



Fayette County Fair Queen Scholarship Pageant Contestant Questionnaire and Handbook 2026

April 13, 2026

Dear Contestant,

Thank you for your interest in this year's Fayette County Fair Queen's Scholarship Pageant. This is a great opportunity for you to earn scholarship money to further your education, meet new people in your community, increase your social skills and serve your community through serving as a "face and spokesperson" for this year's county fair!

In order for your application to be complete, these items must be submitted via email to FCFQUEENTX@GMAIL.COM no later than the deadline of **FRIDAY, JUNE 19, at 4:00 pm or before all 10 spots have been filled, whichever is sooner.**

- *Contestant Form*
- *Contestant Head Shot photo (to be printed on the fair contestant poster and published in the local newspapers and our Facebook page)*
- *Notice of Contestant Intent, Handbook Receipt and Rule Acknowledgement Form*
- *Handwritten Essay*

Once the 10 spots for Queen have been filled, recruitment will be CLOSED, and a wait list will be created if a spot should become available. We will then see you at the required contestant's meeting and ticket kickoff event on Tuesday, June 30, 6 pm to be held at Fayette County Fairground's Exhibit Hall!

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our Queen Directors via call or text:

- Shannon Hemmitt at 979/639-1776
- Shelbi Lange at 512/470-7746
- Gail Henneke at 979/525-9476

Thank you so much for your interest and we look forward to turning 2026 into a great one!

2026 Fayette County Fair Queen Contestant Handbook

1. Contestant must have been at birth, born as a female; and be classified as a Freshman, Sophomore, Junior or Senior in a Fayette County School or be Home Schooled within Fayette County in the 2026/27 school year **and/or** reside in Fayette County full time. Contestant, if chosen Queen or a part of the queen's court, must remain enrolled as a student unless graduating early.
2. Contestant's male escort for the Queen's pageant event must have the same scholastic status and age qualifications, and must be, and must have been at birth, born a male.
3. Contestant must in good standing within the community and school to promote a positive image, be in good health and have moral character.
4. Contestant must be single, never married, not given birth to a child or currently expecting a child.
5. Contestant must not engage in activities that if disclosed in public would result in bringing the contestant or Fair Association ridicule or embarrassment, including but not limited to inappropriate behavior on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, TikTok etc), any use of illegal drugs, alcohol, any illegal behavior or activity, professional or amateur nude or seminude dancing or modeling in any sexually oriented business or club, any type of nude or seminude photographs or video tapes, any felony convictions, deferred adjudication or probation, any conviction for a misdemeanor crime involving moral turpitude.
6. Contestants, parents, families, sponsors will be upheld to a NO BULLYING policy. Bullying is defined as intentional aggressive behavior that can take many forms (verbal, physical, direct, indirect and cyber bullying). Bullying can be one individual bullying another, a group ganging up against an individual, or targeting a group. No bullying will be tolerated towards other contestants, families, fair volunteers, business owners, fair patrons, etc. Acts of bullying can result in a warning and/or disqualification depending on the severity of aggression displayed.
7. Contestant understands that she nor family/members will disclose to anyone via verbal, text, social media, print including posters, brochures or business cards, etc. her intent of running for 2026 Fayette County Fair Queen until the formal announcement is made via newspaper, radio and official fair website and Facebook page (approximately June 25, 2026). Under penalty of \$500.00 total sales deduction for violation.
8. Contestants will be sponsored by a Fayette County Non-Profit Organization. The Non-Profit Organization will provide their EIN number for our records as the organization receives 10% of the contestant's total season pass sales as a donation.

The sponsor will support the contestant in her sale of tickets, this can include but not limited to:

- covering the cost of advertising materials
- assisting in sale of tickets
- listed as a contact person on materials to buy tickets
- organize/host special ticket sale events within the community
- a dress allowance, etc.

There is not an entry fee to participate in the queen's contest.

9. The first 10 contestants completing their form, essay, Head Shot photo and consent will be accepted for the Queen's pageant. All forms and photo must be scanned and submitted electronically to email: fcfqueentx@gmail.com
10. Contestant must return **Completed Contestant Form and Photo** to be submitted to the newspapers and Notice of Contestant Intent Handbook Receipt and Rule Acknowledgement Form no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, June 19 or prior to the first 10 spots being filled to be considered as a Queen's Contestant. If you are contestant number 11, you will be placed as an alternate if any situation should arise for the first 10 contestants prior to the official announcement.
11. All tickets will be issued at the June 30, 2026 Contestant's meeting.
 - Season passes to be sold at a price of \$40 each (advance).
12. Season pass totals will be tallied by number of tickets sold.
13. Season passes will be sold online via FayetteCountyFair.org and can be purchased through the contestants NAME. A URL will be provided to you for a direct link as well as a QR code.
14. Contestants may choose to print posters to endorse sales. Posters may be hung at area businesses and public areas with permission requested. Contestants are not to remove or move another contestant's poster for any reason.
15. Before posters are printed, proofs must be emailed and approved by the pageant and theme/signage committee representative. Proofs are to be emailed to FCFQUEENTX@GMAIL.COM. Allow 48 hours for approval or corrections. This is only to ensure that information and spelling is correct per entertainer contracts.
16. If you wish to "partner" with a Jr Miss contestant, this is encouraged but not required as they will be selling Carnival Passes while you are selling Season Passes.
17. Photos to be judged in the "Miss Photogenic" contest must be submitted by 5:00 pm on July 14. This can be different from the headshot provided on original application. This photo must be a **submitted to fcfqueentx@gmail.com**
18. Awards:

Queen-\$2800 (minimum) scholarship, crown, sash, floral bouquet, trophy, gift basket

1st Runner Up-\$2300 (minimum) scholarship, crown, sash, floral bouquet, trophy

2nd Runner Up-\$1800 scholarship (minimum), crown, sash, floral bouquet, trophy

Miss Photogenic- trophy, floral bouquet

Miss Congeniality- trophy, floral bouquet

Miss Poise and Beauty- trophy, floral bouquet

All contestants must sell at least 50 season passes to receive the \$300 participation scholarship, the participant prize bag filled with gift cards and gifts from area businesses in addition to participating in the Pageant.

Volunteers work endless hours preparing for a night that everyone will remember, we want you to give 100% as well!

19. The winner will use their crown and sash to represent the Fayette Co Fair throughout the year, if for any reason, her sash or crown is destroyed or broken outside of factory defect, the contestant is responsible for the exact replacement of the award presented.
20. Incentive scholarship monies for placing queens are available as chart explains here with sales over 500 season passes:

# of Passes Sold	Queen's Total Scholarship	1 st Runner Up Total Scholarship	2 nd Runner Up Total Scholarship	Remaining contestants Total Scholarship (selling at least 50 passes)
BASE	\$2800	\$2300	\$1800	\$300
500	\$2900	\$2400	\$1900	\$400
600	\$3000	\$2500	\$2000	\$500
700	\$3100	\$2600	\$2100	\$600
800	\$3200	\$2700	\$2200	\$700
900	\$3300	\$2800	\$2300	\$800
1000	\$3400	\$2900	\$2400	\$900
**Any sales over 1000, will continue to increase by 100 with the added scholarship award increased by \$100.				

21. Contestants must attend the mandatory Fair Appreciation Dinner at the Fairgrounds date to be determined. If the contestant does not attend, a fine may be enforced and decided upon by the pageant committee. The contestant's sponsors and parents are also invited and encouraged to attend.
22. Ticket monies are turned in every Monday to the queen's account (NBT Bank, La Grange) you will be provided with deposit slips for each week at the ticket meeting. We understand that a deposit may not be available and if this occurs, please contact

a committee person (listed on page 1) and let them know. The last two weeks of the contest, multiple deposits are encouraged. Prefilled deposit slips will be provided to each contestant.

23. Contestant or anyone representing the contestant may not contact the management of any of the musicians playing at the fair to link their ticket sales to them directly. This can deem the contact between the FCF and the artist, null and void and are grounds for immediate termination from the Scholarship Pageant.
24. Contestant must turn in all ticket sale proceeds on Wednesday, September 2 at 5:30 pm. Sale proceeds not turned in by 6:00 pm will be subject to a penalty of \$500.00 at 6:01 pm with the same penalty applied for each 15 minutes of tardiness thereafter. The Queen Pageant rehearsal will follow.
25. When contestants and representatives arrive for Wednesday count and rehearsal, all must park behind the main stage area in the grassy area or may be subject to towing due to vendor and ground policies.
26. The Fair Queen Pageant will be held the evening of Thursday, September 3. Contestant must be present and ready for presentation with escort at 6:30 pm (subject to change). All gowns must be in good taste and not too revealing. If contestant needs assistance in obtaining a gown for the contest, contact any committee member and the committee will provide assistance in obtaining a gown. Contestants will wait for the pageant to begin in an air-conditioned facility. After contestant's arrival, only touch-ups to hair and make-up will be permitted. Only the contestant will be allowed in the make ready area due to limited space.
27. Once crowned, "the court", consists of the Queen, Queen 1st and 2nd Runners Up, Jr Miss, Jr Miss 1st Runner Up, Little Miss and Little Mister. Representation of the Fayette County Fair will be as a court and those who are able to attend. If an event that is not on the GroupMe Calendar is an option for attendance, the event must be presented for ALL members of the court to attend if able. Solo Fayette Co Fair appearances must be requested in writing and approved by the FCF Pageant Committee and/or FCF Board of Directors. Queen sponsor appearances are not considered Fayette County Fair official appearances.
28. We understand that the Queen and Queen's Court are expected to fully participate in the parades and public events scheduled for the Fall/Winter and Spring/Summer, and in no less the 80% of the events scheduled. Tentative schedule is approximately 20 parades for the year and 2 community service activities. Fayette County parades require participation by the court. In each event, the participant must dress appropriately and wear the proper attire. A schedule with matching colored attire is provided and participant will follow guidelines. Should the expected participation be difficult or impossible due to intervening

factors, the Chairperson should be contacted at the earliest opportunity. The Queen, 1st Runner Up and 2nd Runner Up will be riding the float. The court is asked to download the GROUPME app for group text information and updates.

29. If a member of the court becomes absent/noncommunicative with the committee and/or group, she/he is subject to removal of their title effective immediately. Forms of communication are to include: phone call, text message, GroupMe message, letter with a final attempt of certified letter.
30. If for any reason the Fair Queen should not be able to fulfill her duties in accordance to these rules and regulations, the 1st Runner Up shall be named Fair Queen and duly authorized to perform in this capacity.
31. The sole authority and judgement as to the sufficient performance or deficiency in performance of a contestant is stipulated to be within the sole discretion of the Board of Directors of the Fayette County Fair Association upon report and recommendation of the Queen Contest Committee Chairperson.

A contestant may be disqualified, and a reigning Queen or member of the Queen's Court may be removed and her scholarship forfeited at any time within the sole and absolute discretion of the Board of Directors of the Fayette County Fair Association.

We understand that we should make an inquiry and receive approval from the Chairperson when we have questions. We and the Chairperson will always strive to be civil and cooperative in resolving problems and issues.

32. Contestants will request a second phone number via google (we will walk through this at the ticket meeting if assistance is needed) to assist in marketing and sales. This number is free of charge to create and will protect the contestant from outside intrusion. Contestants are advised not to use personal phone numbers for marketing and sales activity. However, this is optional and know it is a family affair.
33. We understand that the Fayette County Fair Association has no insurance coverage for health care or accidental injury to contestants, volunteers, or family; nor liability coverage for any acts of contestants, queen, queen's court, volunteers, and family.
34. To the extent provided by law, contestant, queen, queen's court, parent(s), and guardian(s) release, indemnify, and hold harmless the Fayette County Fair Association from any damage or injury to contestant, queen, queen's court, parent(s), and guardian(s), and volunteers while participating in furtherance of the contestant, queen, or queen's court activities, and any damage or injury to others by such activities,

35. We consent to the use of the contest, queen, queen's court likeness, photo, video, voice and biographic information for ticket sale and other Fair publicity, and the retention as an archive of Fayette County Fair Queen Contest history.

We and each one of us agree that the terms and requirements stated are fair and reasonable and each of us agree to abide by them.



Quick Guide of Important Information and Dates

- Fair Theme: America's 250th birthday, the Semi quinentennial (red, white & blue)
- Awards:
 - Queen-\$2800 (minimum) scholarship, crown, sash, floral bouquet, trophy, gift basket
 - 1st Runner Up-\$2300 (minimum) scholarship, crown, sash, floral bouquet, trophy
 - 2nd Runner Up-\$1800 scholarship (minimum), crown, sash, floral bouquet, trophy
 - Miss Photogenic- trophy, floral bouquet
 - Miss Congeniality- trophy, floral bouquet
 - Miss Poise and Beauty- trophy, floral bouquet

All contestants must sell at least 50 season passes to receive the \$300 scholarship, the participant prize bag filled with gift cards and gifts from area businesses in addition to participating in the Pageant. Volunteers work endless hours preparing for a night that everyone will remember, we want you to give 100% as well!
- PLEASE understand that you nor your family/ members shall disclose to anyone via verbal, text, social media (sharing post only), print including posters, brochures or business cards, etc. your intent of running for 2026 Fayette County Fair Queen until the formal announcement is made via newspaper, radio and official fair website and Facebook page (approximately June 25, 2026).
- You can begin hanging posters, launching your personal sale pages on social media, passing out cards, calling customers, etc after the ticket meeting on July 1.
- Fair tickets will be distributed at the REQUIRED ticket meeting on Tuesday, June 30 at 6:00 pm at the Fayette County Fair Grounds Exhibit Hall (400 W Fairgrounds Rd, La Grange, Texas 78945).
- Contestants must turn in all ticket sale proceeds on Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 5:30 pm. Sales not turned in by 6:00 pm will be subject to a penalty of \$500.00 at 6:01 pm with the same penalty applied for each 15 minutes of tardiness thereafter.
- The Queen Pageant rehearsal will follow at 6:30 pm on September 2, bring your shoes and your escort.

- The Fair Queen Pageant will be on Thursday, September 3. Contestant must be present and ready for presentation with escort at TIME TBD. All gowns must be in good taste and not too revealing. Contestants will wait for the pageant to begin in an air-conditioned facility. After contestant's arrival, only touch-ups to hair and make-up will be permitted.
- The Queen's court will receive a schedule of activities to attend for the weekend of the fair, the court is the face of the fair and is expected to be on the grounds to appear at events with their crown and sash.

Information for your posters and social media

- Before posters are printed, proofs must be emailed and approved by the pageant and theme/signage committee representative. Proofs are to be emailed to FCFQUEENTX@GMAIL.COM. Allow 48 hours for approval or corrections. This is only to ensure that information and spelling is correct per entertainer contracts.
- Season Passes are to be sold at \$40 each. In case someone asks, daily admission to the fair is as follows:

Thursday - Free to all

Friday - \$15.00

Saturday - \$35.00

Sunday - \$35.00

Season Passes sold at the gate - \$45

Children 4 and under - free every day

Children 5-15 years: free before 6 PM each day, after 6 PM the daily price of \$10.00

Youth 16 and older require an adult ticket or season pass

- Carnival Passes are to be sold at \$xx (we will send this information as soon as we have confirmation of pricing) each.
- Online season ticket sales will be offered for the contestants, you will receive a URL for your online sales the week of June 22th.
- Entertainment (photos are not allowed on your posters, only the date and names):

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4: Kings of Neon

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5: Gannon Fremin & CCREV

Tyler Nance

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6: Terri Clark

JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2026

(subject to change)

6/19: All paperwork & photo (for newspaper) due by 4 pm

6/25: Contestants released in newspapers, on radio and online on Facebook!

6/30: Ticket meeting, 6:00 pm at Exhibit Hall. Posters may be hung, contestant Facebook Pages, may go LIVE after the meeting. This ensures that you have the accurate information needed to display.

7/1: Ticket sales begin!!

7/6: Required Bank Deposit

7/13: Required Bank Deposit

7/14: Most Photogenic photos due via email by 5:00 pm (if you wish to update the photo that was originally sent with application)

7/20: Required Bank Deposit

7/27: Required Bank Deposit

8/3: Required Bank Deposit

8/10: Required Bank Deposit, Escort's name due.

8/17: Required Bank Deposit

8/20: Optional Bank Deposit, but encouraged!

8/24: Required Bank Deposit

8/27: Optional Bank Deposit, but encouraged!

8/29 and 8/30: Fair Kick Off Activities: Commercial Heifer Sale, BBQ Cookoff, Etc

8/30: Contestant Social

8/31: Last Required Bank Deposit

9/2: Final ticket turn in, 5:30 pm. Pageant Practice, 6:30 pm.

9/3: Pageant, Opening night of the Fair!

9/5: Fair Parade for Court

9/6: Final day of the fair

9/12: Parade in Columbus, Colorado Co Fair

Notice of Contestant Intent, Handbook Receipt and Rule Acknowledgement

- I, _____, (contestant’s name) understand that I nor my family/members will disclose to anyone via verbal, text, social media, print including posters, brochures or business cards, etc. my intent of running for 2026 Fayette County Fair Queen until the formal announcement is made via newspaper, radio and official fair website and Facebook page (approximately June 25, 2026). Under penalty of \$500.00 total sales deduction for violation.
- I acknowledge that I may begin hanging posters and/or banners, handing out business cards, posting on any social media and/or website with a contestant page, etc. on July 1, 2026. You may share any post made by fair association and other news partners after announcement is made!
- I acknowledge that I may begin selling tickets on July 1, 2026.
- I have received the Fayette County Fair Queen Contestant Handbook and abide with the rules stated within.
- I understand that all information must be completed by the deadlines stated with all proper signatures and turned in to the Pageant Chairperson to be considered as a Queen’s Contestant.
- I will be attending the REQUIRED meeting and ticket kickoff event on Monday, June 30 at 6:00 pm at the Fayette County Fair Grounds Exhibit Hall (400 W Fairgrounds Rd, La Grange, Texas 78945).

Contestant Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Witness Signature: _____ Date: _____

COMPLETE, SCAN AND EMAIL THIS PAGE 11 - 13 TO FCFQUEENTX@GMAIL.COM

Fayette County Fair Queen Contestant Form

****Digital photos must be emailed to fcfqueentx@gmail.com in JPEG format****

Contestant Name (how do you want it to run in all publications)		
Non-Profit Organization Contestant is Representing:		
EIN # of Organization (for payment to organization, 10% of season ticket sales):		
Student's Grade for 2026/2027 School Year:	Year of Graduation:	
School Contestant is Attending:		
Hobbies:		
Organizations, School, Church Activities, Volunteer Work, etc.		
Future Plans after Graduating:		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Contestant Primary Phone Number	Contestant Email	
Mother's Name	Father's Name	
Mom's Primary Phone Number	Dad's Primary Phone Number	
Mom's Email	Dad's Email	

COMPLETE, SCAN AND EMAIL THIS FORM TO FCFQUEENTX@GMAIL.COM

Fayette Co Fair Queen Handwritten Essay (part of Beauty and Poise judging 15%)

Choose one of the following questions, use the page provided and provide a handwritten answer.

Option 1: If someone named a movie after you, what would it be called and why?

Option 2: If you had to speak at an assembly at your school, what topic would you want to address and why?



[COMPLETE, SCAN AND EMAIL THIS FORM TO FCFQUEENTX@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FCFQUEENTX@GMAIL.COM)