

Miss Iowa Scholarship Program 2020 State Phases of Competition and Scoring

Note to Candidates: Historically, categories and scoring percentages often change for the telecast at the National Level. This is likely to continue, and the new Miss Iowa should expect changes will occur.

Number of Judges

There will be 5 judges on the State judging panel. The Historical Olympic Scoring System will continue to be used, which means the high and low scores for each candidate in each phase of competition are dropped (except for final ballot). One judge for the state competition must be a novice to the program, meaning he or she has never judged a local or state competition.

Phases of State Competition

1. Personal Interview with Judges

Wardrobe: Candidate's Choice: Interview Attire

State Competition – 35%

- Resume: Candidates will submit a one-page Resume (similar to a job applicant resume), to be formatted as the candidate wishes, so long as it does not exceed one page.
- Social Impact Initiative Statement: Candidates will submit a one-page Social Impact Initiative Statement (essay), formatted as set forth in the SII essay instructions.

Logistics:

- The Resume and Social Impact Initiative Statement will be provided to the judges.
- The candidates will stand at a podium for the interview.
- The interview will be 9 minutes and 30 seconds of question/answer. At the end, candidate will be given 30 seconds for a closing. Use of the closing is optional to each candidate.

The Personal Interview:

- Allows insight into the candidate's ability to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the job description and contract.
- Provides the opportunity to learn as much as possible about the candidate's qualities and attributes to fulfill the titleholder position.
- Allows insight into the commitment to advance and execute on her social impact initiative and have a year of service - not celebrity.
- Allows insight into the commitment to continue her education.
- Allows insight into the ability to express and distinguish her beliefs and have a true knowledge of the world around her.
- Ability to get sense of accomplishments above and beyond the resume.

2. On Stage Interview/Social Impact Pitch

Wardrobe: Candidate's Choice

State Preliminary Competition – 15%

State Final Night – 10% (OSQ only, SIP in Final Conversation for Top 5)

Note: On-Stage Interview is a continuation of the private interview. The judge who asks the FIRST question in the candidate's private interview will then, immediately upon conclusion of the interview, write the question to be asked the candidate in this phase, *with the directive that said question should be unrelated to her social impact initiative*. No other person can write this question. The judges will ask the questions live during the competition. Answers should be limited to 20 seconds for each question.

Immediately following the Onstage Interview, the candidate will deliver her Social Impact Pitch not to exceed 45 seconds, which at her discretion can include a statement on the initiative's importance, her work and plans with the initiative, or other information.

Advancing the same criteria as the personal interview, the on-stage interview/social impact pitch:

- Brings the interview to the stage in an interactive energetic way to showcase each candidate's intelligence, personality, charisma, and aptitude for the titleholder's job.
- Allows audiences to truly get to know the candidate.
- Allows ability to see how these discussions take place in a public forum showcasing the greater ability to communicate, stage presence, commanding presence, and relatability.
- Allows ability to judge first impression reaction.
- Allows ability to determine if the candidate cannot simply answer the question asked, but build on a conversation from the personal interview.
- Allows the ability to see interactivity and discussion.
- Allows the candidate to speak on her social impact initiative in a public, presentation-style format.
- Allows the ability to see if candidate can serve as a role model and is reflective of her generation.

Note: On Stage Question on Finals Night will not be a continuation of the private interview. The candidate will select a question at random about societal, political, socio-economic, current events, or other relevant issues. The State Organization shall draft the questions, and the State Auditors will review the questions to certify that they are of equal difficulty.

3. Talent

Wardrobe: Candidate's Choice for Talent performance

State Preliminary Competition – 35%

State Finals Night – 35%

The Talent performance:

- Allows insight into the candidate's preparatory and performance skills.
- Looks at selection of talent presentation, as well as the performance.
- Looks at interpretive ability and technical skill level including execution, technique synchronization, and control.
- Allows insight into stage presence and on-stage personality.
- Allows a look at the totality of the elements; Costume, Props, Music, Voice, Use of the Body, and Choreography.
- Looks for how enjoyable and relatable the performance is.

4. **Red Carpet** (formerly known as Evening Wear)

Wardrobe: Candidate's Choice of Evening Wear

State Preliminary Competition – 15%

State Finals Night – 15%

The Red Carpet phase of competition:

- Allows a look into a how the candidate exhibits her own personal style, attitude, personality, grace, presence, and confidence in evening wear or whatever a candidate would wear at a red carpet event. **Note:** Neither the gown itself nor the estimated cost of the gown should be considered in scoring.
- Allows a look into composure, confidence, the attention she captures on the stage, her command of the stage, presence, and how she appears in the spotlight.
- Allows ability to judge first impression reaction.
- Allows a look at posture and carriage.

5. **Final Conversation for the Job/Final Ballot** – Only Top 5 Finalists

The points earned in the Finals competition, along with the composite score, determine the Top 5 Candidates.

Wardrobe: Candidate's Choice (Idea – evening talk show interview attire; interview or on-stage interview attire, cocktail, or other choice)

The Final Conversation will also include the Social Impact Pitch component. The candidate will deliver her Social Impact Pitch, not to exceed 45 seconds. She will then receive a question written collaboratively by the judges regarding her social impact initiative. (Note: Final Conversation SIP questions will be constructed by the judges for all ten finalists after composite scoring following state prelims.)

In addition to the SIP element, each of the Top 5 candidates will receive one (1) additional question relevant to the candidate's goals as Miss Iowa or which would provide insight into the candidate's ability to perform the job. Answers to questions in this phase shall be limited to 20 seconds each.

The Final Conversation:

- Allows a final, highly energetic and challenging conversation with the judges to determine who is the best candidate for the job.
- Allows a look at the sense of composure in the final moments of decision.
- Allows a look at interactivity with the judges and the audience.
- Allows the top candidates to express why each is best for the job of Miss Iowa and what each plan to do with the new job as well as after her year of service.
- Allows the top candidates to talk about her goals and how serving as Miss Iowa will set the stage for becoming a future leader in the country.

Note: The final ballot is not distributed to the judges until all Top 5 candidates have completed Final Conversation.

Final Ballot: Following the Final Conversation, the judges rank the Top Five Candidates, individually, in the placement order they believe each candidate should place. Judges are to consider all factors of the candidate's overall performance on the final night when ranking the top finalist candidates. Factors include the totality of the qualities and attributes of Miss Iowa and the candidate's ability to perform critical marketing, brand management, and advocacy responsibilities for the State Organization. This ranking is completed without any discussion between the judges.

First place vote (should be Miss Iowa) is worth 10 points.

Second place vote (should be 1st runner-up) is worth 5 points.

Third place vote (should be 2nd runner-up) is worth 3 points.

Fourth place vote (should be 3rd runner-up) is worth 2 points.

Fifth place vote (should be 4th runner-up) is worth 1 point.

The point totals from the Final Ballot alone determine the outcome. All of the judges Final Ballot points count - **high and low scores/points are not dropped in Final Ballot.**

STATE COMPETITIONS SCORING WITH PRELIMINARIES AND FINALS

Preliminary Night competitions are scored on a scale of 1 to 10 using whole numbers only and weighted in the percentages as noted above. Each candidate's high and low scores are dropped from each phase of competition. The scores from the Preliminaries determine the Top 10 candidates who will compete on Finals Night.

COMPOSITE SCORE: At the conclusion of Preliminaries, the auditors determine the 10 candidates with the highest scores following preliminary competitions, which candidates are then selected at random for composite scoring at the Top Ten Meeting. Each judge for each of the top 10 candidates, individually and without any discussion among the judges, considers the candidate's overall performance and assigns the candidate a composite score, using whole numbers between 6 to 10 points. The judge considers the totality of the qualities and attributes of a State Titleholder and the candidate's ability to perform critical marketing, brand management, and advocacy responsibilities for the State Organization. There is no ranking in this scoring. More than one candidate may receive the same score.

Composite Score following preliminaries – 40%

Following the Composite Scoring of the Semi-finalists, the judges are provided the opportunity to have a highly-structured, very limited, and confidential meeting on the semi-finalists who will compete on the final night. This is also referred to as the “Top Ten Meeting.” As with Composite Scoring, this is a confidential process and only the judges, auditors, chairperson/executive director, and essential competition executives attend. The meeting is facilitated and monitored by the Auditors. Absolutely no input, verbal or non-verbal communication is permitted from state organization officials.

Final Night Competition Scoring: On Finals Night, competitions are scored on a scale of 6 to 10 using whole numbers only. Each candidate’s high and low scores are dropped from each phase of competition, except in the Final Ballot.

State Competition Scoring Summary

Preliminary Night Scoring:

Private Interview 35%
Onstage Interview/SIP 15%
Talent 35%
Red Carpet (Evening-wear) 15%

Final Night Scoring:

Composite 40%
Onstage Question 10%
Talent 35%
Red Carpet (Evening Wear) 15%
Final Conversation
Top 5 Final Ballot