



Miss Ohio 2024

Competition Rules & Evaluation Process

April 2024

The following information details the Miss Ohio 2024 State competition rules and judging process.

This information is subject to change to meet the requirements set by the Miss America Organization.

PHASES OF COMPETITION

Private Interview

Wardrobe: Contestant's Choice – Stylish Interview Attire

Materials: Contestant Fact Sheet & Community Service Initiative Essay

The Private Interview phase of competition allows insight into the contestant's ability to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the Miss Ohio role description and provides the opportunity to learn as much as possible about the contestant's qualities and attributes to fulfill the titleholder term. Allows insight into the commitment to advance and execute her community service initiative and have an exceptional term, as well as insight into the commitment to continue her education. Also allows insight into the ability to express and distinguish her beliefs and have a true knowledge of the world around her, in addition to getting a sense of accomplishments.

- Interviews may be up to ten (10) minutes as follows;
 - An opening statement to introduce her community service initiative, up to 30 seconds.
 - Questions from the panelists for 9 nine minutes.
 - An optional 30 seconds for the contestant to finish responding to a question or closing statement.
- A podium will be provided.
- Contestants are not to approach the panelists or panelist's table at any time.
- Contestants may not bring anything with them into the interview session.
- Contestants are not permitted to perform any portion of their talent during the interview.

CRITERIA FOR SCORING PRIVATE INTERVIEW - Overall "first impression"; exceptional communication skills including speech, vocabulary, and grammar; a confident and charismatic personality; ability to express and distinguish her beliefs; attractive and stylish in an age-appropriate manner; leadership and sense of accomplishment; and knowledge and understanding of her community service issue. Can you envision the public, and especially young people, being positively impacted by meeting this young woman?

- Each panelist will score the Private Interview phase of competition from 1 to 10 and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The Private Interview phase of competition will account for 30% of the contestant's preliminary score.

Performing Arts Talent / HERStory

Wardrobe: Contestant's Choice: Talent Costume or Outfit

The Performing Arts Talent / HERStory phase of competition allows insight into the contestant's preparatory and performance or storytelling skills. Overall presentation skills and ability to deliver a captivating presentation. Looks at selection of presentation, interpretive ability and entertainment value relative to the category of performance art. Her stage presence, on-stage personality, and personal connection to her story. Allows a look at the totality of the performance elements of the on-stage presentation and the ability to capture the attention of an audience while performing.

- The time limit for Talent competition is ONE (1) minute and THIRTY (30) seconds or less. Panelists will be informed immediately if a contestant runs over her allotted time and instructed to adjust scores accordingly.
- For vocalists, the background track may not include vocals performed by the contestant.
- For those playing instruments, the background track may not include instruments played by the contestant.
- If a contestant wishes to perform a double talent, i.e. singing and dancing, or singing and playing piano, she must do both live on stage. She will only be scored for what is done live.
- There can be no duplication of a talent act among the contestants. This is determined on a first come, first serve basis. The first contestant to register her talent is the one who will have preference.
- A contestant may not include in a vocal medley the same song another contestant is planning to sing as a solo or as part of a different medley.
- No disrobing of any kind on stage – this includes removing any type of costume, etc. – a contestant may go behind a screen on stage, out of site of the audience.
- Any props that a contestant has on stage must be used and provided by the contestant.
- The Miss Ohio Scholarship Program will provide a piano for talent but will not provide any other instruments or props.
- No props will be permitted unless they are absolutely functional! A contestant may NOT use any of the following:
 - No mood setters or background enhancers.
 - No props that imitate those used in a Broadway or screen version of her music.
 - No props that require excessively large stage areas and complicated setting up.
 - No live animals.
 - No props involving safety hazards such as: fire batons, sword twirling, knife throwing, archery, etc.

CRITERIA FOR SCORING PERFORMING ARTS TALENT / HERSTORY - Looks at talent presentation as well as the performance and interpretive ability and technical skill level including execution, technique synchronization and control. Allows insight into stage presence and on-stage personality and a look at the totality of the elements; Costume, Props, Music, Voice, Use of the Body, and Choreography, as well as how entertaining, and relatable the performance is.

- Each panelist will score the Performing Arts Talent / HERStory phase of competition from 1 to 10 and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The Performing Arts Talent / HERStory phase of competition will account for 20% of the contestant's preliminary score.

Health & Fitness

Wardrobe: Rebel Athletic Wear, Miss America Specific wardrobe choices

This phase of competition allows the contestant to showcase her commitment to health and fitness initiatives. Contestants should demonstrate comfort, confidence, energy while on stage in front of an audience. A contestant's discipline and commitment to health and fitness is a key to success in all other areas of life, and the rigors of being Miss Ohio.

- Contestants are required to wear the pre-approved Miss America line of Rebel Athletic Wear
- Contestants will move to a pre-blocked high energy routine for approximately 20-30 seconds.

CRITERIA FOR SCORING HEALTH AND FITNESS - Overall "first impression"; physically fit; dynamic presence and sense of confidence and self-assurance. Can she complete the presentation with vitality, energy, and spirit. Does she meet the public's expectation of Miss Ohio.

- Each panelist will score the Health & Fitness phase of competition from 1 to 10 and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The Health & Fitness phase of competition will account for 20% of the contestant's preliminary score.

Evening Gown

Wardrobe: Contestant's Choice - Evening Gown

The Evening Gown phase of competition allows contestant to present her sense of style in evening gown in a fashion suitable for an appearance as Miss Ohio. Part of Miss Ohio's role will be attending galas, fundraisers, award presentations and other formal events. This often involves walking a red carpet, posing for press photographers, modeling in fashion shows, promoting various Miss Ohio or Miss America partners. Allows an insight into the contestant's ability to capture the audience's attention, her comfort, style, confidence, and composure.

- Contestants will walk a pre-blocked pattern for approximately 45 seconds.

CRITERIA FOR SCORING EVENING GOWN - Allows a look into how the contestant exhibits her own personal style, attitude, personality, grace, presence, and confidence in evening gown. Allows a look into composure, confidence, the attention she captures on the stage, her command of the stage, presence, and how she appears in the spotlight. First impression reaction and a look at posture and carriage. Note: Neither the gown itself nor the estimated cost of the gown will be considered in scoring.

- Each panelist will score the Evening Gown Carpet phase of competition from 1 to 10 and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The Evening Gown phase of competition will account for 20% of the contestant's preliminary score.

On-Stage Question

Wardrobe: Contestant's Choice - Interviewing for the position

Provides an opportunity for the audience to hear about the contestants chosen community service initiative. She may provide a unique perspective as well as convey her commitment and desire to create further interest in her CSI. This brings a glimpse of the interview on-stage in an interactive and engaging way to showcase each contestant's intelligence, personality, charisma, and aptitude. A sense of composure when presenting ideas to an audience is a must for Miss Ohio.

- Each contestant will answer one question about her Community Service Initiative.
- There is a 30 second time limit to answer the question.

CRITERIA FOR SCORING ON-STAGE QUESTION - Consider first impression reaction. Ability to articulate thoughts, along with ease of communication, stage presence, engaging presence, and relatability. Sense of confidence, composure, intelligence, and a true understanding of her chosen community service initiative. Only consider how she answers the question, not whether you agree with her answer.

- Each panelist will score the On-Stage Question phase of competition from 1 to 10 and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The On-Stage Question phase of competition will account for 10% of the contestant's preliminary score.

PHASE OF COMPETITION AWARDS

Awards may be presented for various phases of competition.

Ties for Specific Phases of Competition Awards

If there is a tie between two or more contestants for a phase of competition that needs to be broken, the following process is to be used to break the tie.

The names of the tied contestants are placed on a tie breaking ballot (one for each panelist) along with the phase of competition where the tie exists. Panelists are to circle their choice to break the tie.

DETERMINING THE SEMIFINALISTS

The total of the Private Interview, Health & Fitness, Performing Arts Talent/HERStory, Evening Gown, and On-Stage question phases of competition will determine the semifinalists.

If there is a tie for the last semifinalist position between two or more contestants, the tie will be broken by the higher score of following phases of competition in the order listed below.

- Private Interview
- Performing Arts Talent/HERStory
- Health & Fitness
- Evening Gown
- On-Stage Question

The Semifinalists may also include a Contestant that receives the most votes from an online public vote process.

At this point all Preliminary Scores are discarded.

SEMIFINALISTS COMPOSITE SCORE

Upon the conclusion of the preliminary competition, the panelists will convene to issue a composite score individually and silently for each of the Semifinalists. Each panelist will receive an individual contestant score sheet (one contestant per sheet) and will review their notes and issue a composite score. The panelists will turn in their ballot for that contestant and the same process will be repeated for the remaining Semifinalists.

CRITERIA FOR COMPOSITE SCORING – Panelists are to consider all factors and a contestant’s overall performance and the role of Miss Ohio when assigning this Composite Score. This includes the sum of all qualities of the contestant, the contestant’s ability to represent the Miss Ohio Scholarship Program in an official sponsor/partnership appearance, Miss America brand initiatives and community service and advocacy opportunities.

- Each panelist will issue a Composite Score from 6 to 10 and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The Composite Score will account for 30% of the Semifinalists score.

SEMIFINALISTS REVIEW

Following the composite scoring of the Semifinalists, the panelists will have a brief confidential and conversational discussion on the semifinalists who are advancing to compete on the Final Night. As with the Composite Scoring, this is a confidential process. The panelists initiate an open discussion related to each contestant’s ability to perform the role of Miss Ohio and assume the responsibilities for her year of service. The meeting’s sole purpose is to allow panelists to glean insight from their fellow panelists. There are no comments, discussions or decisions regarding scores or potential placement.

FINAL NIGHT COMPETITION - SEMIFINALISTS

Health & Fitness

The Semifinalists will recompete in Health & Fitness, same process as the preliminary competition.

- Each panelist will score the Semifinalists Health & Fitness phase of competition from 6 to 10 and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The Semifinalists Health & Fitness phase of competition will account for 20% of the Semifinalists score.

Performing Arts Talent / HERStory

The Semifinalists will recompete in Performing Arts Talent / HERStory, same process as the preliminary competition.

- Each panelist will score the Semifinalists Performing Arts Talent / HERStory phase of competition from 6 to 10 and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The Semifinalists Performing Arts Talent / HERStory phase of competition will account for 20% of the Semifinalists score.

Evening Gown

The Semifinalists will recompete in Evening Gown, same process as the preliminary competition.

- Each panelist will score the Semifinalists Evening Gown phase of competition from **6 to 10** and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The Semifinalists Evening Gown phase of competition will account for 20% of the Semifinalists score.

On Stage Interview

The Semifinalists will recompete in On-Stage Interview, same process as the preliminary competition.

- Each panelist will score the Semifinalists On-Stage Interview phase of competition from 6 to 10 and the high and low scores will be dropped.
- The Semifinalists On-Stage Interview phase of competition will account for 10% of the Semifinalists score.

DETERMINING THE TOP FIVE FINALISTS

The total of the Semifinalists Composite Scores and the Semifinalist Competition Scores (Health & Fitness, Performing Arts Talent / HERStory, Evening Gown, and On-Stage Question) will determine the Top Five Finalists.

If there is a tie for the last finalist position between two or more contestants, the tie will be broken by the higher score of following phases of competition in the order listed below.

- Semifinalist Composite Score
- Semifinalist Performing Arts Talent/HERStory
- Semifinalist Health & Fitness
- Semifinalist Evening Gown
- Semifinalist On-Stage Question

At this point all Semifinalist scores are discarded. The Top Five Finalists will participate in the Final Conversation.

FINAL NIGHT COMPETITION – TOP FIVE FINALISTS

Final Conversation

For the Top Five Finalists Only!

Wardrobe: Contestant's Choice - Dress for Success for Final Interview

The Top Five Finalists will all be on stage at the same time and will participate in a highly energetic and challenging final conversation with the Emcee.

The Final Conversation with the Top Five Finalists are not directly scored. However, the responses to the conversation will be factored into the panelist's decision during the Top Five Finalist Final Balloting process.

The Final Ballot

Following the Final Conversation, the panelists will receive a final ballot listing the Top Five for the final ranking.

The panelists are to consider the overall performance on the Final Night and Miss Ohio's role description, as well as qualities, attributes, and requirements necessary for the position of Miss Ohio presented during the panelists' orientation. Panelists will rank the order in which contestants could best perform as Miss Ohio as the "face" and the "voice" of this organization.

The panelists will rank the Top Five Finalists in the order which they believe each contestant should place;

- First place vote is worth 10 points.
- Second place vote is worth 5 points.
- Third place vote is worth 3 points.
- Fourth place vote is worth 2 points.
- Fifth place vote is worth 1 point.

The high and low scores are NOT dropped on the final ballot, all the panelists' scores count on the final ballot.

The final ballot points will be totaled, and these points alone will determine the final outcome.

SUMMARY OF PHASE/SCORE VALUE CHANGES DURING THE COMPETITION

Phase/Scores	Preliminary	Semifinalists	Finalists
Private Interview	30%	-	-
Health & Fitness	20%	20%	-
Performing Arts Talent / HERStory	20%	20%	-
Evening Gown	20%	20%	-
On-Stage Interview	10%	10%	-
Composite Score	-	30%	-
Final Ballot	-	-	100%