



## Miss Ohio & Miss Ohio's Teen 2026 Competition Rules

February 2026

The following information details the Miss Ohio and Miss Ohio's Teen 2026 State competition rules.

**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.

#### 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, and 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.

## 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.

**Contestant's talent choice must be one of the pre-approved talents listed below.**

Vocal	Instruments	Dance	Gymnastics (all types)
Painting	Baton Twirling	Magic	Stand Up Comedy
Monologue	Dramatic Reading	Slam Poetry	Flags/Color Guard Presentation
Spoken Word	Martial Arts Demo	Silks	Roller Skating
Hula Hoops	Balancing Acts	Unicycling	Theatrical Science Experiments
Juggling	Ventriloquism	Rodeo/Roping	Cheerleading
Signing	Contortionist	Storytelling (HerStory)	
Cheer Skills ( <i>Partners approval by request</i> )		Ballroom Dancing ( <i>Partners approval by request</i> )	

Any talents not listed above may be submitted to the Miss Ohio Scholarship Program for review and approval by the Miss America Organization.

Talents must also adhere to the following guidelines.

- 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 that mimic the vocals performed by the contestant.
- For those playing instruments, the background track may not include instruments that mimic the 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.
- If you intend to perform a medley, you are limited to two songs/musical pieces for the medley.
- Any onstage costume changes must be pre-approved by the Miss Ohio Scholarship program.
- Any props that a contestant has on stage must be 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.

## 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.

For a list of Miss America approved Rebel Athletic Wear and to purchase an outfit, visit

<https://www.rebelathletic.com/mao.html>

## 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.