

Miss Iowa Scholarship Program

SECTION 5 Responsibility After the Competition

Within 48 hours of your local competition, the Local ED must visit the Miss Iowa Resource Portal and complete the **Candidate Information (48-hour) Form** and the **New Titleholder Photo Submission**. This is best to do with your new titleholder the night of or day following your competition. The information submitted on this form and the photo may be used by Miss Iowa program for the Miss Iowa website, social media sites, and other publications. It could be her candidate photo or one taken at the competition. There is a separate submission later in the paperwork process for her official Miss Iowa headshot.

Candidate Information Form (48-Hour Form) is located on the Miss Iowa Resource Portal.

Local Operating Report (LOR)

*Completion of the Local Operating Report is **required** and is due by the date designated on the form or as directed by the State Executive Director.* The LOR is created by the Miss America Organization and provides a summary of your Local program activity. There are several supporting documents that need to also be included: List of Local Board and Committee members, List of Candidates competing in your program, information regarding the Social Impact Initiatives and Community Service projects of your candidates. Your LORs are critical for the State Board's completion of the State Operating Report due to MAO each year.

State ED will forward or post the Local Operating Report forms when updated annually by MAO.

First Meeting with the Titleholder

Some Locals have a formal "first meeting" with the titleholder and her parents to inform of what is ahead for the upcoming year. The ED should clearly state what the Local expects from the Titleholder and what the new Titleholder can expect from the Local. Contents of the meeting should include, but is not limited, to the following:

- Managing preparation for the State competition, such as discussion of:
 - *State competition dates, State Orientation, timelines and expectations for prep
 - *Social Impact Initiative & Resume review, development, and completion
 - *Interview preparation & tools available
 - *Talent selection & preparation for State
 - *Community service
 - *State paperwork due dates & completion
 - *Wardrobe

 - *Hair, make-up consultation
 - *Health and wellness
 - *Official & State competition photos
 - *Expenses: Local responsibility and Titleholder responsibility
- Appearances for speaking, performances, parades, etc.
- Expectations for communication between the Titleholder and Local Board
- Rules of conduct for the Titleholder

Preparation for the State Competition

Some Local EDs ask the judges for critique and suggestions. Under **no** circumstances is the new Titleholder to be present when the judges give feedback to the ED or designee.

As Executive Director, you determine the person(s) to assist in the preparation of your titleholders. Listed below are areas of preparation to consider.

1. Social Impact Initiative. Carefully review your titleholder's Social Impact Initiative Statement submitted at the local level. What needs to be included to bring it to State Level competition readiness? The Titleholder may need to be in contact with experts in her social impact initiative field or with organizations that will aid in gathering information and/or assist in promotion of her initiative. She may need assistance in arranging speaking engagements or other activities that will enhance the development of the initiative. The rough draft should be reviewed for content, grammar, and spelling by the preparation group. The final responsibility for the social initiative statement belongs to the Titleholder, but the ED (or Local Prep Committee) should be overseeing and guiding her development.
2. Resume. MAO now permits candidates to have the flexibility to craft her Resume with the format and content to best show her individual accomplishments, personality, and information relevant for her "application" for the job. Review your candidate's Resume to evaluate for creativity, insight into the qualities and attributes of the candidate you wish to highlight, her education and career goals, or any other information the candidate wants to share with the judges. The content and format are at the discretion of the candidate, but she is limited to one page, one-sided.
3. Interview. Arrange for a series of mock interview sessions. Using local experts in education, business, health, and other areas on the mock interview panels will serve to increase interest in your Local competition as well as assist your Titleholder in her preparation. You'd be surprised how many people would be happy to participate in a mock interview – if you just ask! ☺ Be sure to provide your Titleholder's draft resume and social impact initiative statement to your mock judges in advance, and provide some question guidance to new judges. Suggest that he or she consider questions regarding the candidate's SII development, information from her resume, current events or hot topics, behavioral or personality-type questions, hypotheticals, personal experience questions, etc.
4. Talent. IF you consider a change to her talent, take an active role in the selection of a new piece, routine, etc. As your Titleholder prepares her talent, watch her perform it regularly. If her talent falls outside your area of expertise, invite an expert in that area to give you input. Advise the Titleholder in the selection of her talent costume.
5. Health and wellness. You are encouraged to openly discuss realistic health and wellness goals with your Titleholder, including mental health, sleep habits, and stressors in her life. Although Lifestyle and Fitness in Swimwear is no longer a phase of competition for Miss candidates, MAO has stated that healthy living is still important and should be given due consideration. That being said, unreasonable expectations for excessive weight loss can lead to severe problems with body image and confidence for young women, which is contrary to our goals. Discuss reasonable goals and accountability with a focus on improved health and wellness, from the inside out. If you've been fortunate enough to have secured a fitness sponsor for your Local Program, be sure your sponsor understands this philosophy.

6. Wardrobe. The basic competition wardrobe is interview attire, onstage interview/social impact pitch attire (which may be the same as interview), talent attire or costume, and red carpet attire (evening wear), plus fitness attire for Teen. The preparation group should assist the Titleholder (and her parents, if applicable) to select items within the financial means of the Titleholder and family. It is not the cost of the wardrobe, but how well it fits her body and her personality that is important. MAO emphasizes that wardrobe selections in all phases of competition should be “Candidate’s Choice”. In other words, MAO does not wish to provide restrictions or limitations on what the candidate wears. She should be comfortable and wear what most reflects her personality in each phase. Wardrobe and accessories may be borrowed or rented from outside sources, such as “Rent the Runway.”. If it is within the means of your program, a wardrobe allowance may be included in the gifts and awards package. Production wardrobe requirements for State (opening number attire for Miss and Teen and fitness for Teen) will be announced before Miss Iowa Orientation.

It is CRITICAL that you keep in close contact with your Titleholder(s) during this preparation to appropriately guide her and give her support and encouragement.

NOTE – Coaches: Please remember that MAO does not condone the use of competition coaches in preparation for competition. “Competition coaches” by this definition, does not include persons who may work with your Titleholder (with your permission) for fitness or talent purposes. However, your Titleholder is permitted to use a competition coach, IF and only IF you, the Executive Director, approve the use of a competition coach. If you do NOT want your Titleholder working with a coach, even if she has done so in the past, you have every right to prohibit the same. Titleholders are required to disclose any competition coaches they are working with on the state candidate contract, which must also be signed by the ED, approving the use of said coach. If you have questions about this provision, contact the State ED or Field Operations Team Chair.

*The State Candidate Paperwork Requirements will be posted and forms available on the Miss Iowa Resource Portal. The forms are usually available on the site by early February. Be sure to refer to the Miss Iowa Candidate Checklist for all forms and materials due before and at Miss Iowa Orientation.

*Please direct questions regarding paperwork to the Field Operations Team at fielddirector@missiowa.com or to the Executive Director at executivedirector@missiowa.com.

Revised 06/2010, 10/2011, 11/2013, 11/2015, 10/2017, 8/2019, 8/2021