinct in your response and mindful of the 5-minute total time allotment. Following are sample questions similar to those you may be asked in the interview. You'll not be asked either one of these questions – they are samples only.

- If you had a magic wand, what would you use it for to change the world?
- If I were to write a book about you, what would the title be and why?

Preparation of Philosophy of Life Statement (20%)

Your Philosophy of Life statement should be developed from a deep introspective of your life – please do not make it a biography. Allow this to be a review of the truth and principles developed over a lifetime of living, loving, caring and sharing. It should represent the ideals that have shaped you as a person and helped you accept and improve your life and the lives of those around you. This summarized statement cannot take longer than 35 seconds to deliver, or points will be deducted. Please rehearse your Philosophy of Life (by



speaking it out loud) and ask someone to time your presentation for compliance to time limit. Please allow for possible audience laughter and applause when timing your statement. Your Philosophy of Life should encourage, inspire and provide insight to an audience. If you are one of the two (2) finalists in any Preliminary Pageant, your Philosophy of Life will be the platform you communicate to any and all media and commercial sponsors. Therefore, you must be ready to put your Philosophy of Life into action. The presentation of the Philosophy of Life will be given orally during the Evening Gown segment of the Pageant.

Preparation for Modeling of an Evening Gown (20%)

Most importantly, choose an evening gown you feel is most becoming to you! It is not about “how this gown looks on a movie star”, but about how you feel when you are wearing it! The judges should see you as a confident woman of elegance who reflects an inner beauty and grace that comes with life experiences representative of The Age of Elegance.

Talent Performance (30%)

Talent comes in many different forms; creative dance, instrumentalist of any genre, vocalist of any genre, stand-up comedian, monologue, tap dance, etc. Choose the talent that will showcase you as an individual performer. You may choose to use “props;” however, these props must be relevant to the talent you are sharing. Please be advised that there can be no other vocals on your CD; your own vocals, vocals of someone else, humming, etc. Dancers may not have taps on their CD track. A penalty will be assessed if you have vocals or taps on your CD. Additionally, no lip synching is allowed. Points will be deducted if your talent performance time exceeds 2 minutes 45 seconds.



2026 State Pageant Date / Venue

- **Ms. Senior California State Pageant**
Norman Murray Community Center: 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, Ca.92692
- Saturday, February 21, 2026 - 1:00 P.M
- **Ms. Senior America National Pageant**
Tropicana Casino And Resort - Atlantic City, NJ
- October 11 - 15, 2026



CONTESTANT APPLICATION

*Mail complete
packet
immediately to
ensure your entry*

NOTE: The following 7 pages (pages 5-11) are to be printed, completed and then mailed to:

**Elvia Harris, Preliminary and State Pageant Director
2967 Curie St., San Diego, CA 92122**

When completing the following sections, please note that NO ATTACHMENTS are allowed. All information must be included on the contestant application.

This is NOT a fill-form that you can complete on a computer.

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: () Work Phone: () Mobile Phone: () Fax: ()

Email: _____

Marital Status (circle one): Married Single

Husband's Name: _____

Number of Children: _____

Number of Grandchildren: _____

Number of Great Grandchildren: _____

Club Memberships: _____

Volunteer Work/Special Interests: _____



Educational Background: (Formal/Informal) _____

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TALENT PRESENTATION

NOTES:

*Changes to Talent less than 7 days before the Pageant cannot be accepted.
Performances MUST NOT exceed 2 minutes and 45 seconds.)*

Description of Talent Presentation: (Will you dance, sing, deliver monologue, etc.?)

Talent Background: _____

CD: (circle one) Yes No

NOTE: If "Yes", the CD must be of good quality and have only music necessary for your performance on the CD. Please bring a backup CD for audio technician. There can be NO vocal tracks (your own voice or others) on your CD. For dancers, there can be no taps on your CD.

Music: Provide title of song and, if applicable, composer and/or title of the Broadway show, opera, etc., from which the music originated. If using a live accompanist, they must be either right stage or left stage, but not center stage.

Microphone Preference: (circle one) Hand-held Standing microphone

Props: Contestants are welcome to include props in their talent segment. However, all stage props must be relevant to the talent you are performing. All contestants are to provide their own props.

Displays: Please let us know if you need tables for display of artwork, chairs to be used during talent, etc.

Additional Requirements/Requests (Note: for insurance reasons, nothing can be thrown from the stage):



Release of Personal Information

Contestant: Please print or write clearly.

I, _____, a contestant in the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Pageant; do hereby authorize Ms. Senior California of America, Inc., Senior America, Inc., Ms. Senior California Director, and California Preliminary Pageant Directors, to disclose any information furnished by me on the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Pageant(s) and Senior America, Inc., events/programs, including photos taken by Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. and Senior America Inc., pageant photographers, video footage, for publicity purposes before, during and after the Pageant(s). I understand this application will be reviewed by judges of the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. State Pageant.

Your signature: _____

Signed this _____ day of _____, ____ (date) (month) (year)

Agreed: _____



Binding Release

Contestant: Please print or write clearly.

TO: MS. SENIOR CALIFORNIA OF AMERICA, INC. and their directors, officers, volunteers, administrators, and successors.

1. **RELEASE:** I, _____, a contestant in the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Pageant, release and hold harmless the afore-mentioned organization and individuals for any claims which I may have against the organization or the individuals listed above. This release applies to claims, including those of which I am unaware and those not mentioned in this release. This release applies to any and all claims resulting from my participation in any Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Preliminary Pageant(s) and the State Pageant, whether as a contestant or volunteer. I specifically release all claims, debts, obligations, and rights or damages that I may sustain in connection with that participation. I further understand that all portions of the California Preliminary Pageants will be videotaped.
2. **COMPENSATION:** I further agree that I have not received any compensation from an individual or organization as a result of my participation in the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Pageant, aside from monies which may have been received in the form of sponsorships from individuals or organizations. I have been compensated by way of participating in the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Pageant Programs. I agree not to seek anything further or payment for my participation.
3. **FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES:** I understand that in the course of my participation in any of the California Preliminary Pageants and/or the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Pageant, I will be responsible to incur certain costs to include but not be limited to:
 - Pageant entry fee (or "fees") should I choose to participate in more than one or more California Preliminary Pageants each year,
 - Expenses to purchase gowns, jewelry, makeup and any other items I choose to procure for my participation in one or more Pageants,
 - Transportation to and from all Pageants (Preliminary and State),
 - Hotel costs (if required),
 - Meal costs (unless expressly stated as "covered by the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Pageant" or "covered by any of the Preliminary Pageants"),
 - Additional financial costs may be incurred and will be my responsibility, unless stated otherwise by the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Board of Directors.
4. **PUBLICITY:** All publicity or the release of information to promote the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Preliminary Pageants and/or California State Pageant shall be approved by the State Pageant Director and/or Board of Directors. This will include but not be limited to: press releases, fliers, photos, business cards, written communications, emails, and all internet-based communication.



There shall be no modification of this Agreement except in writing, signed by both parties.

5. **BOUND:** I understand that I am bound by this Release. This includes my heirs and/or the executor of my estate. I agree to the terms of this Release and Financial Disclosure.

CONTESTANT NAME: (printed) _____

DATE: _____

CONTESTANT SIGNATURE: _____

WITNESSED BY:(printed) _____ WITNESS _____

SIGNATURE: _____



CONTESTANT FEE

I

I understand the fee for participation in the State Pageant is as follows:

- \$350 If paid anytime, but not less than 3 weeks before the State pageant rehearsal
- \$400 If paid two weeks before the Preliminary Pageant rehearsal date
- \$500 If paid within seven (7) days of the Preliminary Pageant rehearsal date

CONTESTANT SPONSOR

Contestants are welcome to seek a sponsor if they wish, but this is not mandatory. The Sponsor, should they desire, could agree to pay your entry fee and/or make a general donation to the Ms. Senior California of America Pageant Program.

Sponsor Business Name/Organization Name & Address: _____

I have enclosed my sponsor's business card: (circle one) YES NO Will Send Later

Sponsor's Authorized Signature: _____

(Sponsor name - printed) Date of Signature _____



CONTESTANT Application CHECK LIST



Please send pages 5-11 to:
Elvia Harris, Pageant Administrator/Director
2967 Curie St.
San Diego, CA 92122

- ☐ The completed & signed seven (7) page Application
- ☐ The signed Release of Liability and Financial Disclosure form
- ☐ One (1) 5 x 7 photo of yourself (color)
- ☐ Proof of age (copy of driver's license OR passport OR birth certificate)
- ☐ Non-refundable entry fee; Check payable to Ms. Senior California of America, Inc.