


# YOU have been approved to become a State Contestant!

The MISS USA® and MISS TEEN USA® program offers young women the opportunity to advance their personal, professional and humanitarian goals. If you are crowned our new state titleholder, you will receive an incredible prize package including cash, wardrobe, travel and other fabulous gifts. In addition, if you win our state pageant, you will go on to represent your state at the MISS USA or MISS TEEN USA national pageants! If you win MISS USA, you will represent our entire country in the MISS UNIVERSE® pageant! **This year, Kiran Reddy of Georgia is MISS TEEN USA 2026 and Justus Kelley of Virginia is MISS USA 2026. Kiran took home a prize package worth over $300,000 and Justus took home a prize package worth over $650,000 including a $150,000 salary and a new 2026 Range Rover she gets to keep!**

## THE NEXT STEP:

To become an official contestant you will need to pay the $395 entry fee. Once your entry fee is paid we will email you a contestant confirmation packet. This will contain information about the competition and how to prepare. You will also be required to pay an $900 production fee (due later). The entry and production fees help cover pageant production and operational expenses.

**Simply mail the last two pages of this packet with your entry fee payment to our office or use the link provided on page 3 to submit the forms and payment online. Upon receipt of your preliminary contract/title request form and entry fee, we will email you your contestant confirmation packet and you can get started!** Even though you have been invited to participate, you will not be an official contestant until you submit the preliminary contract/title request form and $395 entry fee. Your production fee will be due at a later date. You will be a part of an incredible event where you will meet others with similar goals and strengthen your interview and presentation skills throughout this journey.

# PAGEANT WEEKEND:

This year the MISS ILLINOIS USA and MISS ILLINOIS TEEN USA pageant will be held the weekend of **May 28-30, 2027, at the Braden Auditorium in Normal, Illinois.** The official host hotel is the Marriott Hotel & Conference Center. Contestants will be responsible for providing for their own hotel room, transportation to and from theater, and some meals. Registration and the interview competition will take place at our host hotel. If you prefer to stay at the host hotel, a link is provided on the state website to book your room.

A link to purchase show tickets for family and friends will be available on the web site at a later date. If you would like to attend one of our other State Pageants, watch for ticket information on the state's website. You can also view one of our other state pageants live at pageantvision.com.

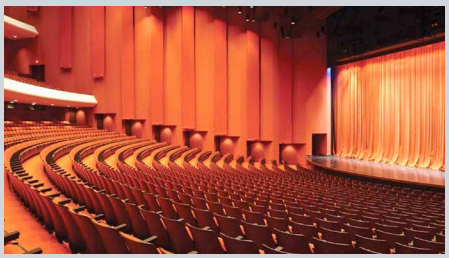
As a state contestant, we promise you fun, excitement and something of value. This journey will be hard work, but you will learn a lot throughout the process. You will receive direction on runway presentation, speech and stage technique, as well as work with a show producer and choreographer. You will not only take part in two stage shows; a Preliminary Show and a Coronation Show, but meet other amazing contestants from across the state of Illinois. The pageant promises to be an exciting weekend!

### 2027 MISS ILLINOIS USA
### MISS ILLINOIS TEEN USA

May 28-30, 2027
Braden Auditorium
Normal, Illinois

### HOST HOTEL:

Marriott Hotel & Conference Center






# PROGRAM BENEFITS:

The Miss USA Organization empowers women to develop the confidence they need to achieve their personal best and encourages every woman to step out of her comfort zone and to simply be herself. A confident woman has the power to make real change, starting in her local community with the potential to reach a global audience.

Representing your state in the MISS USA or MISS TEEN USA Pageant will be exciting and rewarding! All 51 state contestants will be introduced on stage in an opening extravaganza. During their stay in the national host city, the contestants receive the star treatment. What an exciting time for the whole family to enjoy some fun and quality time together!

**No doubt, becoming MISS TEEN USA, MISS USA, or maybe even MISS UNIVERSE, would be the most magical year of your life.**

# JUDGING:

- Interview Competition
- Evening Gown Competition
- Swimsuit/Active Wear Competition
- There is no performing talent or essay competition

Each state contestant will be judged in three equal areas of competition: Active Wear (Teen) or Swimsuit (Miss), Evening Gown, and Interview. These areas of competition are designed to help showcase your ability to serve as a role model to your peers. You will have the opportunity to demonstrate your stage presence, physical fitness, personality, communication skills, etc. You will receive more information on wardrobe guidelines and information regarding your preparation in your contestant confirmation packet (via email).

## ENTRY FEE:

You have been selected as a potential contestant so your next step is to **ENTER**. There is a $395 non-refundable entry fee. Once we receive your entry fee, we will send you lots of important information including your official competition title and your contestant portal password that gives you access to required paperwork, sponsor forms, and the official contestant handbook that contains lots of valuable preparation advice so that you can begin getting ready! **Enclosed, you will find a "Preliminary Contract" form and a "Title Request" form. You can mail them to our office with your $395 entry fee or select the link at the bottom of this page to submit the forms and payment online.**

**Please return the $395 entry fee, preliminary contract and title request form within 14 days.** With a show of this caliber it is essential that our state contestant roster be completed as soon as possible and you have ample time to prepare for the pageant. However, if you run into a problem, do not hesitate to contact us so that we may hold your spot. We are happy to work through delays with you!

## PRODUCTION FEE:

Once you become an official state contestant, you will be required to pay a $900 production fee. The non-refundable production fee is NOT due now. You will be required to submit 3 payments of $300 over the next few months. You will receive payment deadlines in your contestant packet. **The production fee must be paid in full in order to compete.**

You can pay the production fee yourself or choose to find sponsors. Sponsors may include businesses, civic clubs, family, friends and neighbors. You may list up to 15 sponsors (name, phone, and/or website) in the contestant sponsor area of the program book. You also have the option of purchasing full page spotlight ads at $300 each to promote yourself and/or any sponsors. The spotlight page is not only a way to promote yourself and give your sponsors additional exposure, but a great way to raise additional money towards the pageant! If you raise more than your required fees, that extra money is yours to keep to use on your competition wardrobe, show tickets for your family, or pageant weekend hotel rooms! Finding sponsors has never been a problem to a dedicated state contestant, but it will require work and could pay off in ways you've never dreamed! Good luck and have fun. As always, we are here to provide encouragement and ideas. Just call or e-mail us if you need anything.

To help in your fundraising efforts, Vanbros will create you an official contestant graphic with your photo that you can send to family and friends, along with a link to a web page where they can submit a sponsor payment towards your required fees. Remember, your contestant handbook located in the online paperwork area will contain several tips on how to obtain sponsors.

Entering the state pageant is the first step towards these fabulous opportunities. We are excited to have you join us for our fun-filled weekend event. Please refer to the following pages for specifics on date and location for your state pageant. **There is much more information in the pages to follow, so be sure and read it all.**

If you have any questions, please contact Karen: **913-381-7121**; ***karen@vanbros.com***. We are happy to answer any questions and want to make this pageant experience a lifetime memory!

**Mail the last two pages of this packet and your entry fee to our office or select the link below to submit the forms and payment online.**

SUBMIT ONLINE

**VANBROS** AND ASSOCIATES INC.
23712 W 83rd Ter • Shawnee, KS 66227
**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm
**Phone:** 913.381.7121 • **E-mail:** *karen@vanbros.com*
**Web:** *missillinoisusa.com* • *vanbros.com* | **Instagram:** *@vanbrosgirls*

VANBROS
AND ASSOCIATES INC.

23712 W 83rd Ter • Shawnee, KS 66227
913.381.7121 • vanbros.com • @vanbrosgirls

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missmissouriusa.com • missnebraskausa.com • missoklahomausa.com

MISS USA
MISS TEEN USA
ILLINOIS

# Dear Teen Parents,

Joining in the excitement of a major state pageant can be very rewarding for a young lady. It will enable her to meet new friends, enjoy an atmosphere of glamour and fashion, and develop the poise, confidence, interpersonal and career-enhancing skills that will benefit her thoughout life! Our pageant is the Official Preliminary to the 2027 MISS TEEN USA® and MISS USA® Pageants. The winner of MISS TEEN USA® will go on to compete for the title of MISS TEEN UNIVERSE® and the winner of the MISS USA® pageant will go on to compete for the title of MISS UNIVERSE®!

Unlike many pageants, the MISS USA® and MISS TEEN USA® State Pageants do not require a performing talent, a platform, an essay, or proof of community service. Rather, our program is designed to discover the poise, personality and beauty within your daughter. We also highly encourage the pursuit of education, and career goals. We usually discover that when a young lady increases her self-confidence and grows through this journey, she becomes a much more active member of her community and wants to make a positive difference in other peoples' lives as well.

There will be a detailed contestant handbook provided to your daughter once she signs up as a contestant. Through reading the handbook, all of our participants will be given instruction on how to enhance their pageant interview skills, runway and stage presentation techniques. For many thousands of young women who have participated in the Official Preliminaries of the MISS USA® and MISS TEEN USA® pageants, the experience will be remembered for a lifetime.

There is information in this packet outlining when and where our state pageant will be held. When she enters the pageant, you will be receiving further information. A link to purchase show tickets for family and friends will be available on the web site at a later date. We want to assure you that your daughter will be well taken care of during the pageant event. There are chaperones on staff to watch over, answer questions, and to assist the girls. Contestants will be responsible for providing for their own hotel room, transportation to and from the theater, and some meals. Registration and the interview competition will take place at our host hotel. If you prefer to stay at the host hotel, a link is provided on the state website to book your room.

Attached to this packet are two flyers regarding college scholarships available to your daughter as an official contestant or the winner of the state pageant. **Missouri Valley University in Marshall, Missouri, is offering a scholarship to ALL of our contestants, runners-up and Teen winner. The winner of the MISS ILLINOIS TEEN USA will also recieve a full-tuition 4-year scholarship valued at $114,944 from Mississippi State University!**

Please make sure that you review with your daughter all of the materials you receive from the pageant so that you both will be familiar with our program. Also, if you have any questions, you may feel free to contact us. Our entire staff is dedicated to the tradition of the MISS TEEN USA®, MISS USA®, and MISS UNIVERSE® pageants, and to making this pageant a lifetime memory for your daughter and your family!

Respectfully,

John, Jason, Karen, and Jennifer
VANBROS and Associates Staff

MISS ARKANSAS USA® • MISS ARKANSAS TEEN USA® • MISS ILLINOIS USA® • MISS ILLINOIS TEEN USA® • MISS KANSAS USA® • MISS KANSAS TEEN USA®
MISS MISSOURI USA® • MISS MISSOURI TEEN USA® • MISS NEBRASKA USA® • MISS NEBRASKA TEEN USA® • MISS OKLAHOMA USA® • MISS OKLAHOMA TEEN USA®
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# MISS USA® ✦ MISS TEEN USA®

## STATE PRELIMINARY CONTRACT

**Return this preliminary contact, your $395 entry fee, and title request form to the pageant office within 14 days.**

☐ **I APPLY AS AN ENTRANT IN THE 2027 MISS ILLINOIS USA PAGEANT, preliminary to the MISS USA® PAGEANT.**
I WAS BORN DURING THE YEAR 2008 OR BEFORE.

☐ **I APPLY AS AN ENTRANT IN THE 2027 MISS ILLINOIS TEEN USA PAGEANT, preliminary to the MISS TEEN USA® PAGEANT.**
I WAS BORN DURING THE YEARS OF 2008-2012.

**TEEN CONTESTANTS ONLY:** I have never participated in a previous national MISS TEEN USA® Pageant. I am not married, have never been married and have never had a marriage annulled. I have not given birth to a child, and am not now pregnant nor am I a parent. If any of these conditions change, then I will notify the state director immediately and I understand that this may affect my eligibility.

**ALL CONTESTANTS:** I have never participated in a previous national MISS USA® Pageant. I will not participate in any other pageant leading to a national pageant that may be similar in concept to that of the MISS USA/TEEN USA State Pageant, from the date this agreement is signed, until after the 2027 MISS USA/TEEN USA State Pageant. I further agree that my failure to keep and perform this aforesaid agreement shall, at the option of the directors of the MISS USA/TEEN USA State Pageant, and/or MISS USA/TEEN USA® Pageant, terminate my present status as a contestant and bar me from the MISS USA/TEEN USA State Pageant and/or any MISS USA/TEEN USA State Pageant preliminaries.

I am and will continue to be a person of good moral character; I affirm that I have not committed and will not commit any act inconsistent with the highest standards of public morals and conventions or that will reflect unfavorably on the pageant, its representatives, sponsors and/or licenses; that I have not appeared in the nude for any film or publication prior to the MISS USA/TEEN USA State Pageant, nor will I during my reign should I become the State Winner or MISS USA/TEEN USA®.

I must be recognized medically and legally as a female in the United States, a citizen of the United States, and at least one of the following is true:

(1) I have been or I will be a resident in my pageant state for at least ninety (90) days prior to the state pageant (although I may have attended school, college or university on a full-time basis elsewhere during all or part of that period); OR

(2) I have resided in my pageant state as a full-time student at a school, college or university for one full semester, trimester or summer session immediately prior to the state pageant, and still enrolled as a full-time student at a school, college or university and will continue to reside in the state (although I may spend the summer in another state); OR

(3) I work at least forty (40) hours per week in my pageant state, qualify for employment benefits provided by my employer, and have maintained such full-time employment for a period of at least ninety (90) days prior to the date of the State Pageant.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family (i.e., mother, father, sister or brother) or anyone living in my household is currently, or has within the last two (2) years been, employed by or an officer, director or agent (including a volunteer worker) of any of the following: (1) Vanbros and Associates, any company or enterprise they own or control, or of any company or enterprise under common ownership or control with them; or (2) The Miss USA Organization, JKN Universe, LLC d/b/a The Miss Universe Organization, JKN Global Group Public Company Limited, BDE Miss USA LLC dba The Miss USA Organization, Ernst & Young ("EY"), any other entity or entities that we designate, or any of the subsidiaries, affiliates or related companies of the foregoing. (IF YOU OR ANY MEMBER OF YOUR IMMEDIATE FAMILY IS EMPLOYED BY ANY OF THE FOREGOING OR AFFILIATED WITH ANY OF THEM, YOU MUST NOTIFY YOUR STATE DIRECTOR IMMEDIATELY, SO YOUR ELIGIBILITY MAY BE DETERMINED.)

I agree that if selected to represent this state in the MISS USA/TEEN USA® Pageant, I will participate in the pageant and abide by all rules and regulations governing that pageant.

I agree that if I win the state title or the title of MISS USA/TEEN USA®, then I will not participate in any pageants during the time that I hold either of those titles, unless authorized in writing by The Miss USA Organization.

If paying any of my mandatory fees via PayPal or credit card, I agree to pay the 3.5 percent handling fee and agree not to dispute any PayPal or credit card charges following the competition. I understand that I may be responsible for any money due if any of my sponsors disputes a PayPal or credit card payment after the competition.

**I understand that ALL FEES are non-refundable, even if I become ineligible based on requirements in the state contestant contract.**

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By the signatures below, applicant and her parent or guardian certify that they have read and understand the rules and regulations as set forth within and that applicant meets the requirements and will comply with the rules and regulations stated. Any untrue statement of failure to comply may result in applicant's disqualification.

_____
Applicant Signature Date

_____
Parent/Guardian Signature (required if applicant is under 18) Date

_____
VANBROS and Associates, Inc. Date of Approval

***All fees are non-refundable.***

# MISS USA® ✦ MISS TEEN USA®

## TITLE REQUEST FORM

**Return this title request form, your $395 entry fee, and preliminary contact to the pageant office within 14 days.**

Contestant Name:_____Home Phone: (  ) _____

Address: _____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip Code: _____

Cell Phone: (  )_____ Home Phone: (  )_____

E-Mail:_____

Occupation:_____ Work Phone: (  )_____

Date of Birth: _____ Current Age: _____ I will be competing in **MISS:** _____ **TEEN:** _____

**MISS:** I was born during the year 2008 or before **TEEN:** I was born during the years of 2008-2012

**ADDITIONAL CONTACTS:**

Name:_____ Relationship:_____ Cell Phone: (  ) _____

Name:_____ Relationship:_____ Cell Phone: (  ) _____

### What is a Title?

To become a contestant, you need to select a competition title. Titles are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. You can choose a title based on your hometown (Kansas City, Tulsa, Little Rock, Chicago), your county (Jackson County, Seward County, Washington County), or a 'catch phrase' (Show Me State, Sooner State, Razorback Nation, etc.).

This title is for pageant competition purposes. It may also be used for appearances, community service, and/or promotion. You may also use your title to seek support from potential advertisers/sponsors. If you ever have a question about how to appropriately use your title, please contact the pageant office. Once you have paid your entry fee and become an official contestant, you will have the option to purchase an embroidered sash with your approved competition title that you can use to obtain sponsors, do community work and/or make appearances. You will also have the option to purchase an official state contestant crown through Vanbros & Associates. Any misuse of the title can result in the title being revoked and your disqualification from the pageant competition.

The title will become effective once you have paid your entry fee and return this form. Your title will expire at the end of the State Pageant, and no further use of the title or sash will be allowed. The sooner you return this form with your entry fee, the sooner your title can be assigned and you can use it to make appearances and obtain sponsors. Every effort will be made to give you one of your top three choices. If none of your choices are available or approved, you will be contacted and we will work with you to find a suitable one. Again, upon receipt of this form, the preliminary contract, and entry fee, you will be notified of your competition title in your contestant confirmation packet. Congratulations on making this exciting decision, and welcome aboard!

### My Title Requests are:

My 1st Choice:_____

My 2nd Choice: _____

My 3rd Choice: _____

### $395 Entry Fee Payment: (ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE)

❑ I am enclosing a Check or Money Order. Name:_____ Check/MO #: _____ **Payable to Vanbros and Associates**

❑ You have permission to charge $395 to my: MasterCard__ Visa__ Discover__

Name on Credit Card:_____ Signature:_____

Card #: _____ Exp. Date:_____ CVV/CVC #:_____

**Please return all paperwork and fees to: Vanbros and Associates, 23712 W 83rd Ter, Shawnee, KS 66227**

# MISSOURI VALLEY UNIVERSITY



Vanbros and Associates would like to thank Missouri Valley College for their support of our state pageants and acknowledge their dedication to the young women of Arkansas, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. Through their generous scholarships, any contestant just participating in the pageant has the opportunity to pursue and obtain a college education; therefore, strengthening the role of female leaders in our state and country.

500 EAST COLLEGE STREET • MARSHALL, MISSOURI 65340 • 660.831.4000

***moval.edu***

## 2027 MISS STATE TITLEHOLDER

Full-Tuition per year Undergraduate Residential Scholarship;
$50% per year Undergraduate Online Scholarship;
$235 discount per credit hour Graduate Scholarship

## 2027 MISS RUNNERS-UP

$3,000 per year Undergraduate Residential Scholarship;
$25% per year Undergraduate Online Scholarship;
$100 discount per credit hour Graduate Scholarship

## 2027 MISS SEMI-FINALISTS

$3,000 per year Undergraduate Residential Scholarship;
$25% per year Undergraduate Online Scholarship;
$100 discount per credit hour Graduate Scholarship

## ALL 2027 MISS CONTESTANTS

$1,500 per year Undergraduate Residential Scholarship;
$15% per year Undergraduate Online Scholarship;
$50 discount per credit hour Graduate Scholarship



## 2027 TEEN STATE TITLEHOLDER

Full-Tuition per year Undergraduate Residential Scholarship

## 2027 TEEN RUNNERS-UP

$5,000 per year Undergraduate Residential Scholarship

## 2027 TEEN SEMI-FINALISTS

$5,000 per year Undergraduate Residential Scholarship

## ALL 2027 TEEN CONTESTANTS

$3,500 per year Undergraduate Residential Scholarship






# ATTENTION ALL TEEN CONTESTANTS:

**If you win a MISS TEEN USA® state pageant you will receive a FULL TUITION SCHOLARSHIP* to Mississippi State University.**

*Scholarship is worth $114,944, will be spread across four years (eight semesters), and is only available to Miss Teen USA State Titleholders who will be first time college freshmen at MSU.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™**

***msstate.edu***

# MISS USA
# MISS TEEN USA

SHE'S ICONIC™



**MISS USA 2026** won a prize package valued at over **$685,000** including a **$150,000 salary**, an apartment in Miami, and a 2026 Range Rover.

## 2026 MISS USA Runners-Up

1st Runner-Up: **$15,000** Cash Award
2nd Runner-Up: **$10,000** Cash Award
3rd Runner-Up: **$6,500** Cash Award
4th Runner-Up: **$3,500** Cash Award



**MISS TEEN USA 2026** won a prize package valued at over **$310,000** inclidung a **$50,000 salary** and a 2026 Range Rover.

## 2026 MISS TEEN USA Runners-Up

1st Runner-Up: **$7,000** Cash Award
2nd Runner-Up: **$5,000** Cash Award
3rd Runner-Up: **$3,000** Cash Award
4th Runner-Up: **$1,000** Cash Award