

MISS VANDERBURGH COUNTY TEEN PAGEANT RULES

Pageant Coordinator – Beth Schmitt (812) 550-3487, baschmitt53@gmail.com

Chairperson – Laura Duncan (812) 449-3709, mlchdunc@gmail.com

Assistant Chairperson – Rachel Pohl (812) 664-9572, rachelelizabethpohl@icloud.com

Committee – Katie Barnes, Audrey Creel, Lauren Durchholz, Rhonda Klueg-Slater, Robin Lax, Dru Moreland, Abbey Riggs, Emma Ruedlinger, and Alyssa Welte

The deadline for entering the Miss Vanderburgh County Teen Pageant is June 26, 2026.

To enter, go to vanderburghcountyfair.com (Events, Contests, Pageants, Teen Pageant)

1. Each contestant must be at least 13 years old by July 20, 2026 and not had her 16th birthday as of November 7, 2026.
2. Contestants and moms/chaperones are required to attend a “Contestant Meeting” on July 1, 2026 at 6 pm, in the Expo Hall at the Vanderburgh 4-H Center. Please come prepared to have a head shot taken.
3. A \$25.00 entry fee and **a copy of the contestant’s birth certificate** must be submitted at the “Contestant Meeting.”
4. Each contestant must be a U.S. citizen, an Indiana resident, and a Vanderburgh County resident. The only exception: she may reside in an adjoining county if the majority of her activities are in Vanderburgh County.
5. Each contestant must be an active member of at least one worthwhile organization in her community such as church groups, Girl Scouts, 4-H, etc.
6. The contestant will be judged on the basis of poise, personality, and the ability to converse. The judging is divided into four categories: 30 second speech on the topic of the Vanderburgh County Fair, interview, onstage modeling of evening gown, and on stage question.
7. The requirements for each division include:
 - Speech:* Prepare and present a speech no longer than 30 seconds, on the topic of the Vanderburgh County Fair. Speeches will be scored on natural speaking ability, delivery, poise and originality. Each speech will be timed, with one point deducted for speech going over 30 seconds. Speeches will be delivered before the panel of three judges at the preliminary judging.
 - Interview:* Immediately following the speech, each participant will engage in a private, three-minute interview with the panel of three judges. This session consists of impromptu questions. The speech and interview are private and closed to the public.
 - Attire -* Denim (jeans/skirt/capris -contestants choice) and Queen T-shirt that is provided to each contestant
 - Formal Wear –* For the evening pageant, contestants are asked to wear age appropriate formal wear, with at least one portion of the hemline being floor length (touching the floor or top of the contestant’s foot). A gown with the skirt split above the knee (more than 2” above the kneecap), a low-cut bodice and/or cut/design inappropriate for the county pageant may be discounted by the judges.
 - On Stage Question –* At the evening pageant, each contestant will be asked an on stage question. The questions will not be provided before the pageant.
8. The Miss Vanderburgh County Teen Pageant will be held on Monday, July 20, 2026. The preliminary judging will begin at 1:00 p.m. at Blue Grass Church, 14200 Petersburg Rd, Evansville, IN 47725. The public pageant and

crowning will be in the 4-H center Auditorium at 5:00 pm. Enter Gate 2 (Boonville-New Harmony Road) right Lane.

9. The winner of the pageant will be crowned "Miss Vanderburgh County Teen 2026." Miss Vanderburgh County Teen and Court should be prepared to spend Friday, July 24, 2026, at the fair with the Queen/Court. You are encouraged to participate in activities and pass out ribbons at the animal shows throughout fair week. The winner and court will be given additional information after the pageant.
10. Points and score sheets are for the judges' assessment only and will not be made available to the contestants. The judges' decision will be final.
11. Late entry fees will not be refunded.
12. There will be on stage practice in the Auditorium on Sunday, July 19 at 5:00 p.m. Bring shoes you will be wearing for pageant to practice. Parents will wait outside.
13. Contestants are expected to work a shift at Kids Corner on Saturday, July 25, 2026
14. The Miss Vanderburgh County Teen 2026, will have the opportunity to compete at the Indiana State Festivals Association Scholarship Princess Pageant on November 7, 2026.
15. The pageant committee reserves the right to adjust the pageant rules according to the number of entries for the 2026 year.