

Miss Ellis County & Miss Duncanville

Miss Teen Ellis County & Miss Teen Duncanville

The Ellis County Scholarship Organization is looking for young women who are not only leaders in and out of their school atmosphere, but also high achievers both academically as well as in their everyday life. These young women are usually highly involved in sports, church, volunteering, and giving back to their community. Below are the categories of competition along with age requirements and information to help you in your preparation:

AGE REQUIREMENTS:

Teens: To be eligible to compete in the 2008 Miss Teen Ellis County / Duncanville Pageant,....

Age Rules to Compete in a 2008 MAOT Pageant

Age as of August 31, 2008	Age as of the First Day of the 2008 Local Pageant	Age as of the First Day of the 2008 State Pageant in States that Allow At-Large Contestants	Eligible to Compete on the Miss Level in the Miss America Program at any Point During the Current Pageant Year ⁽¹⁾	Eligible to compete in 2008 Teen Locals, 2008 Teen States, and in the 2009 Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageant (Finals in August 2008)
13 - 17	13 - 17	13 - 17	No	Yes
13 - 17	13 - 17	13 - 17	Yes	No
Over 17	13 - 17	13 - 17	No	No
Over 17	13 - 17	13 - 17	Yes	No

(1) Must not be eligible to compete on the Miss level in the Miss America Program at any point during the current Pageant Year. (For example, if a contestant turns 17 years of age on the last day that a local Miss pageant is being held in her state, and will be graduating in the Spring...and she chooses to not compete or is unable to compete in that competition for any reason other than eligibility, then she is still "eligible" to compete on the Miss level and is therefore ineligible to compete in the Miss America's Outstanding Teen Program).

- May not have graduated from high school before the National Finals, except for 16 year olds who graduate early
- May be starting her senior year of high school in the following Fall
- Must reside in or be enrolled in and attending classes on a full-time basis in an accredited school or home schooling program
- Must be a resident of the state of Texas or the state they choose to compete in for a minimum of 6 months prior to the first day of her local competition
- Must have completed one full semester as a full-time student if she is competing in a state because she is a student in that state
- Must not be holding another title with a similar pageant system or be under contract to another company or pageant that would conflict with the contract you would be signing as Miss Teen Ellis County or Miss Teen Duncanville.

Miss: To be eligible to compete in the 2008 Miss Ellis County / Duncanville Pageant.....

- Must be between the ages of 17 and 24 years of age. Must be 17 and a High School Senior by the time of my first appearance in preliminary round of the local or state competition and no older than twenty-four (24) years of age on December 31, 2008 (for Miss America 2009).
- Must graduate from high school or receive their G.E.D. by the spring/summer of 2008.
- Must have completed one full semester as a full-time student if she is competing in a state because she is a student in that state
- Must be a resident of the state of Texas or the state they choose to compete in for a minimum of 6 months prior to the first day of her local competition
- If you held a Miss America local title during the 2007 pageant season and either resigned your title or lost your title for some reason, you may not be eligible to compete in a Miss America local pageant again until the 2009 pageant season. Please contact the director prior to entering.

- Must not be holding another title with a similar pageant system or be under contract to another company or pageant that would conflict with the contract you would be signing as Miss Ellis County or Miss Duncanville.

CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION AND SCORING PERCENTAGES

<u>Teen</u>	<u>Miss</u>
Private Interview – 35%	Private Interview – 25%
Talent – 35%	Talent – 35%
Aerobic Wear – 10%	Swimwear – 15%
Evening Gown – 15%	Evening Gown – 20%
On Stage Question – 5%	On Stage Question – 5%

Platform Statement

This is not a separate judged event, but each contestant will have a chosen platform or issue of concern that she will promote during her year of service to Ellis County and/or Duncanville. This should be an issue that she feels passionate about raising awareness for to make changes for the better. This issue will be discussed during her interview with the judges. If you aren't certain how to begin or have further questions, don't hesitate to contact us for guidance at Elliscty@sbcglobal.net

Please note that the Miss America Organization also works closely with the Children's Miracle Network (CMN). You will need to be doing some work in this area and need to be aware of this charity and the work they do.

Private Interview

Contestants will wear a dress, business suit, or pantsuit that would be appropriate for a professional job interview. No jeans and no sundresses please. You do not have to spend a lot of money, but you are interviewing for a job. You want to make a good first impression.

Questions from the judges will be asked "Press Conference" style and in no particular order. The interview is open to any type of question on any subject. If you don't know the answer, you are welcome to state, "I'm sorry. I don't know." That is acceptable.

At the beginning of the interview, Miss and Teen contestants will walk to the podium in front of the judges' table.

- Miss ~ there will be NO opening statement from the Miss contestants. Your interview will begin with a judge's question. You will have up to 30 seconds to make a closing statement following your 9 ½ minutes of question and answer conversation. This closing statement allows you to “wrap up” your interview and add any statement that you feel the judges should know about you.
- Teen ~ there will be NO opening or closing statement prior to your 6 minutes of question and answer conversation. This is on the local level. The state competition will be the same but 8 minutes in length.
- Time limits for interviews could change prior to our local pageant date due to Miss America or Miss America's Outstanding Teen rule changes.

Aerobic Wear (Teens)

- The contestant's drive, energy, and presence are to be likewise considered.
- Contestant will wear an aerobic or workout top of her choice but no “bra STRAP” style tops. Any color, print, or pattern is acceptable but no logos (Nike Check, Adidas, etc). No glitz or rhinestones.
- Contestants will wear black aerobic or jazz shorts with a 3” inseam. These must be solid black with no other color and no logo.
- Footwear must be solid white “Keds” style tennis shoes with no socks.
- No hose may be worn during the Aerobic Wear competition.
- Contestants may not wear oil on their legs.
- Stud earrings only may be worn. No other jewelry.

Swimwear (Miss)

- Swimsuit for Miss Contestants may be either a one-piece or two-piece but no string bikini or thong. Wear a suit style appropriate for your body type and suitable for a family show.
- No hose may be worn during swimwear competition.
- Contestants may not wear oil on their legs.
- You may wear earrings if you choose. No other jewelry, please.
- Stay Put or “Butt Glue” will be used to keep your suit in place in the back.

Talent

- Talent presentations may not exceed two minutes (2:00) in length and will be timed.
- Only the contestant will be permitted on stage during her talent presentation. No other person can be part of her presentation.
- Talent presentations must be performed live.

- Talent routines that are prohibited include the use of fire, fireworks, swords, knives, or machetes, bow and arrow acts, live animals, or liquids of any type.

How Do I Enter?

Miss ~ the fee to enter the Miss Ellis County / Duncanville Pageant for 2008 is a \$100.00 donation in your name to the Children's Miracle Network (CMN). This fee must be paid by going to www.MissAmerica4Kids.org and registering as a new contestant. If you registered and competed last year, use a new ID to avoid confusion. Register under Miss Ellis County/Duncanville 2008 with a \$100.00 goal and then send e-mails out to all of your friends from the same sight to let them know how they can donate and help you reach your goal. When you register, print your receipt showing you have registered. When you reach your \$100.00 goal, print the receipt again and send it to us to put with your paperwork. Be sure you keep a copy for your records also. You will not be allowed to compete without this receipt on file

Teen ~ the fee to enter the Miss Teen Ellis County / Duncanville Pageant for 2008 is \$100.00 which can be paid by cashier's check or money order. You can also pay online with Visa or MasterCard where the total is \$103.00 which includes the service fees.

**Deadline to enter for both Miss & Teen contestants is
September 16, 2007**