

Areas of Competition and Judging

Scoring for 2017-2018 Local Competitions

Scoring

After each phase of competition, each judge awards the contestant a score of 1 to 10, with 1 being low and 10 being high. Only whole numbers are used. When tabulating scores, the auditors will drop the high and low score for each contestant, then add up the sum of the remaining scores. The score is then multiplied by the correct factor (for example, since talent is worth 30%, a contestant's talent score would be multiplied by 3). After all competitions are completed, the sum of each contestant's individual scores will determine her placement.

Talent - 30%

Interview - 25%

Evening Wear - 15%

Lifestyle and Fitness in Swimsuit - 10%

Final Question - 20%

Interview Competition (25% of total score)

Each contestant participates in an individual 10-minute press conference-style interview with our panel of judges. There are typically 5 to 7 judges on a panel. Contestants are questioned on their background as presented on their fact sheet, their educational and career goals, their opinions on current events and social issues, and their interests, hobbies and extracurricular activities. Scoring is based on overall communication skills, including personality, intelligence, validated opinions, emotional control, overall first impression and personal appearance, and whether the contestant possesses the overall qualities and attributes of a Miss America. Each interview consists of a 9-1/2 minute question and answer period. The interview concludes with the opportunity to make a final statement to the judges, for 30 seconds. This is optional; a contestant need not take this opportunity. They may end the interview at that time.

Talent Competition (30% of total score)

Contestants perform a 90-second routine of their own choosing. Some possible talents include all types of singing, dancing, gymnastics, instrumental music, dramatic or comedy monologues, baton twirling and ventriloquism. Other talents that can be performed solo on a stage are also possible. Phone or e-mail us if you have a question about your talent presentation. Scoring is based on contestant's skill and personality, interpretive ability, technical skill level, stage presence and the totality of all elements, including costume, props, voice, use of body and choreography.

Lifestyle and Fitness in Swimsuit Competition (10% of total score)

Each contestant briefly appears on stage in a one or two piece swimsuit and footwear of her own choosing. Scoring is based on overall first impression, statement of physical fitness and health, overall physique and proportion, walk, posture and grace, sense of confidence and presence on stage.

Evening-Wear Competition (15% of total score)

Each contestant appears on stage in an outfit of her own choosing, representative of what she would wear to a formal, black tie social event. Pant suits, cocktail dresses and evening gowns are all appropriate for this phase of the competition, though gowns are most often worn. Scoring is based on overall first impression, sense of confidence, personality and stage presence, walk and posture, appropriateness of attire and sense of attractiveness.

Final Question Competition (20% of total score) Each contestant will be asked an on-stage question. This will be the last competition of the evening, with each contestant being asked a question from either the host or a randomly selected judge. The Final Questions are highly confidential and not to be shared with anyone, especially contestants. The Final Questions must be relevant topics and cannot be platform-related.

Click the link below for additional information on eligibility requirements and how to apply.

[Become a Contestant](#)