

VANDERBURGH COUNTY YOUNG MISS PAGEANT RULES

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Committee – Katie Barnes, Laura Duncan, Lauren Durchholz, Robin Lax, Dru Moreland, Rachel Pohl, Emma Ruedlinger, Rhonda Klueg-Slater, and Alyssa Welte

The deadline for entering the Miss Vanderburgh County Young Miss Pageant is June 26, 2026.
To enter, go to vanderburghcountyfair.com (Events, Contests, Pageants, Young Miss Pageant)

1. Each contestant must be at least 10 years old and not had her 13th birthday as of July 20, 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.
3. A \$25.00 entry fee (make checks payable to the Vanderburgh County Fair Association), **a copy of the contestant's birth certificate**, and a photo, (no larger than 4x6) 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 three categories: modeling of a fun outfit, interview, and an on stage question.
7. The requirements for each division include:
 - Fun Outfit* - An outfit that will show off the contestant's personality. Examples include: sports uniform, sundress, ballet costume. The outfit must be appropriate for 10 to 12 year olds. No formal dress or pageant dresses will be allowed. The contestant must wear the same outfit for daytime and evening judging. Handheld props are permitted. The contestant will be expected to explain to the judges and audience why she chose this outfit.
 - Interview* - Each contestant will have an interview with impromptu question from the judges.
 - On Stage Question* - On the night of the pageant, each contestant will be asked an on stage question. The questions will not be provided before the pageant.
8. The Vanderburgh County Young Miss Pageant will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2026. The day judging will begin at 4:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. The evening pageant will be held in the Auditorium at 7:00 p.m., following the Little Miss and Mister Contest. Enter Gate 2 (Boonville-New Harmony Road) right Lane.
9. The winner of the pageant will be crowned "Vanderburgh County Young Miss 2026." Young Miss and Court should be prepared to spend Friday, July 24, 2026, at the fair with the Queen/Court. You are welcome to pass out ribbons at the animal shows throughout fair week as well.
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. Anyone who verbally complains to the judges, chairpersons, or emcee will be ineligible for next year's pageant.
11. Late entry fees will not be refunded.
12. There will be on-stage practice in the Auditorium on Sunday, July 19 at 3:30 pm. 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 pageant committee reserves the right to adjust the pageant rules according to the number of entries for the 2026 year.