



2024 Gratz Fair Queen Program



Welcome, and Thank You for your interest in the Gratz Fair Queen Competition. Below you will find rules and requirements that must be met and followed by all contestants and/or contest winners at all times. The purpose of the Gratz Fair Queen Program is to encourage promotion of Agriculture, promote the Gratz Fair and Promote the Gratz Fair Queen Program. Contestants do not need to live on a farm or be a member of an agricultural organization to participate.

Please take time to read the following rules and requirements in their entirety. The following rules and requirements are to be followed at all times to include: all local events and/or competition and state events and/or competition. The governing board - Gratz Fair Queen Committee and/or Gratz Fair Board - shall have the sole discretion to determine whether, in its judgment, the Fair Queen or Contestants may continue to participate in the program, in the event that Board determines that any statement or representation is not true and accurate, or that any action is inconsistent with the rules, standards and dignity of the Program.

Each Fair Queen contestant must

1. Be a female who is a U.S. citizen, a resident of Pennsylvania and for the local contest: a resident of Dauphin, Northumberland or Schuylkill County.
2. Be at least age 16, but no older than 20, years of age as of June 1 of the year entering the local contest.
3. In order for the crowned Gratz Fair Queen to participate in the state competition she must be certified as the winner by the Gratz Fair Queen Committee and Gratz Fair Board.
4. Have not been a former local Fair Queen winner, nor a former PA State Fair Queen contestant.
5. Not hold any other title (city, county or state) for any other commodity group or pageant during the year of contest and if crowned of her reign.
6. Have her parent(s)' or guardian(s)' consent to enter the competition. If crowned Fair Queen, parent(s) or guardian(s) will again be asked to sign a behavior policy.
7. Be single, have never been married, have not been pregnant nor given birth to a child.
8. Act in accordance with the PA Fair Queen "Behavior Policy" – *see below*.
9. Meet all time commitments, Fair Queen obligations and "Dress Code" as set forth by the PA State Fair Queen Program – *see below*.

Fair Queen Behavior Policy

The Contest's governing Board shall have the sole discretion to determine whether, in its judgment, the Fair Queen or Contestants may continue to participate in the Program, in the event that the Board determines that any statement or representation is not true and accurate, or that any action is inconsistent with the rules, standards and dignity of the Program.

The following will be considered violations of the Policy and will be grounds for immediate disqualification, dismissal and/or being banned from future Fair Queen competitions:

1. Any infractions of any Fair Queen Contest rules.
2. Smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, chewing gum, foul language and/or public displays of affection to dates/boyfriends while wearing crown and/or sash and representing the Fair Queen Program.
3. Engagement in any illegal, unpartisan, unethical, indecent and/or morally questionable behavior, including but not limited to online representations on the Internet such as social networking sites (Facebook, Myspace, Snapchat, Twitter, etc.).
4. Use of any illegal controlled dangerous substances or abusing the use of alcohol or other dangerous substances.
5. Any defamation of the Fair Queen Contest, its winners, contestants, Fair Queen Coordinator, judges or the PA State Fair Queen Program and their Directors and committee members and judges, whether it be oral or written. This includes posting on the internet.
6. Any uncooperative or unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after the competition.
7. Appearing in crown and banner at any event without an official invitation from an authorized event coordinator or event board member.
8. During the week of the Fair, as well as all events, you are to be accompanied at all times by an adult (PA STATE FAIR RULES). Your parents, someone from the Fair Queen program, Fair Board member or someone approved by the Fair Queen Program. No "guest" (boyfriends, dates, friends, family members) permitted up on stage as an event is going on.
9. You will be at events in a timely manner (that is at least 15 minutes early).

Fair Queen Dress Code

Wearing of the Fair Queen crown and/or sash is to be considered an honor and privilege. The bearer is now an ambassador representing herself, her family, her community and Fair.

While fashion styles may change, good taste does not!

Responsible, appropriate and professional appearance is expected while the Fair Queen is wearing her crown and sash:

1. Attire that is conducive to the specific appearance or event (i.e. business casual [blouse, pants, skirt, dress (shoulders must be covered)], formal [prom-like dress], etc.).
2. No jeans, sneakers, flip flops or boots. Alterations may be made to this jean-footwear rule only if
 - a. severe weather or unsafe conditions exist and
 - b. the Fair Queen's official coordinator or Board Member has approved an alteration consistent with the professional appearance expectation. You must ask for permission of wearing any kind of boots or jeans .. and then Coordinator must approve.
3. It is required that closed toe shoes be worn when in livestock areas, for safety reasons.
4. No visible piercings (other than earrings) or tattoos.
5. No outfit that shows cleavage.
6. Dresses/skirts must be no shorter than the height of a dollar bill (approx. 2.5") from the bottom of the dress/skirt hem to the top of the knee cap.
7. No clothing that advertises, promotes, or glorifies the use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or anything inconsistent with the dignity of the Fair Queen Program.
8. No unnatural hair color whether it's all the hair or just some.

Gratz Fair Queen Obligations

If crowned the Gratz Fair Queen, the following are events that are to be attended by the reigning Fair Queen. Every attempt should be made to attend all events and to represent the Gratz Fair in a professional, timely and appropriate manner. Events include:

1. Attend functions during the week of the Gratz Fair as deemed appropriate by the Gratz Fair Queen Committee and/or Gratz Fair Officials.
2. Attend Farm City Days at the Farm Show Complex during the week of the Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE).
3. Attend and participate in the PA State Fair Queen competition, which is conducted during the Pennsylvania State Fair Convention held at the Hershey Lodge every January.
4. Attend other events or obligations that may arise on behalf of the Gratz Fair which may include but is not limited to: Parades, Fundraisers, Community Events, other Gratz Fair events, Gratz Fair Board Meetings and various speaking engagements at schools, rotary clubs, and other community/public venues.
5. Come up with at least one fundraiser during her rein.
6. Keep an event summary log.
7. Make a scrapbook and create a display to be exhibited during the following Fair week illustrating how she promoted the Gratz Fair and agriculture during her reign.
8. Was exclusively the Gratz Fair Queen for her entire reign and did not participate in any other pageants nor hold a city, county or state title or any other from any group during that time (year of contest and if crowned the year of her reign.)
9. Scholarship disbursements are at the end of her reign, and dependent upon fulfillment of the duties and obligations as listed above.

Gratz Fair Queen Competition Overview

1. No entry fee.
2. Applicant must be available to participate in Boot Camp (which is usually one or two Sunday(s) before the competition), the day of the competition (Sunday-first day of the Fair) and includes judging in the morning prior to the stage portion of the competition as scheduled by Gratz Fair Queen Committee.
3. Competition judging consists of:
 - a. **Type Essay** in **300 words** or less on the topic: "What My Fair Means to My Community" to be included with initial application (typed in black).
Judging Criteria: content, grammar and spelling.
 - b. **Personal Interview** each contestant will meet alone with the panel of judges for designated amount of time. Dress code is business pants and blouse (NO SKIRTS OR DRESS).
Judging Criteria: conversational ability, the answers to the questions, appearance/poise, activities, and knowledge of the Fair.
 - c. **15 Second Personal Introduction** to Fair attendees. The introduction should be similar to that which the Fair Queen would use to introduce herself at events (include your name and hometown). Dress code is formal prom-like dress (approved by Coordinator).
 - d. Judging Criteria: content, stage presence, and appearance.
 - e. **Delivery of Speech** 3 to 5 minutes long on "Why You Should Come to My Fair"

The speech should be a persuasive speech targeted toward an adult audience. Props that enhance the speech are permitted but are not required. Contestants are judged on their public speaking skills, not entertainment ability. Overhead projectors or power point presentations are not permitted. Dress code is formal prom-like dress.

Judging Criteria: speech content (to included agriculture), speech format, conveying a message, public speaking ability, poise/presence.

- f. **Response to impromptu question** as designated by Gratz Fair Queen Committee. Each contestant will answer a different impromptu question individually.
- g. Judging Criteria: response to the questions, content of the response, poise/appearance.

The Fair Queen will reign for one (1) year and must be available to attend daily functions/events during the week of the annual Gratz Fair as deemed necessary by the Gratz Fair Queen Committee and other Gratz Fair Officials. The winner will also be required to attend other events and activities throughout her reign as discussed above. In the event that the Fair Queen is no longer able to fulfill her duties due to a breach in any of the statements above the Fair Queen will give up her Sash, Crown and any prizes.

The Fair Queen will receive a cash award: \$750 at the end of her reign, and in compliance with the conditions and terms stated in this document.

The deadline to apply to participate in the Gratz Fair Queen Competition is August 1. Please mail completed application and essay to: **Gratz Fair Queen Contest, C/O Paula Davis, 8991 Route 25, Spring Glen PA 17978. For more information or questions please contact Paula Davis by text or call at (717)579-3107, or email PaulaDavis325@yahoo.com.**

By signing below “you” – the contestant and/or her parent/guardian – acknowledge and accept the rules, terms, conditions and obligations as outlined. “You” agree to abide by the outlined rules, terms, conditions and obligations and “you” understand that failure to abide will result in disqualification as a contestant or the forfeiture of a title if given such a title.

*****Submit all pages of this application, a copy will be sent back to you via mail with more information on the competition. You will be contacted by Facebook private group after all applications have been received and approved*****

Applicant Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

2024 Gratz Fair Queen Competition Application

(PLEASE TYPE)

Contestants Name: _____

Parent or Guardian Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____

State: Pennsylvania Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Age as of Fair Contest: _____ Date of Birth: _____

High School: _____

College and Major if attending College _____

What year of High School/College did you begin this Fall: _____

Please answer the following questions with a brief explanation (TYPE ANSWERS)

What are your career goals?

What have been your primary scholastic achievements?

What extracurricular activities have you been involved in?

What awards or honors have you received?

What have been your community, church, etc. activities?

What are your hobbies?

Do you have any employment experience? If yes, where, what position and how long?

Is there other information you feel is important? If so list:

Please TYPE IN BLACK in 300 words or less your thoughts on “What My Fair Means to My Community” and attach with this application.

I the applicant and her parent/guardian certify that the above statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if any of the statements are found not to be true and/or complete that I may be disqualified from the Gratz Fair Queen competition and may result in forfeiture of any title, if given such a title.

Applicant Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date