



Rose Festival Court Program FAQ

Please read below to find answers to our most frequently asked questions. *If you have questions that aren't covered below, please email jessicam@rosefestival.org at the Rose Festival Office.*

1. Who's eligible?

- a. You must meet the following criteria to apply for the Rose Festival Court:
 - i. Be a female identifying student
 - ii. Attend an eligible 4A, 5A or 6A high school in Multnomah, Washington or Clackamas Counties
 - iii. Be a senior graduating in the current school year or junior on track to graduate the following year.
 - iv. Have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA (*Applicants with GPA between 2.75 and 3.0 with exigent circumstances may still be eligible; but must complete a variance form and have it approved by the Rose Festival as a part of this application.*)
 - v. Have completed a minimum 20 hours of community service during high school

2. What schools are eligible?

- a. There are 15 positions on the Rose Festival Court. Except for the Metro East/West, each position is open to current juniors and seniors of that school.

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| 1. Benson | 9. McDaniel |
| 2. Central Catholic | 10. Metro East |
| 3. Cleveland | 11. Metro West |
| 4. David Douglas | 12. Parkrose |
| 5. Franklin | 13. Roosevelt |
| 6. Grant | 14. St. Mary's Academy |
| 7. Jefferson | 15. Ida B. Wells |
| 8. Lincoln | |

- b. The Metro West position is available to students from the following schools:

i. Washington County

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| 1. Aloha – 6A | 10. Mountainside – 6A |
| 2. Banks – 4A | 11. Sherwood – 6A |
| 3. Beaverton – 6A | 12. Southridge – 6A |
| 4. Century – 6A | 13. Sunset – 6A |
| 5. Forest Grove – 6A | 14. Tigard – 6A |
| 6. Glencoe – 6A | 15. Tualatin – 6A |
| 7. Hillsboro – 5A | 16. Valley Catholic – 4A |
| 8. Jesuit – 6A | 17. Westview – 6A |
| 9. Liberty – 6A | |



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c. The Metro East position is available to students from the following schools:

i. **Clackamas County**

1. Canby – 6A
2. Clackamas – 6A
3. Estacada – 4A
4. Gladstone – 4A
5. Lake Oswego – 6A
6. Lakeridge – 6A
7. LaSalle – 5A
8. Milwaukie – 5A
9. Molalla – 4A
10. Nelson – 6A
11. Oregon City – 6A
12. Rex Putnam – 5A
13. Sandy – 6A
14. West Linn – 6A
15. Wilsonville – 5A

ii. **Multnomah County**

1. Centennial – 6A
2. Corbett – 4A
3. Gresham – 6A
4. Reynolds – 6A
5. Sam Barlow – 6A

3. What if I don't go to an eligible school?

- a. If you do not go to an eligible 4A, 5A, or 6A school, but still live in Multnomah, Clackamas, or Washington county, you may ask the eligible school in the district where you live to support your application (the same way you might participate in their athletics). If the school agrees to support you, you may apply as if you were a student at that school. Please e-mail jessicam@rosefestival.org for a School Support Affirmation Form.

4. How can I get the community service hours I need?

- a. It's easy to get the 20 hours of community service you need to apply for the Rose Festival Court! Check out these [resources](#) for possible opportunities, or ask your high school counselor how you can volunteer at school.

5. Who can fill out my recommendation form?

- a. Any adult who is not related to you may fill out your recommendation form. Some suggestions: teacher, school counselor, coach, work supervisor, volunteer supervisor, principal, mentor.

6. Is the Rose Festival Court a beauty contest?

- a. Absolutely not. The Rose Festival Court mission is to provide scholarships for higher education, to promote community outreach and volunteerism, to offer networking and mentoring opportunities to outstanding young women in a program that perpetuates an appreciation for Rose Festival history and tradition.



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7. Is the Rose Festival Court a popularity contest?

- a. Not at all. Court applicants are interviewed by a panel of community judges and asked to present a speech to their student body for voting (traditional schools only.) Application materials, speeches and interviews are judged on the following attributes:
 - i. Character (50%) – Participates in school, community, and other activities, demonstrates good citizenship, shows a desire to help others
 - ii. Communication Skills (25%) – Clear and articulate speech, animated and expressive storytelling, good grammar and eye contact
 - iii. Presence (25%) – Composed under pressure, adaptable to new situations, enthusiastic and engaged
 - iv. The school vote (at traditional schools) will make up 50% of the judging score. The remaining 50% comes from our panel of community judges. For Metro East/West positions 100% of the final score comes from the community judges.

8. Why should I apply?

- a. **BE A PART OF HISTORY**
 - i. The Rose Festival Court has been an exceptional opportunity for young women in Portland for over 100 years.
- b. **SCHOLARSHIP**
 - i. Every elected Court Member will receive a \$3,500 scholarship towards higher education.
- c. **MENTORSHIP**
 - i. Mentorship with a select Unitus mentor.
 - ii. Job shadow opportunities.
 - iii. Networking with business and civic leaders around the region.
- d. **LEADERSHIP, RELATIONSHIPS, TRAVEL and MORE!**
 - i. Once in a lifetime opportunities and experiences shared with 15 exceptional women representing their schools and communities throughout the Rose Festival season.

9. Will I miss out on my graduation and other events if I'm selected?

- a. There is a process for those selected as a Court member to request approval for time-off to attend specific events, including graduation & prom. The Rose Festival Court Committee works hard to create a schedule that works for everyone; however, you will be asked to prioritize Rose Festival Court activities and may miss some personal activities. Court members will be excused for the hours required to attend exams for AP and IB credit courses.

Thank you for your interest in the Rose Festival Court. If you have questions that aren't covered here please email jessicam@rosefestival.org.