

Miss Birmingham's Cahaba Valley's Hidden River's Covered Bridge's Teen

Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement

As a Contestant in the Miss Birmingham's/Cahaba Valley's/Hidden River's and Miss Covered Bridge's Teen Competition (*hereinafter the "Local Organization"*), I agree to the following terms:

1. I attest that I am a citizen of the United States, that I reside in the State of Alabama, am not married, have never been married, am not now and have never been pregnant, and that I am not now and have never been involved in any act of moral turpitude in which criminal charges are pending.
2. I verify that I reside at the following address:

3. I verify with my birth certificate or valid Alabama Driver License or US Passport that I meet the age requirements of the Miss America's Teen organization. I am currently _____ years of age, my birthday is _____, and I am in the _____ grade at _____ (name of school).
4. I agree to send a \$200 *non-refundable* Entrance Fee as part of the eligibility requirements to be a Contestant in Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's/Miss Hidden River's or Miss Covered Bridge's Teen. I understand that this fee entitles me to compete for **all competition** titles.

If named Miss Birmingham's Teen, Miss Cahaba Valley's Teen, Miss Hidden River's Teen, or Miss Covered Bridge's Teen (*hereinafter the "Titleholder"*), I understand and agree to the following terms:

I. General:

- a. Understands that her year of service is the period beginning the date she is crowned and ending the date she crowns her successor.
 - i. Should she be selected as Miss Alabama's Teen, her year of service as the Titleholder will end on the date she is crowned Miss Alabama's Teen
- b. Understands that holding the title is a job and as such, all preparation, appearances, functions and service initiatives must be given proper attention and priority
- c. Understands that the Executive Director and Board are a supportive body, and will collaborate and assist each Titleholder throughout her year of service to be her best at all times
- d. Will actively listen to advice from the Executive Director and Board, and have interactive discussions regarding furtherance of her personal service initiative, appearances, interview skills, fitness, and talent presentation
- e. Understands that the Local Organization will strive to help the Titleholder represent the community to the best of her ability
- f. Understands that she represents the Local Organization and the Miss Alabama's Teen organization *at all times*, and will conduct herself appropriately
- g. Understands that she must always be gracious and respectful to the Executive Director and Board, the public, friends, family, chaperone(s), and sponsors. *There will be no exception to this rule*
- h. Will maintain proper attitude wherever she may be – at school, attending an extracurricular activity, at a retailer, during interview practice, or at any appearance
- i. Will refrain from the use of profanity or other questionable/inappropriate language and all questionable/inappropriate conduct/behavior during her year of service – both public and private, including social media (as defined in §IV below)
 - i. Questionable/Inappropriate conduct/behavior is defined as: *any conduct or behavior that includes, infers or implies sexual content of any sort, nudity or partial nudity, profanity, abbreviations that indicate profanity or bias, gossip, infers or implies alcohol use and/or drug use, or politically biased, racially biased, sexually biased, gender-biased or geographically biased behavior, language, material or content*
- j. Will not use alcohol, drugs, or tobacco throughout her year of service
- k. Will maintain a healthy lifestyle, good physical fitness, and healthy eating habits throughout her year of service in keeping with #MissAmericaFit

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____

Contestant Initials: _____

Miss Birmingham's Cahaba Valley's Hidden River's Teen

Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement

- I. Will not drastically change her physical appearance (hair color or length, weight gain or loss, etc.) without first discussing with the Executive Director, unless ordered by a physician for health reasons
 - i. If ordered by a physician, the Titleholder agrees to disclose the related situation to the Executive Director, who agrees to keep the information confidential
- li. Agrees to use sponsored gift certificates for photographs, wardrobe, and other items; will discuss with and obtain approval from the Executive Director if a sponsor is not preferred
- lii. Will provide the Executive Director with professionally photographed, high-resolution digital (minimum of 300-dpi resolution) competition headshots both with and without the crown, *within three (3) months, or 90 days of being crowned* Miss Birmingham's, Miss Cahaba Valley's, Miss Hidden River's or Miss Covered Bridge's Teen. No publicity, press releases, autograph pads, etc. can be generated without these photo(s)
- liii. Will meet with the Executive Director *no less than every other week* (either by phone, video conference, or in person) during her entire year of service
- liv. Thank-you notes will be written and mailed within 24 hours of an appearance and within 24 hours of receiving any donations from sponsors or gifts from supporters, including those sent by the Local Organization
- lv. Understands that if any information submitted to either the Local Organization or Miss Alabama's Teen is determined to be untrue – the title, the right to compete in Miss Alabama's Teen, and all prizes will be forfeited, and any prizes must be returned to the Local Organization in full by the former Titleholder
- lvi. Understands that any regression from or failure to comply with the rules set forth in this contract and the state contract she has already signed can result in the title and the right to compete in Miss Alabama's Teen being forfeited

II. Communication:

- a. Understands that all communications and decisions will be made solely between the Titleholder and the Executive Director (with a copy to and consultation of the parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) *where appropriate*)
- b. Understands that the Executive Director expects and encourages frequent communication and will promptly respond to texts, emails or phone calls from the Titleholder
- c. Will frequently and consistently communicate with the Executive Director and Assistant Director for her entire year of service
- d. Understands that the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are encouraged and welcome to listen in and/or read any communications from the Local Organization
- e. Will monitor texts and e-mails and will respond promptly (within a *maximum* of 8 hours) to all communication from the Executive Director, Assistant Director or Board members
- f. Will communicate and develop relationships with her Rising Star, Miss and Teen sister Titleholders
- g. Will let the Executive Director know immediately if she feels uncomfortable with any appearance, wardrobe selection, talent selection, etc., and will bring any other concern to the immediate attention of the Executive Director so that a satisfactory resolution may be reached for all parties involved

III. Preparation:

- a. Understands that the Local Organization will provide ample preparation opportunities for the Miss Alabama's Teen competition. The Titleholder must be willing and available to utilize these opportunities to develop her skills for success
 - i. If the Titleholder does not wish to take advantage of the preparation offered by the Local Organization, she will
 - a) discuss the reasons for this decision with the Executive Director and Assistant Director via Zoom or in-person meeting, and b) will send an opt-out email with explanation to the Executive and Assistant directors with a copy (cc:) to all board members and the state field director
- b. Will consult the Executive Director regarding any questions concerning state paperwork deadlines, appearances, wardrobe selections, competition events and performance requirements
- c. Understands, has a true belief in, and is ready to execute on her service initiative every day
- d. Will actively promote her service initiative to make a difference in the Birmingham and Cahaba Valley communities, in addition to her home town

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

Miss Birmingham's Cahaba Valley's Hidden River's Teen

Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement

- e. Will attend weekly interview practice leading up to the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition, as scheduled by the Executive Director
- f. Understands that parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are welcome and encouraged to attend weekly interview practice for visibility, but are expected to remain in the background unless called upon
- g. Will not have any type of coaching or outside help, advice, or influence in preparing for the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition, with the exception of talent coaching, **unless disclosed to and approved in writing by the Executive Director**
- h. Understands that her talent selection for Miss Alabama's Teen must be approved by the Executive Director:
 - i. Each Titleholder must discuss and perform her selection for, and obtain the Director's approval, prior to Miss Alabama's Teen Contestant Orientation in March

IV. Social Media:

- a. Understands and uses social media tactically and strategically to promote:
 - i. The Titleholder's Service Initiative
 - ii. The Local Organization
 - iii. The Miss Alabama Organization
 - iv. The Miss America Opportunity
- b. Understands that during her year of service, all content, in any form, posted to any social media platform, existing or new – *including all personal and Titleholder accounts* – must be wholesome in nature, having no questionable/inappropriate content or material as defined in §IV.h
 - i. Wholesome content is defined as:
 - a. Promoting mental wellbeing
 - b. Promoting physical wellbeing
 - c. Promoting decent, moral, trustworthy, prudent, and law-abiding behavior
- c. Will create and maintain a Titleholder account for FaceBook, Instagram and TikTok, and will post regularly to these accounts for the following:
 - i. All fundraisers, service initiative & other community service endeavors and appearances
 - ii. All Local Organization events and appearances
 - iii. All Miss Alabama social media calendar posts and competition information
- d. Will be added as an editor of the official FaceBook and Instagram pages for the Local Organization and will post regularly to those accounts as well as her Titleholder and personal pages to ensure consistent publicity during her year of service
- e. Understands that she, as the Titleholder, is responsible for creating and posting content *herself*, to the aforementioned social media accounts
- f. Understands that any and all social media accounts - such as TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, Linked In, Threads, Meta, X (formerly Twitter), and Facebook - are public forums, that the reputation of the winner and the competition is affected by the content posted, and all accounts (personal and Titleholder) will be monitored for content by the Executive Director
- g. Will promptly accept the Executive Director and each Board Member as a friend or follower on all social media accounts
- h. Understands that use of questionable or inappropriate material on personal and Titleholder social media accounts is *strictly prohibited*:
 - i. Questionable/Inappropriate material is defined as: *any post, tweet, text, meme, background music, music, video, or photo – shared or authored – that includes, infers, implies or contains sexual content of any sort, profanity, gossip, abbreviations that indicate profanity or bias, infers or implies alcohol use and/or drug use, or politically-biased, racially-biased, sexually-biased gender-biased or geographically-biased behavior, language, material or content*
 - ii. Any posts containing such material should be immediately removed from personal accounts *prior* to the Miss Birmingham's, Miss Cahaba Valley's, Miss Hidden River's & Miss Covered Bridge's Teen competition

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____

Contestant Initials: _____

Miss Birmingham's Cahaba Valley's Hidden River's Teen

Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement

- i. Understands that without exception, all social media accounts should remain free of questionable posts or inappropriate material during the entire year of service as a Titleholder in the Local Organization

V. Miss Alabama's Teen Required Paperwork, Photographs & Functions:

a. Required Paperwork:

- i. Will meet all deadlines set forth by the Miss Alabama's Teen competition for all state materials, including but not limited to fact sheet, service initiative essay, photos, transcript, talent clearance, talent music, and all contracts
- ii. Understands that she, as the Titleholder, is responsible for drafting all state materials and paperwork required for Miss Alabama *herself*, and that the Executive Director will review and suggest edits as needed during the approval process
- iii. Will send electronic copies of all state required paperwork (questionnaire, information sheet, fact sheet/resume, service initiative essay, talent & fitness intros, etc.) to the Executive Director, and understands that all items must be approved *before* submission to Miss Alabama's Teen
 - a. All paperwork must be submitted to the Executive Director for approval a minimum of three (3) days prior to the deadline set forth by Miss Alabama's Teen
- iv. Will combine all paperwork into a single email (unless file size precludes) for approval by the Executive Director and when submitted to Miss Alabama's Teen
 - a. Will add the Executive Director and the Assistant Director as copied recipients (cc:) on all emails sent to Miss Alabama's Teen in regard to paperwork
- v. Will notify the Executive Director via text, email or phone call on the date any materials that cannot be sent electronically are mailed and/or delivered to Miss Alabama's Teen
- vi. Will provide the Executive Director a copy of all contestant emails from the Miss Alabama's Teen organization, along with any material received at Contestant Orientation via email and/or Google Drive, Dropbox or OneDrive

b. Photographs:

- i. Will review and select **all** photos taken for use at the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition with the Executive Director and Assistant Director
- ii. Understands that all photos (contestant line-up, website, judges' book, and ads) for Miss Alabama's Teen must be approved by the Executive Director before being submitted to Miss Alabama's Teen

c. Functions:

- i. Will arrive at all Miss Alabama's Teen required functions (orientation, appearances, gala, etc.) at least 15 minutes prior to start time or at the time set forth by the Director and agreed to by the Titleholder
- ii. Will immediately text or call the Executive Director and the Miss Alabama's Teen event coordinator (where applicable) if unforeseen circumstances will make her tardy to any function or prevent attendance. There will be no exception to this rule

VI. Wardrobe:

- a. Will provide her own wardrobe for appearances and all phases of competition in Miss Alabama's Teen
- b. Will provide the Executive Director and Board with a budget for her competition wardrobe to ensure that any recommendations are within that budget
- c. Understands the competition wardrobe is comprised of clothing for all competition phases, appearances and rehearsals during Miss Alabama's Teen weekend, including shoes, jewelry and undergarments
- d. Understands that appropriate undergarments are expected to be worn at all appearances, and during rehearsals and competition at Miss Alabama's Teen. *There will be no exception to this rule*
- e. Understands that all wardrobe choices for the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition must be approved by the Executive Director:
 - i. Agrees to promptly schedule wardrobe shopping trips with the Executive Director and/or Assistant Director
 - ii. Will properly groom each item and return it to the sales floor or sales representative while shopping
 - iii. Will not purchase any item for state competition without prior approval from the Executive Director

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____

Contestant Initials: _____

Miss Birmingham's Cahaba Valley's Hidden River's Teen

Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement

- iv. Understands that approval may be obtained electronically with proper photos of the selected item sent to the Executive Director via text while shopping, and receiving approval prior to purchase
- v. Understands that any changes to the approved state competition and appearance wardrobe must be immediately communicated to, and approval of new selections obtained from the Executive Director
- f. Understands that for every Miss Alabama's Teen sponsored event or appearance, a photo of the Titleholder's choice of wardrobe must be sent to the Executive Director and Assistant Director prior to the event or appearance
- g. Will promptly schedule alteration appointments with a pre-approved alterations individual or company as soon as possible after purchasing her competition wardrobe
- h. Will purchase needed wardrobe items selected no later than *February 20th* of the year she will compete in Miss Alabama's Teen

VII. Appearances:

- a. Will cultivate and build relationships for the Local Organization and will build partnerships for the future
- b. Will not accept an appearance request before discussing with and receiving approval from the Executive Director. *There will be no exception to this requirement*
- c. Will not refuse or decline any appearance request prior to discussing with the Executive Director
- d. Will not offer appearance opportunities to sister Titleholders unless previously discussed with and approved by the Executive Director
- e. Will seek out appearance opportunities that promote and support her service initiative
- f. Will arrive at the appearance venue dressed appropriately for the occasion and appearance requirements with appropriate hair, makeup and Titleholder accessories (defined as crown, crown pin and title banner/sash) as agreed upon by the Titleholder and Executive Director for each specific appearance
- g. Will immediately text or call the Executive Director if unforeseen circumstances cause a change in agreed-upon wardrobe items for any appearance or function. *There will be no exception to this rule*
- h. **Titleholder Accessories - Crown, Crown Pin and Title Banner (sash):**
 - i. Understands that there are rules governing the use and wear of the crown, crown pin and title banner (sash) and will abide by these rules as communicated to her by the Executive Director
 - ii. Understands that there may be times where all Titleholder accessories are acceptable or required, and times when only a single accessory is appropriate
 - iii. Understands that her title is not sponsored by any entity other than the Local Organization, Miss Alabama's Teen and Miss America's Teen and will not add pins or other insignia from personal affiliations to her attire or to the title banner (sash) at any time
 - a. This rule encompasses any and all affiliations and insignia – corporations, sororities, campus/school organizations, work organizations, philanthropic organizations, and any other organization that is not directly affiliated with the Local Organization, Miss Alabama's Teen or Miss America's Teen
 - iv. Understands that the Executive Director will provide guidance regarding when it is appropriate to wear each accessory element, and the Titleholder will abide by that guidance as provided without exception
 - v. Understands that any deviation from the rules as set forth by Miss Alabama's Teen or the Local Organization will result in immediate forfeiture of the title and a successor will be named
- i. Will arrive *at least 15 minutes prior* to any engagement or at the appointed time prior to an appearance as set forth by the Executive Director. *Tardiness is not acceptable*
- j. Will immediately text or call the Executive Director if unforeseen circumstances will make her tardy to any appearance. Leaving late is not considered an unforeseen circumstance and will not be considered an acceptable reason for tardiness
- k. Will maintain enthusiasm & approachability at each appearance, engaging with people of all ages and all backgrounds
- l. Will discuss and develop a plan for appearances to further her Service Initiative with the Executive Director
- m. Will discuss all appearance opportunities with and understands that all appearances must be cleared and approved by the Executive Director before each is scheduled

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

Miss Birmingham's Cahaba Valley's Hidden River's Teen

Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement

- n. Understands that for her protection, a member of the Local Organization, a parent, or an approved alternate chaperone *must* accompany the Titleholder on any official appearances unless pre-approved by the Executive Director or Assistant Director
- o. Will provide her own transportation to and from scheduled appearances
- p. Will properly prepare herself to successfully meet the requirements of all approved appearances
- q. Will maintain appropriate speech, demeanor and conduct as is suitable for a Titleholder at each appearance and whenever meeting with the public
 - i. Will never take advantage of the host's hospitality at an appearance
 - ii. Will never give the impression that the Titleholder is sick, tired, or bored during any appearance, and will maintain interest, enthusiasm, and sparkle during the entire appearance event, even as she is walking to her vehicle
- r. Will not cancel any appearance for any reason other than illness or school requirements
 - i. Will *immediately* inform the Executive Director and Assistant Director if a conflict in scheduling arises
 - ii. Will write a letter of regret and offer to reschedule immediately if any appearance must be rescheduled or canceled
- s. Will make required appearances listed below as scheduled by the Executive Director and/or the Miss Alabama Board. Under no circumstances may the Titleholder cancel any of the following (with exception of illness or school obligations discussed with the executive director prior to the scheduled appearance):
 - Helena Christmas Parade (1st Saturday in December)
 - Miss Birmingham's/ Cahaba Valley's/ Hidden River's or Miss Covered Bridge's Teen - Best Wishes Reception
 - Miss Alabama's Teen Competition (March)
 - Local Organization Boot Camp and Local Wardrobe Approval with Executive Director (typically in February)
 - Miss Alabama's Teen Contestant Orientation (January)
 - Miss Birmingham, Cahaba Valley & Miss Hidden River or Miss Covered Bridge Best Wishes/Sendoff Reception (May/June)
 - Miss Alabama Competition for Teen Night (June/July)
 - Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's & Miss Hidden River's Teen Competition – to crown successor (1st Sunday in November)
 - Other appearances as scheduled by and at the discretion of the Executive Director
 - Other appearances as scheduled by and at the discretion of the Miss Alabama's Teen Board

The undersigned Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's & Miss Hidden River's Teen Contestant will:

- By submission of the application agree that the Contestant lives and attends school in the state of Alabama
- Turn 13 years of age before the first day of competition for Miss Alabama's Teen, and no older than age 17
- Provide a \$200 check or money order made out to *Miss Birmingham*, as the entry fee for the Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's/Miss Hidden River's & Miss Covered Bridge's Teen competition
- Allow the Local Organization to post photographs and name on their public website (www.missbham.com)

I, _____, a Miss Birmingham's, Cahaba Valley's, Hidden River's & Covered Bridge's Teen Contestant, and _____, her Parent or legal Guardian, by initialing each page and signing below, *attest that we have read this agreement and contract in its entirety*, and understand all conditions, rules, and regulations set forth therein. We further understand that if found in violation of any part of this contract, the Executive Director has the authority to revoke the title of Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's or Miss Hidden River's or Miss Coved Bridge's Teen and a successor will be named to compete in the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition. In addition, all awards, scholarships, and prerequisites pertaining thereto will be returned and passed on to the successor, who will receive all of the benefits to which I/she would have been otherwise entitled.

SIGNATURE PAGE DIRECTLY FOLLOWS

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

Miss Birmingham's Cahaba Valley's Hidden River's Teen

Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement - Signature Page

The Contestant and her parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) understand the terms and conditions of this contract and hold harmless agreement and are signing this document without duress and are entering this contract and agreement freely and without reservation.

Contestant Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

I agree not to hold the Local Organization, designated venue and parent organization, the Miss Alabama's Teen or Miss America organizations, or anyone affiliated with the local competition/competition responsible for any personal injury, loss of items, or damage while attending the competition/competition.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian Date _____

Miss Birmingham's Cahaba Valley's Hidden River's Teen

Contestant Information Sheet

All Fields Required – Please Type or Write Clearly

CONTESTANT NAME: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____ AGE: _____

PARENTS' NAME (s): _____

PARENTS' E-MAIL ADDRESS*: _____

***Please list an e-mail address that is checked frequently**

PARENT'S CELL PHONE*: _____

***Please list the cell phone number of the parent who may be reached on Competition Day**

PARENTS' HOME ADDRESS: _____

NAME OF SCHOOL: _____

GRADE: _____