



The Miss America Organization and Children's Miracle Network Hospitals share a commitment to raise awareness and funds for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals across the country as well as the Miss America Scholarship Program. This partnership creates the following opportunities for contestants and Miss America titleholders:

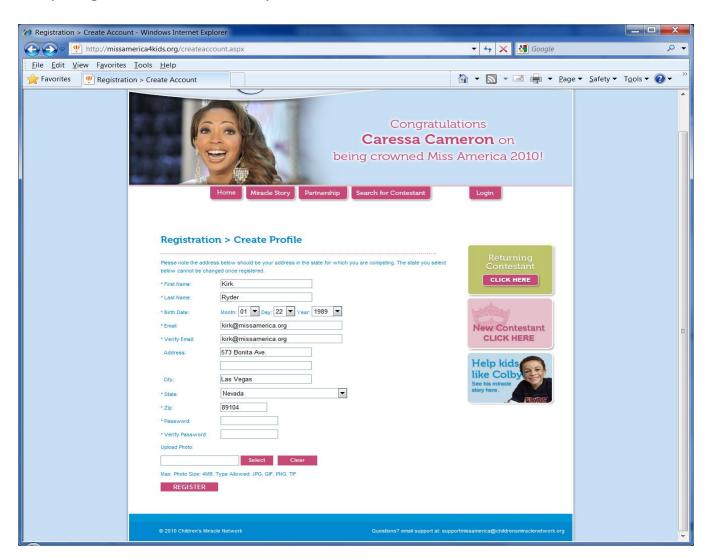
- Miss America acts as a goodwill ambassador for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals throughout her year of service.
- Miss America contestants at all levels raise money and awareness for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and the Miss America Scholarship Program.
- Children's Miracle Network Hospitals is the national platform for the Miss America Organization.
- The tradition of the personal platform continues and contestants and titleholders can raise awareness for their chosen advocacy cause.

Registration Instructions for Local Pageant Contestants

Congratulations on becoming involved with the world's largest provider of scholarship assistance for young women. Last year the Miss America Organization and its state and local organizations made available more than \$43 million in scholarship assistance to young women.

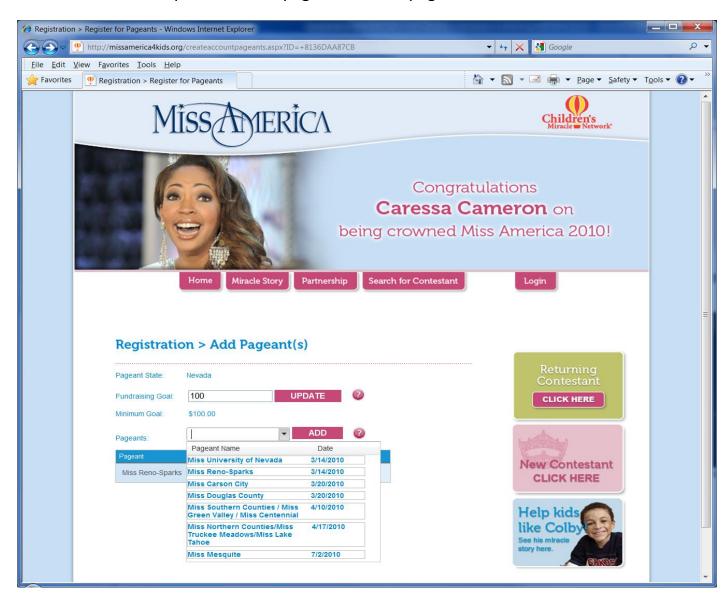
How to Register as a Contestant of a Local Pageant

Each contestant is asked to register online at www.MissAmerica4Kids.org. At the right-hand side of the page about half way down is a button that says "New Contestant – CLICK HERE." Click on that button and you're well on your way to competing in the Miss America system. You will then see a screen like this:



Fill out the mandatory fields (marked by an asterisk *) and click REGISTER at the bottom of the page.

Choose from the drop-down list of pageants a local pageant....



Your fundraising goal is automatically raised \$100 every time you choose another local pageant, up to \$400. You may increase your goal to any amount over the minimum required amount.

Minimum Fundraising Goal for each Pageant

Local: \$100 State: \$250 National: \$500

i.e. Registration for 3 local pageants requires a minimum goal of \$300

Automatic Qualification Status: Raise \$400 or more at the local level and you are qualified for all local pageants. Once you have entered the pageants you plan to enter, you will see the pageant(s) listed.

Send Emails

Click on "Send Emails" on the left hand side and enter email addresses to send to your friends and family. Tip: send one email to yourself to your own email address, then when you get that email from the system, add a personal note to that email and forward that email to as many as you like within your own email system. You could ask for \$5, \$10, \$20 or whatever they can give to both great causes.

It is as simple as that. You may track your progress and see how you are doing. The more emails you send, the more funds you raise for both of these great organizations. Yes, these funds are for both entities – the donations help increase the future scholarship fund at the Local, State and National Levels, as well as go to supporting the children's hospitals.

Please take a few minutes to register for the pageant in which you will be competing at: www.MissAmerica4Kids.org.

If you have questions please contact:

Kirk Ryder

Director, Field Marketing / Liaison to Children's Miracle Network
Miss America Organization, Las Vegas Office
kirk@missamerica.org

or

Children's Miracle Network 4525 South 2300 East Salt Lake City, UT 84117 support@childrensmiraclenetwork.org

MISS ALABAMA LOCAL CONTESTANT CONTRACT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY FOR 2015-2016

Name of Local Pageant:			
Name of Contestant:			
E-Mail Address:			
Telephone:	Cell Phon	e:	
Address:			
City:	s	tate:	Zip:
College/School:			
College Major:			
Hometown:			
SECTION A: ELIGIBILITY (See Section 2.2	of the complete contrac	t for age requ	uirements.)
Age as of the date of preliminary:	Date of Birth:		_ (Enclose a copy of birth certificate.)
Choose ONE of three fro	om the boxes below (Se	ee Section 2	2.3 of the complete contract).
I have been a resident of the State of Alaenclosed) OR	abama for at least six (6)	months (cop	by of driver's license or lease must be
I am claiming student status. I have suc (at least 12 hours) or graduate student in			
			at least six months (see Section 2.3.3 of the g phone numbers, address, and employment
SECTION B: CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NET	<u>work</u>		
Note: To compete this year, you must registe	er on the CMN web site in	the <u>2017 Pa</u>	ageant Cycle.
# of hours you have worked for CMN:	Am	ount of mone	ey you raised for CMN:
I have created my CMN profile on www.miss understand that if I compete in more than or local pageant so that it reflects the current lo	ne local pageant, I must i	update my C	MN profile each time I compete in a different
SECTION C: COMMUNITY SERVICE PRO	JECT (if different from	CMN)	
Name of Community Service Project:			
# of hours worked on Community Service Pr	oject:	Amoun	at of money raised:

MISS ALABAMA LOCAL CONTESTANT CONTRACT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY FOR 2015-2016

SECTION D: TALENT PRESENTATION
Type of Talent (vocal, dance, piano, etc):
Name of Talent Selection:
Type of microphone preferred (if available): Cordless Microphone with stand Lavaliere
Will you be using props?
Please write a short 2-3 sentence introduction for your talent presentation:
Contestant checklist of items to enclose with this page: Certified copy of birth certificate Six (6) copies of platform essay for judges' books Six (6) copies of resume for judges' books Six (6) black & white photocopies of 5x7 photo on 8.5x11 paper Photo (contact local pageant for additional photo requirements) CMN Verification Sheet (proof of the \$100 minimum CMN requirement) Local Contract (contact local pageant) [Note: This refers to a different contract that is drafted by each local pageant and varies from pageant to pageant.]
In addition to the above, enclose ONE of the following: Driver's license or Lease Agreement (ONLY if claiming eligibility to compete as an Alabama resident) Copy of current transcript (ONLY if claiming eligibility to compete as an undergraduate or graduate student in Alabama) Proof of Employment (ONLY if claiming eligibility to compete as a full-time employee in Alabama)
By signing this Local Contestant Contract Acknowledgement of Understanding and Statement of Eligibility, I agree to abide by the complete Miss Alabama Local Contestant Contract for 2015-2016. I understand all terms and conditions of this application and the complete Miss Alabama Local Contestant Contract together with its attachments, and I request the Miss Alabama Pageant, Inc., to accept my application to participate in the Miss Alabama Preliminaries for 2015-2016.
Contestant Signature:
Parent Signature (ONLY if contestant is under the age of 18):
SECTION E: NOTARY SECTION
Sworn and subscribed to before me this day of, 20
Notary Public of Signature:
SECTION F: DIRECTOR'S SECTION I have verified eligibility requirements, including the \$100 minimum CMN requirement, for this contestant, and this contestant may participate in this local competition pursuant to the terms of the complete Miss Alabama Local Contestant Contract and all attachments, and the Local Preliminary Contract for my local pageant.
Director Signature: Date:

Children's Miracle Network

Each contestant must raise a minimum of \$100 for the Children's Miracle Network to compete in a Miss Alabama local pageant. If you compete in more than one local pageant, you must raise a minimum of \$100 for each local pageant you enter up to a total of \$400. Once you have raised a total of \$400, you are not required to raise more money and can enter as many local pageants for which you qualify in the current pageant year. However, the \$400 is just a minimum; you may raise more money for CMNH if you wish to do so.

To administer the CMNH fundraising, each contestant must do the following:

- 1. Create your personal web page on the CMNH web site and designate it for the local pageant in which you are competing (see the CMNH MAO Guide.pdf below for details).
- 2. Raise the required funds for CMNH.
- 3. Print proof of registration and money raised to bring with you to the local pageant (or mail it in with your other paperwork). If you are personally donating to CMNH by check, please make the check out to CMNH (not the local pageant) and send it in with your other paperwork. If possible, please try to avoid bringing a check with you the day of the pageant.
- 4. If you compete in another local pageant, you must go in and update your CMNH page to reflect the next local pageant you are in.
- 5. ALL CMNH ACTIVITY FOR THIS YEAR MUST BE POSTED IN THE <u>2014</u> PAGEANT CYCLE.



Instructions for Completing the National Contestant's Resume

Please remember this is your opportunity to demonstrate to the judges why they should consider you for the job of Miss America. You may list as many or as few items under each category as you desire. Your only restriction is that it must follow the established format and it must fit on one page. This page, combined with the Platform Statement, will comprise your entire application for this job. The judges will receive exactly what is submitted. Any items submitted that do not fit the established criteria will be returned for correction only once. Any items, which do not meet the criteria or are submitted after the deadline, will not be given to the judges. If your resume arrives on the day of the deadline, but does not meet the criteria, there will not be time to return it to you; therefore, it will not be given to the judges. The contestant may explain the lack of judging materials during her interview, if she so chooses.

- 1. Go to the word processing program of your computer.
- 2. Start a "new" document.
- 3. Set margins for 1" on all four sides. The font style may not be any smaller than "10" and no larger than "12" point type, using the Times New Roman font style. Please refer to the attached sample to verify you are following the requested format.
- 4. With the justification set for left, type "Name:" in bold. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your name as you wish the judges to know it. (If your name is LaCricia Deborah Smith and you want to be known as "Deborah Smith", please type "Deborah Smith).
- 5. Then, move to the next line and type "**Title:**" in **bold**. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your state title.
- 6. Then, move to the next line and type "Hometown:" in bold. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar once. Then, type your hometown including the city and the state.
- 7. Move to the next line. Now set your justification to the right. Type "**Date of Birth**:" in bold. Hit the space bar two (2) times, and type the month, day, and year of your birth. (Ex. October 10, 1989)
- 8. Move Justification to the left. Double space down and type "Education:" in bold. Hit the tab bar three times and then type your most recent school first. If it is grad school, indicate it as such. List degree seeking (all on the same line as the name of the school), move to the line underneath that to list your undergraduate school and degree sought/achieved, and below that list your high school.
- 9. Double space down. Hit the tab bar once. Type "Platform Issue:" in bold. Hit the tab bar three times. Type the TITLE of your platform, MAKING SURE IT LINES UP WITH THE INFORMATION ABOVE IT. DO NOT TYPE ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE TITLE.
- 10. Double space down. Hit the tab bar once. Type "Scholastic/Career Ambition:" in bold. Hit the Tab bar once, MAKING SURE IT LINES UP WITH THE OTHERS ABOVE IT. Then type the type of degree/education you would ultimately like to achieve and beneath that, list your career ambition.

Instructions for Completing the National Contestant's Resume

Page 2

- 11. Double space down. Hit the tab bar once. Type "Talent:" in bold. Hit the tab bar three times. Type the type of talent and specific selection. MAKE SURE IT LINES UP WITH THE INFORMATION ABOVE IT. (i.e. Pop Vocal "Crying", Tap Dance "Staying Alive", etc.)
- 12. Double space down. Type "Scholastic Honors:" in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
- 13. Double space down. Type "Leadership Roles:" in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
- 14. Double space down. Type "Accomplishments:" in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
- 15. Double space down. Type "Interesting Facts:" in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
- 16. Double space down. Type "**Employment:**" in **bold**. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
- 17. Double space down. Type "How has the world you come from shaped your dreams and aspirations?" in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Please answer the question in sentence form.
- 18. Double space down. Type "Of all the ways you could succeed in your life, why have you chosen to succeed in the Miss America Pageant?" in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Please answer the question in sentence form.
- 19. Double Space down. Type "What social issue, other than your platform, will have the greatest impact on your generation and why?" in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Please answer the question in sentence form.

The entire form MUST FIT ON ONE PAGE using the Times New Roman font style. You must leave a 1" margin on all four sides of the page.

Use your best judgment on what is most important for the judges to know about you. Use your space wisely. Attached you will see an example of what it should look like.

This form will be given to the judges along with your platform statement. You will notice there is a **REQUIRED SIGNATURE LINE** at the bottom of the Platform Statement. When these two pages are put together, they will create your entire application. Your signature will cover the materials listed **ON BOTH PAGES**. Your signature verifies that everything on your forms is true and accurate. If it is proven that any information on these forms is not true, correct, and factual, you risk losing your local/state title.

Some spacing issues may arise. Simply follow the example provided.

DUE IN NATIONAL OFFICE FOUR WEEKS AFTER YOUR STATE PAGEANT



Instructions for Typing the National Contestant's Platform Statement

Please remember. This is your opportunity to explain to the judges what your chosen platform is and why it is important for the Miss America Organization to embrace this platform. In addition, it should explain how your platform will further the Miss America Organization "brand" to the public. This ONE (1) page, single-spaced document combined with the Contestant's Resume, will comprise your entire application for this job. The judges will receive exactly what is submitted. Any items submitted that do not fit the established criteria will be returned for correction only once. Any items that do not meet the criteria or are submitted after the deadline will not be given to the judges. If your Platform Statement arrives on the day of the deadline, but does not meet the criteria, there will not be time to return it to you; therefore, it will not be given to the judges. The contestant may explain the lack of judging materials during her interview, if she so chooses.

- 1. Go to the word processing program of your computer.
- 2. Start a "new" document.
- 3. Set margins for 1" on all four sides. The font style may not be any smaller than "10" and no larger than "12" point type using the Times New Roman font style.
- 4. With the justification set for left, type "Name:" in **bold**. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your name.
- 5. Then, move to the next line and type "**Title:" in bold**. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your state title.
- 6. Double space down. Set your justification to "center". Then type in **bold and underline** the title of your Platform.
- 7. Double space down. Write what you feel is critical for the judge's to know about your platform and why it is necessary for you to have the job of Miss America to promote this issue. What you write will be what the judges know about your platform, your role in successfully dealing with this issue, and the role the Miss America Organization may play in your plan.
- 8. This essay **may** include some of the following items (this is not to be meant as an exhaustive list):
 - A clear definition of the platform and the specific issues you wish to address
 - A plan on how you have or will create awareness of the platform
 - The way in which you have or will change attitudes regarding the issue
 - The way in which you have or will change behaviors related to this issue
 - The way in which your platform issue will move the Miss America Organization forward
 - Your media plans
 - Your marketing strategy
 - How you propose to fund your ideas/plans
 - Any significant accomplishments you have made in regard to your issue
- 9. At the bottom of the page, you **MUST** set the justification to the right. Type a line of 26 spaces. Below that line, you must type Signature/Date and after printing **sign and date the document**.

Name: Jane Smith **Title:** Miss State

Celebrating Cultural Diversity and Inclusiveness

It is imperative that this nation face and embrace its cultural diversity. While many people have talked about this issue, I believe that most of them have only paid lip service to the true necessity of what needs to be addressed related to this issue. There is a false truth in merely accepting and tolerating cultural diversity. I intend to prove that in order to accept and understand people of other cultures; one must be willing to step out of a personal cultural comfort zone and identify the origin of their prejudice. I will specifically focus on three areas: Children, Communities, and Businesses.

The title of Miss America, combined with the national media already looking at the surface of this issue, will allow me to create the national awareness that must exist. Currently, the term "Cultural Diversity" is well known in the halls of institutions of higher learning and, perhaps, even in the public school classroom because of the need for some to be politically correct. But, in order for us to make a true change in attitudes and behaviors of Americans, we must move beyond talk and into action and policy changes.

My plan is to motivate the media and to partner with the National Conference for Community and Justice. This organization has chapters in every major city in the nation and, in many cases, those chapters have community leaders involved who can, with encouragement and challenging, bring this issue out of hiding and into the public light in each of those communities.

Obviously, the media and the NCCJ already exist. However, what is lacking is a lightening rod to draw attention to this issue. This is where the Miss America Organization steps into the lead. What better role is there for Miss America than to be an agent of change in organizing our nation to accept our differences and to create an environment that values each person on individual characteristics rather than on stereotypes or assumptions?

For years, Miss America was seen as a young woman who cut ribbons and appeared in parades. It is time for "Miss America" to step out of the convertible and *lead the parade*. Our country's ethnic make-up is changing rapidly and our citizen's fear of terrorism can explode already existing, but deeply hidden prejudices. I want to be the leader that this nation needs.

This nation needs this issue addressed now and through the already existing NCCJ and its local and state organizations combined with the power of Miss America, we can make a concrete difference now, which will change the direction and the future of our nation.

Signature/Date