

2026 Miss US Italia National Pageant Contestant Information Guide

July 26, 2026 | Providence Marriott Downtown, Providence, RI

Step Into an Unforgettable Experience

The **Miss US Italia Pageant** invites girls and women ages **6 through adult regardless of marital status** to step into an incredible journey and exciting experience filled with fun, culture, community and connection—while celebrating the pride and beauty of being Italian American in the United States. **This is your moment to shine, grow, and represent your heritage with heart.**

Celebrate Your Heritage. Share Your Story.

Miss US Italia is more than a pageant—it's a celebration of **Italian American pride, tradition, and community** where contestants can:

- Showcase their love for their Italian heritage
- Build confidence and stage presence as well as develop communication and interview skills
- Create lasting friendships and unforgettable memories

This is more than a pageant—it's an experience designed to build confidence, create connections, and celebrate who you are. From the youngest contestants to adult women, every participant is part of an uplifting, supportive, fun, and empowering experience.

A Different Kind of Pageant

Miss US Italia focuses on **authenticity, confidence, and cultural pride.**

- No swimsuit competition
- No talent competition

We celebrate who you are, your personality, your story, and your connection to your heritage. Titleholders represent the Italian American community through cultural events, parades, and meaningful appearances throughout their year.

Open to All Experience Levels

Whether it's your first pageant or you've been on stage before—**you are welcome here.** There are no requirements for height, weight, education, or background. Contestants are evaluated on their presence, personality, confidence, and overall presentation. Contestants should be proud of their Italian roots and excited to share their family heritage.

Eligibility

The Miss US Italia Pageant welcomes participants who:

- Are female by birth, ages 6 through adult regardless of marital status
 - Reside anywhere in the United States
 - Have at least **25% Italian lineage** (parent or grandparent)
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Your Journey Starts Here

This is your chance to step on stage, celebrate who you are, and be part of something truly special. Whether you're 6, stepping into adulthood or enjoying life after 50, the Miss US Italia experience is designed to inspire confidence, create lifelong memories, and honor the pride of being **Italian American**.

Competition Segments & What to Expect

The Miss US Italia experience is designed to be **fun, simple, and stress-free**. We'll guide you every step of the way so you feel confident, prepared, and excited. Judging focuses on **confidence, personality, presentation, and authenticity**—just be yourself and enjoy the experience.

Attire Made Easy

Choose outfits that make you feel confident and reflect your personal style. Keep it age-appropriate, comfortable, and elegant. When you feel good, it shows. This is not about being the most revealing on stage—it's about sophistication, confidence, and class, as titleholders represent the organization and Italian American women across the country.

Formal Wear:

- Ages 6–14: short or long dress
 - Ages 15+: long gown recommended
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Interview

The interview is a **relaxed, friendly conversation**—not something to stress about. Questions are based on your application, so there are no surprises. This is simply your chance to let your personality shine. Judges may ask about:

- Your Italian heritage and family traditions
 - Your interests, goals, and activities
 - What being Italian American means to you
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Photogenic Awards

Two Photogenic Awards will be presented:

- **Judges' Choice**
 - **Viewer's Choice (online voting prior to the event)**
Details for voting portion will be shared in advance.
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Community Service Recognition

The **Isabella Corcelli Community Service Award** is presented annually to a titleholder who exemplifies dedication to giving back, volunteerism, and creating a positive impact in her community—honoring the spirit of compassion and leadership throughout her year-long reign.

Photo Requirements

Getting started is easy:

- **Application Photo:** A simple selfie or casual photo is perfectly fine—professional photos are not required.
 - **Program Book Photo:** A clear, front-facing head-and-shoulders photo (professional or non-professional)
 - Color, clear high-resolution photos
 - Light background preferred with no distracting objects in the background
 - Only the contestant in the photo
 - File format: JPEG or PNG
 - Program book photo will be used for online photogenic competition
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Age Divisions

Contestants compete in the division corresponding to their age at the time of the pageant. If a contestant is near an age division cutoff, the Pageant Director may review placement on a case-by-case basis.

- Ages 6–9
- Ages 10–14
- Ages 15–18
- Ages 19–26
- Ages 27–39
- Ages 40+

Spots are limited in each division, so we encourage early registration. The Miss US Italia Pageant reserves the right to adjust divisions slightly to create balanced age groups and the best possible experience for everyone.

Our Promise to You

From start to finish, this experience is designed to be **supportive, organized, and enjoyable**. You'll receive all the guidance you need—so you can focus on having fun, and celebrating your Italian American pride.

Additional Experiences & Opportunities

Your Miss US Italia journey goes beyond the stage. From special features to optional weekend experiences, everything is designed to make this **fun, memorable, and easy to navigate**—with plenty of opportunities to enhance your experience.

Program Book Spotlight Pages

Each contestant will be featured in the official program book with their photo and name.

Optional Spotlight Pages are available for purchase by contestants, families, or businesses to showcase:

- “Good Luck” messages
- Business promotions
- Additional photos

Participation is completely optional. Multiple pages are allowed. Order forms will be forwarded to contestants. *(Please note: crowns and banners from other pageant organizations are not permitted.)*

Professional Photos & Video

Professional photographers and videographers will be on site throughout the event. Photos and video—capturing onstage moments, practice, and candid interactions—will be available for purchase so you can relive your pageant experience for years to come. Have fun with it—we're here to help you create lasting memories.

Group photos will be captured by our official photographer prior to the start of the show. To keep everything running smoothly, contestants are required to be in the lineup area at least 30 minutes before showtime.

Optional Prep Class

For those who would like an extra confidence boost, an optional prep session will be offered to contestants. The class focuses on stage presence, walking, and interview confidence. While we encourage everyone to simply be themselves, some contestants feel more comfortable with a little guidance in advance. Sessions will be held prior to the event and on pageant day, based on interest. Additional details will be provided, and you can decide whether or not you'd like to secure your spot.

Enjoy your Time in Providence, Rhode Island

While the pageant takes place in one day, we encourage you to make the most of your time in Providence. Arrive early or stay for the weekend to enjoy the city with family and friends.

From local attractions to incredible dining, there's so much to explore and experience throughout the area. We'll provide a curated list of recommendations, along with helpful contacts for select attractions and venues—so you can easily plan your time and enjoy everything Rhode Island has to offer.

Titleholder Experience

We understand that school, work, and family are top priorities. As a Miss US Italia Titleholder, you'll have the flexibility to balance your responsibilities while representing the organization throughout your reign.

You'll receive a curated list of appearance opportunities, including community events, parades, charitable initiatives, and speaking engagements, allowing you to choose what aligns best with your schedule. All appearances are coordinated with the organization, with titleholders managing their local commitments.

Registration Fee

A one-time **\$195 registration fee** is required for all Miss US Italia Pageant contestants and may be paid by the contestant, family, or a supporting business sponsor.

This fee helps support the full pageant experience, including production, venue, event operations, contestant gifts, and official titleholder awards. Payment may be completed through the official website, or you may request a sponsor form if you plan to secure a sponsor.

Event Tickets

Supporters, sponsors, parents, family, and friends are all invited to join us for the National Miss US Italia Pageant held on July 26, 2026, at the Providence Downtown Marriott in Providence, Rhode Island.

Tickets will be available online beginning June 1, 2026, at www.missusitaliapageant.com.

- Contestants do not need to purchase a ticket.
- Children under 10: Complimentary admission
- VIP and General Admission seating is limited, so early purchase is encouraged

You'll be notified the moment tickets go live however, let your family and friends know to mark their calendars as tickets go on sale June 1, 2026, and they **will sell out fast**. Once tickets are gone, they're gone. No exceptions. No waitlist. This is strictly enforced due to fire department and occupancy limits. The last thing you want is your family and friends texting you saying they couldn't get in. You want in the room cheering you on.

Hair & Makeup

Contestants are required to do their own hair and makeup for the event, but for added convenience, professional artists will be available to book in advance for a nominal fee.

- Optional service
- Advance booking and payment required
- First-come, first-served

Outside hair and makeup artists are not permitted in the contestant dressing room. Those staying at the hotel are welcome to get ready in their rooms. All contestants must be ready and in the designated lineup area at least 30 minutes prior to showtime for group photos.

Backstage Guidelines

To ensure a smooth and well-organized experience for all contestants:

- **Ages 16+:** No guests permitted backstage
- **Under 16:** One parent may assist while the contestant is getting ready (prior to lineup)
- Dressing rooms are **female-only**
- Pageant staff will be present at all times to assist and chaperone contestants in dressing room
- **30 minutes prior to showtime and throughout the event:**
 - Parents and guests are not permitted in the dressing room or lineup area
- Once the event begins:
 - Contestants may only return to the dressing room with staff permission and staff escort
 - No personal items may be retrieved from the dressing room until the conclusion of the event

These guidelines help ensure a safe, efficient, and stress-free experience for everyone.

Host Hotel & Accommodations

The event will take place at the **Providence Downtown Marriott**. Discounted rooms are available for contestants and families (limited availability).

The hotel offers:

- Indoor/outdoor pool
- On-site dining
- Fitness center and spa
- Complimentary local shuttle

Conveniently located near top attractions including:

- Federal Hill
 - Rhode Island State House
 - Water Fire Providence
 - Providence Place Mall
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Final Notes

This experience is designed to be **fun, engaging, and truly memorable**. We encourage all contestants to be themselves, celebrate their Italian heritage, and enjoy every moment of the journey. Along the way, you'll build confidence, create meaningful connections, and form friendships that can last well beyond the pageant.

Enjoy every moment—you've earned the opportunity to be here.

Communication & Updates

Leading up to the event, contestants will receive regular group emails with important updates, reminders, and details.

To ensure clear communication, please reply to each email with:
“RECEIVED AND REVIEWED” + your name

This helps us keep everything organized and running smoothly as we approach pageant day.

What to Expect Next

Additional details will be shared on the following:

- Hair and makeup services
 - Program book photos, photogenic competition, and spotlight pages
 - Event photography and video purchases
 - Event ticket sales
 - Optional preparatory class
 - Special list of ‘THINGS TO DO and PLACES TO GO’ information for contestants and families
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If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out via email to

Pat Cruz, Director Miss US Italia Pageant at patpaolinocruz@gmail.com—we're here to help every step of the way.

