



The
MARYLAND
STATE FAIR



Miss Maryland Agriculture Application 2017

The purpose of this program is to surface young women with agricultural backgrounds to serve as leaders in the effort to promote our agricultural industry and the Farm Bureau organization throughout the year and in the future.

Please complete this application and submit it to Maryland Farm Bureau by email to MissContest@mdfarmbureau.com or mail it to 3358 Davidsonville Road, Davidsonville, MD 21035. Application, including health and permission forms is **due by June 1, 2017** or immediately following a county contest if held after that date. If you have questions, please call Valerie Connelly, the MFB Executive Director, at (410) 922-3426.

Part I - Resume

Your resume is a written compilation of your education, work experience, credentials and agricultural accomplishments. References are not requested. Please use the Times New Roman font, no smaller than 12pt. and do not exceed 1 page in length.

Part 2 – Essay Question Response

Please select one of the questions listed below and answer it in an essay format not to exceed 1 page in 12 point, double spaced font. Please include your name and county at the top of the page.

- 1. Every animal participating in activities at a fair shall be provided proper care and management in the best interest of the animal's welfare. What do you say to a fairgoer who does not agree with this statement?**
- 2. What is the purpose of food labels? How can you help to ensure that consumers in Maryland understand the labels and have confidence in the safety and quality of their food?**

When writing the essay please be aware of spelling, grammar, punctuation, content and the depth of knowledge and clarity given in answering the question. Questions can be asked by the judges during the formal interviews pertaining to your essay answer.

Part 3 - Personal Info & Membership Verification

Please provide a photo copy of your Driver's License and complete this form:

Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____
(#, Street, City, State, Zip)

Phone: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

Birthdate: _____
(You must be 16-19 years of age at time of state contest held at the end of August)

Polo Shirt Size: S M L XL 2XL

Preference of shirt style: Slim Fit or Relaxed Fit

Parents/Guardians Names: _____

Farm Bureau Membership # _____ County: _____

2017 Miss Farm Bureau Contestant Agreement

I hereby certify that if selected as my County's 2017 Miss Farm Bureau, I will participate as a contestant in the full program for the Miss Maryland Agriculture Contest. I agree to participate in the 3-day Orientation program in Timonium on August 7-9, 2017. I also agree to participate in the 2-day Contest during the State Fair in Timonium on August 23-24, 2017. Failure to meet these requirements could lead to forfeiture of your title and prizes.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

2017 Miss Maryland Agriculture Contestant – Code of Conduct

When participating in any activity representing Maryland Farm Bureau as Miss Maryland Agriculture, Court member or County Miss, you are expected to comply with the Code of Conduct. **If you violate the Code of Conduct, you may be asked to relinquish your title as Miss Maryland Agriculture or Miss County Farm Bureau and all scholarships or expense funds provided. Please read carefully.**

- Your appearance as Miss Maryland Agriculture, Court Member or County Miss is by invitation only, unless instructed otherwise by the Miss Coordinator. Do not show up wearing your sash if not invited. Any unsolicited or unauthorized appearance or representations on behalf of Maryland Farm Bureau are prohibited.
- For your personal safety, you must be accompanied by a chaperone over the age of 21 while wearing your sash and representing Maryland Farm Bureau at any event. Even if you are 18 years old or older. *Note: The chaperone may be a parent, relative, friend or Farm Bureau member attending the same event. Do not attend ANY event alone wearing your sash. Your personal safety is extremely important.*
- Smoking, including e-cigarettes, the use of any illegal controlled dangerous substance or alcohol consumption is prohibited.
- Foul language and/or public displays of affection with dates/companions while wearing your sash and representing Maryland Farm Bureau is prohibited.
- Engagement in any illegal, unpartisan, unethical, indecent and/or morally questionable behavior, including but not limited to online representations on the internet, including social networking sites is prohibited.
- Defamation of Miss Maryland Agriculture, Court Members, any County Miss or Maryland Farm Bureau via oral, written or internet posting is prohibited.
- When wearing your sash, professional behavior and appropriate attire are expected:
 - Attire appropriate for the specific appearance or event (e.g. business casual, professional, formal, etc)
 - No jeans, sneakers, or flip flops. Boots are permitted where appropriate.
 - No visible piercings (other than earrings) or tattoos.
 - No outfit that is low cut, short or revealing.
 - No clothing that advertises, promotes or glorifies the use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs or anything inconsistent with the dignity of the Miss Maryland Agriculture Program as a representative of Maryland Farm Bureau.
 - When accepting an invitation to an event, ask about the appropriate dress attire.

I, _____, agree to abide by the Code of Conduct as outlined above. I acknowledge that violation of the code may result in my immediate dismissal from an event and/or from the Miss Program and repayment of scholarships and expense funds.

Signature of Contestant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Release and Consent Form

Please select one box in each section and complete w/full names and signatures.

Authorization to Obtain and Use Images & Interviews

I, _____, being eighteen (18) years of age or over
or

I, _____ (parent/guardian),

do hereby grant permission to the Miss Maryland Agriculture Program and its affiliates and subsidiaries, to interview, photograph, and/or videotape me or my minor child participating in the Miss Contest; and/or to supervise any others who may conduct an interview, photography and/or videotaping; and/or permit others to use information from the aforementioned interviews, images or videos in educational and promotional activities without compensation.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness Signature: _____ Date: _____

Hold Harmless Agreement

I, _____, being eighteen (18) years of age or over
or

I, _____ (parent/guardian),

do hereby release and forever discharge and agree not to sue and to indemnify and hold harmless the Maryland State Fair, the Maryland Farm Bureau and all county Farm Bureaus, the Miss Maryland Agriculture Program and their governing boards, officers, agents, employees and volunteers from any and all liabilities, claims and demands, and causes of action of any kind on account of any loss, damage, illness or injury to person or property in any way arising out of or relating to my/my child's participation in the Miss Maryland Agriculture Program, whether due to negligence, mistake or other action or inaction.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness Signature: _____ Date: _____

Miss Maryland Agriculture Contestant 2017 Health Form

County:		Date of Birth:
Last Name:	First Name:	Middle Name:
Phone:	E-mail:	Contestant Cell Phone:
Home Address :		
Parent/Guardian Name:		
Parent/Guardian Home Phone:		Parent/Guardian Work Phone:
Emergency Contact Name:	Relationship with Contestant:	Emergency Contact Phone:
Physician's Name and Address:		Physician's Phone:
Insurance Provider:		Policy Number:
County Women's Chair/Contest Coordinator Contact Name (Optional):		County Women's Chair Emergency Contact Number (Optional):

Please complete this form with accurate and updated information. All attempts will be made to contact Parents/Guardians and Emergency Contacts. If contact is not made, then the County Women's Chair will be contacted if listed above.

<p>Allergies to medications and type of reaction <i>Please list:</i></p>	<p>Food or insect allergies and type of reaction: <i>Please list:</i></p>
<p>Medical Conditions Check any current or past significant medical conditions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Allergic Rhinitis <input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma <input type="checkbox"/> Bleeding Disorder _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Colitis <input type="checkbox"/> Depression <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes <input type="checkbox"/> Dietary Restrictions _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Eating Disorder (please specify) _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Gluten Allergy <input type="checkbox"/> Hypertension <input type="checkbox"/> Infectious Disease (please specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Migraine <input type="checkbox"/> Motion Sickness <input type="checkbox"/> Peanut Allergies – if so do you carry an epi pen? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Seizure Disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Sleep Walking <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>
<p>Surgeries in the past six months:</p>	
<p>Other Medical, Surgical, or Psychiatric Condition(s) requiring ongoing care. <i>Please list and include relevant medical information:</i></p>	
<p>Medication(s) taken regularly. <i>Please list medication, dosage :</i></p>	

** All medicine that you will have in your possession throughout the contest MUST be listed above **

Medical Release: This form gives authority to the Miss Maryland Agriculture Committee to administer any medicine as listed above, by the contestant. By signing this form you are also giving permission for your child (accompanied by a member of the Miss MD Committee) to be transported and treated at a medical facility, in case of an emergency.

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Eligibility Criteria for the 2017 Miss Maryland Agriculture Program

1. Contestants must be young women between the ages of 16 and 19 who may not turn 20 by the date of the state contest at the end of August.
2. Contestants must be single, never married, not engaged, not pregnant nor already have children.
3. Contestants must not have been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony.
4. Contestants and/or their parents or guardians must be Maryland Farm Bureau members who are "in good standing" based on timely payment of membership dues in the county Farm Bureau that they represent. Each contestant under the age of 18 must have written consent from a parent or guardian to enter the contest.
5. Each contestant must be selected and certified by a County Farm Bureau to be the Miss County Farm Bureau for the year of the state contest.
6. Contestants are welcome to compete in the state contest more than once if they have not previously been selected as Miss Maryland Agriculture or the 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th Runner Up. (Please also refer to individual county Farm Bureau policy to see if contestants are eligible under those rules to compete more than one time.)
7. All contestants must participate in the Miss Maryland Agriculture Orientation Program in Timonium, Monday through Wednesday, August 7-9, 2017. The 3-day orientation program will allow contestants to gain knowledge, experience and Farm Bureau expertise that will assist in their preparations to compete for the title of Miss Maryland Agriculture.
8. All contestants must participate in the full 2 days of competition in Timonium Wednesday through Thursday, August 23-24, 2017.

Scholarship and Expense Packages 2017 Miss Maryland Agriculture Program

Winner \$13,000

\$8000 scholarship from the Maryland State Fair
\$1000 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers
\$1000 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee
\$1250 scholarship from the Maryland Agricultural Fair Board
\$1750 to reimburse expenses related to serving as Miss Maryland Agriculture during the year of tenure provide by the Maryland Agricultural Fair Board

1st Runner Up \$1500

\$1000 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers
\$500 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee

2nd Runner Up..... \$1500

\$1000 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers
\$500 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee

3rd Runner Up \$1500

\$1000 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers
\$500 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee

4th Runner Up..... \$1500

\$1000 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers
\$500 scholarship from Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee

18 Contestants \$300 each

\$300 to reimburse expenses related outreach and education while serving as Miss County Farm Bureau after competing in the state contest is provided by the Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee.

*Funding provided for scholarships and expenses by Partners as follows:
\$8400 by the Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee
\$8000 by the Maryland State Fair
\$5000 by the Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers' Committee
\$3000 by the Maryland Agricultural Fair Board*

Scoring during the 2017 Miss Maryland Agriculture Contest

During the 2 days of competition August 23-24, 2017, contestants will be evaluated by several different panels of judges. Points will be scored during each activity and the total at the end of the full 2 days will determine the winner and the runners up.

Areas of competition and scoring include:

First Impression – Contestants meet and greet a panel of judges on the first day of competition in an informal setting with several other Miss contestants. Personal presentation during the First Impression can earn up to **5 points**.

Formal Interview – Each contestant is interviewed separately on the first day of competition by a panel of three judges in a private conference room. Contestants can earn points as follows:

25 points for agriculture knowledge, farm and ag responsibilities

15 points for Farm Bureau knowledge

10 points for personal presentation, personality and friendliness

The total points that can be earned during formal interviews is **50 points**.

Agriculture Chat/Round Table – Contestants sit at a table on the first day of competition with one judge and several other Miss contestants to discuss current agricultural topics of the judge's choice. Each contestant can earn up to **15 points** based on her knowledge of agriculture and Farm Bureau, discussion abilities, personality, friendliness and personal presentation.

On Stage Contest – Contestants will compete Thursday night on stage at the Maryland State Fair in front of all contestants and an audience of friends, family and fairgoers. Three judges who have not participated in the 1st day of judging will sit at the foot of the stage. Each Miss will present a 90-second speech about herself and how agriculture impacts her life. She will then answer a question presented by the moderator based on information provided in her application and/or her written essay. 20 points can be earned based on speaking ability, eye contact and a thorough answer to the question. 10 points can be earned for demonstrated knowledge of agriculture and Farm Bureau. The total points that can be earned on stage during the contest is **30 points**.

The four components of the contest add up to **100 total points** to be earned during the 2 days of competition.

Please complete ALL required pages of this application and submit it to Maryland Farm Bureau by email to MissContest@mdfarmbureau.com or mail it to 3358 Davidsonville Road, Davidsonville, MD 21035.

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Application Checklist for Required Pages/Items

Resume and Essay Question
Personal Info/Membership Verification and Consent Agreement
Code of Conduct
Release and Consent Form
2017 Health Form
Photo copy of your Driver's License