



MISS PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT
CONTESTANT HANDBOOK



Miss PVAMU History

Dating back to 1932, the title of Miss Prairie View has been synonymous with class, grace, intellect, and leadership. From 1970 until the late 80s, Miss Prairie View A&M was a competitor in the Miss Texas Pageant leading to the Miss America Pageant. The title “Miss Prairie View A&M University” was established in 1973 when the sixty-third state legislature changed the name to of the college to “Prairie View A&M University”.

Title holders have participate in external pageants, capturing such titles of Miss Collegiate 100, and placing in the Miss Texas Pageant, Miss SWAC Pageant, etc.

Over the years, title holders have come from all over the United States including US territories such as the US Virgin Islands and internationally from the countries of Jamaica and Cameroon.

In 2022, Miss Prairie View celebrated 90 years!

Role and Responsibility

Miss Prairie View A&M University (Miss PVAMU) is one of the oldest and most celebrated student leadership roles. This role includes public speaking as a University Ambassador, student body spokesperson, student role model, and new student recruiter. The student awarded this title is expected to represent the student body and the University throughout the year in a variety of different activities/capacities.

Miss Prairie View A&M University is the University’s Queen and is considered an official representative. She is expected to represent Prairie View A&M University with integrity, leadership, poise, and scholarship.

CONTESTANT REQUIREMENT

1. Must be a validated, full-time, undergraduate Prairie View A&M University student.
2. Must have and maintain a cumulative 3.00 GPA to compete for and serve as Miss Prairie View A&M University.
3. Must be a rising Junior with a minimum of 60 credit hours or a rising Senior with a minimum of 90 credit hours. A minimum of 30 credit hours must have been earned at PVAMU.
4. Must be in compliance with the University Student Conduct Office.
5. Must be female, not married or have children. *
6. Must comply with and uphold the role, responsibilities, and guidelines outlined in the Miss PVAMU Contestant contract and the Miss PVAMU contract.
7. Complete and submit all application documents on or before the application deadline via the online portal:
 - a. Application
 - b. Headshot (Business Attire)
 - c. Unofficial Transcript (Note: Academic transcript will be reviewed in the Spring for continued eligibility)
 - d. Three (3) letters of Recommendation
 - i. One must come from a PVAMU Faculty, Staff, or Administrator
 - e. Statement Letter
 - i. How do you view the role of Miss Prairie View A&M University through the lens of leadership? (300 words or less)
 - f. Spring Course Schedule
 - g. Employment Schedule (if applicable)
 - h. Contestant Entry Fee of \$250 on or before the required deadline.
 - i. Contestant Entry Fee contributes to the overall production of the pageant.
8. Sell the required \$1000 of advertisements for the souvenir booklet.

Individuals vying for the positions of Miss Prairie View A&M University, cannot run for any executive office within the Student Government Association (SGA), as the title of Miss Prairie View A&M University is an executive position within SGA. Additionally, individuals are not allowed to run for any Class Royal positions. The candidate selected as Miss PVAMU is not allowed to hold any external titles.

COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The philosophy of the Miss Prairie View A&M University Scholarship Pageant stands on the premise that “each contestant competes against herself.” Each contestant must receive a score on a scale of 1.0 to 10.0, **using whole numbers only.**

The areas of competition are weighted accordingly for Miss Prairie View Contestants:

Private Interview	25%
Ambassadorial Oratory Presentation	25%
Talent	20%
Evening Wear	10%
Oral Expression	10%
*Student Vote_	10%
	100%

Private Interview (25%) is the first phase of the competition. Each contestant will meet with the panel of judges for 15 minutes. The interview takes place prior to the onstage competition portion. Similar to a job interview, during this time contestants will acquaint themselves with the judges in which questions will be asked. Questions will come from your Personal Self Portrait, current events, politics (National, State, and Local), PVAMU history and involvement.

This phase of the competition is for the judges to learn as much about you as possible. Contestants are to demonstrate their ability to express themselves, effectively articulate thoughts, as well their deportment. Contestants will be judged on how well questions are answered with ease and confidence. Answers should be succinct and given without rambling.

Private interview judging criteria includes:

- ***Overall first impression***
- ***Confidence and personal appearance/style***
- ***Intelligence and articulation (Speech, vocabulary, and grammar)***
- ***Validated opinions***
- ***Response to questions***
- ***Emotional Control***

Ambassadorial Oratorical Presentation (25%) Contestants will submit a presentation not exceeding two (2) minutes, in video format designed to provide information that promotes the university. Contestants will demonstrate their intellect by how well she has prepared her presentation, as well as the content and delivery. Content should be original. A copy of the speech/script must be provided to the Pageant Coordinator for approval. The recording must be submitted two (2) weeks prior to the pageant. Contestants may spend a max of \$200 for this category.

Ambassadorial Oratorical Presentation judging criteria includes:

- ***Overall first impression***
- ***Content/Intellect***
- ***Intelligence and articulation (Speech, vocabulary, and grammar)***
- ***Creativity***
- ***Audibility/Clarity***
- ***Overall presentation***

Talent (20%) is the first phase of the competition performed on stage. It is designed for contestants to showcase creativity, preparatory and performance skill. The Talent competition acknowledges the “Quality of the performance, “Technical Skill Level”, “Stage Presence”, and the interest and entertainment value. Contestants will be evaluated on originality, confidence, delivery, and appropriateness of costume. Talent must be single in focus,

Talent judging criteria includes:

- **Interpretative Ability: Technical Skill Level (overall execution, technique, synchronization, and control)**
- **Stage Presence (On-stage Personality, Command of Audience)**
- **Overall Elements (costume, props, music, voice, use of body and choreography)**

Judges will also consider the following:

Song selection and musical difficulty
Precision and grace in dance
Diction, clarity, and projection in monologues/drama
Quality of artwork and technique

Formal Wear (10%) is the second phase of the competition performed on stage. It is designed for the contestants to 'Make an onstage statement of her presence, personality, in both taste and selection of attire.

Judges will observe the contestant in motion, paying attention to their walk, arm swing, the position of hands, and modeling techniques.

Formal Wear Judging criteria:

Grace, poise, and charisma are all valuable things that judges will look for in addition to the following:

- **Overall First Impression**
- **Sense of Style and Composure**
- **Does she/he grab your attention by walking onto the stage?**
- **Consider the contestants total look (Dress, shoes, accessories, hair)**
- **Sense of confidence**
- **Personality and Stage Presence**
- **Sense of Style and Appropriateness of the Evening Wear**

Impromptu Question and Answer (10%) is the third and final phase of competition held on stage. During this portion, contestants will respond to a randomly selected question in which they will express themselves verbally based on their opinion.

Impromptu Question and Answer Judging criteria:

The contestant will be judged on clarity, vocabulary, beliefs and sincerity to the answer in addition to:

- **Overall "First Impression"**
- **Did the contestant answer the question in the context in which it was asked?**
- **Did she handle the pressure of speaking on stage in front of an audience**

***Student Vote (10%)** is determined by student electronic voting during the Student Government Association elections. Approved Miss PVAMU pageant contestants must attend the campaign meeting hosted by the Student Government Association, where information regarding rules and regulations will be provided.

Campaign materials should reflect the high standards and integrity of the title Miss Prairie View A&M University. All campaign material(s) will need to be submitted to the Miss PVAMU Pageant coordinator(s) prior to posting. Any questions or concerns in regards to campaigning should be directed to the SGA Elections Committee.

Tie Breaker

In the event of a tie, Tie-Breaker protocol will engage. The contestants with equal scores (tie) will be asked an additional Impromptu Question. Contestants will be asked the same question individually on stage.

Judges will use the same criteria used for the Impromptu Question and Answer portion.

GENERAL PAGEANT INFORMATION

Pageant Date: April 12th, 2023

Pageant Location: Opal Johnson Smith Auditorium, Memorial Student Center

Pageant Time: Tentatively 3:00 PM (Private Interview); 7:00 PM (On-stage presentation)

PAGEANT ATTIRE GUIDELINE

Private Interview: Contestants are required to wear a business suit/dress, reflective of your personality. Style and colors are open, yet should complement you. Remember, you are interviewing for the job/title of Miss Prairie View A&M University.

Ambassadorial Oratorical Presentation:

Talent: Contestants attire should be appropriate and fitting for and connects to the overall performance.

Formal Wear: Contestants attire for this category is select a long formal dress. Style i.e. fit or flowing gowns are optional. **Gowns with plunging necklines, plunging backs, high slits, or overly revealing cutouts will NOT be approved.**

Impromptu Q&A: Contestants are to wear their exact attire from the formal wear competition.

Note: All attire must be pre-approved by the MPVAMU Pageant Coordinator no less than **three (3) weeks prior to the pageant.** Contestants who fail to receive attire approval will forfeit the opportunity to compete in the respective category. For the Formal Wear Competition, no two contestant will be allowed to wear the same color, yet can be in the same color family i.e. Pink and Fuchsia or Navy Blue and Sky Blue. Color and attire approval is based on a first come, first approved bases. **Contestants will not be allowed to make any attire adjustments after approval.**

TITLES/AWARDS

The following titles and awards will be announced at the conclusion of the Competition:

- **Miss Prairie View A&M University:** Official Miss PVAMU Crown, elaborate bouquet of roses, \$3000 scholarship, Housing*, Meal Plan, Parking Pass**, access to all University programs/event.
- **1st Runner-Up:** Bouquet of roses, \$700 scholarship, and trophy.
- **2nd Runner-Up:** Bouquet of roses, \$500 scholarship, and trophy.
- **All category winners will receive a trophy for that segment.**

CONTESTANT RULES AND REGULATIONS

Upon being selected to compete in the Miss Prairie View A&M University Scholarship Pageant, you will be expected to adhere to the following and those stated in the Miss PVAMU Pageant Agreement:

- Attend all mandatory pageant workshops, meetings, practices, and events scheduled by the pageant coordinator(s),
- Provide notification in advance (24 hours) to the pageant coordinator(s) of any avoidable absences or tardies. After two unexcused absences, the contestant will be deducted 2 points for each subsequent absence thereafter. Points will go against overall total score.
- Understand that unexcused absences and/or unexcused tardiness will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from the competition.
- Contestants are expected to be respectful and courteous to fellow contestants in all spaces and platforms. Ill behavior and disrespect will not be tolerated.
- Crowdfunding for pageant participation is **strictly prohibited**.
- Candidates must adhere to the Miss PVAMUSP COVID policy.
- Additional guidance will be given to those selected to participate

MISS PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

Miss Prairie View A&M University is the **University's Queen** and is considered an official ambassador. She is expected to represent Prairie View A&M University with integrity, leadership, dignity, and scholarship. Upon being selected as Miss Prairie View A&M University, you will be expected to adhere to the following:

- Exemplify the highest standards of a Prairie View A&M Student;
- Be an outstanding scholar;
- Be involved in campus activities;
- Work unselfishly and cooperatively with the Advisor(s), the Student Government Association, University Administration and the Royal Court;
- Be committed to represent the title/position at all times;
- Represent the University at activities/events that she is invited to by the Student Government Association, Division of Student Affairs, President/University Administration and other approved sponsors. These events include, but are not limited to:
 - Academic Events; and appointed committees
 - Alumni Conferences and Functions
 - Approved Off-Campus Activities
 - Athletic Events
 - Campus-Wide Assemblies
 - Founder's Day/Convocation Activities
 - Parades
 - University Sponsored Events (President or Vice President's invitation)
 - Other Approved Competitions/Activities/Special Events;
- BE PROMPT, APPROPRIATELY DRESSED at all times and for/at events before the appointed time or time set by the advisor(s). Punctuality is **expected** and sanctions will be imposed for failure to comply;
- Miss PVAMU's public appearances must exemplify the position at all times. Attire selected must reflect professionalism and good judgment. This judgment will be closely monitored for adherence, as sanctions will be imposed accordingly for failure to comply;
- As a Representative of the University, Miss PVAMU should be sensitive to the University's colors (e.g. Royal Purple, Gold, Black, White, etc.)
- Miss PVAMU must complete six (6) programs, three (3) per semester related to her platform. **Platform must connect to the mission of the University.** A proposal must be submitted in writing to the Royal Court Advisor(s) during the Miss PVAMU Scholarship Competition process.
- The program coordinator(s) for Miss PVAMU will coordinate official itineraries and special request for speeches or appearances. All requests should be channeled through the advisor(s) to obtain clearance through the Office of Student Services.
- The program coordinator(s) must clear any off-campus events or activities in which Miss PVAMU is requested to attend.

- Miss PVAMU must maintain positive social media accounts, if any, with high regards and sensitivity to the image of the university. Disciplinary actions shall be taken if a Miss PVAMU is found to be in noncompliance. Disciplinary actions could result in removal of title, position, and all associated items as it relates to the title.
- The title holder of Miss PVAMU is not allowed to hold any additional titles while serving in the role.

While Miss PVAMU is a position that obligates her to many commitments, it must not be forgotten that she is a STUDENT first. She must not over commit herself to activities. The schedule of activities should not negatively impact her academic performance or health.