



2024 National Cattle Congress Queen Contest Information

Purpose: The purpose of the National Cattle Congress Queen is to give young women an opportunity to display their citizenship and professionalism by representing the National Cattle Congress Fair as an ambassador and to shine a positive light on the organization. In addition, the queen represents the fair at the Iowa State Fair Queen Contest in August at the beginning of that fair. The Iowa State Fair Queen is a high-profile ambassador of one of Iowa's most significant annual events, and the competition offers scholarships to several contestants that compete at a high level.

Qualifications:

- 16-21 years old as of August 8, 2024
- Must be an Iowa resident – due to the scope of participation in the National Cattle Congress Fair, contestants are not limited to Black Hawk County or contiguous counties
- Must be an active member of at least one service organization in the contestant's community (e.g., Girl Scouts, church group, 4-H, FFA) – not limited to 4-H or FFA involvement
- Must not be a professional model (ongoing employment in which modeling is the primary part of the job)
- Must have never been married and will not be married before July 2025 when the queen relinquishes her crown
- Must not be a past competitor in the Iowa State Fair Queen Contest

Application Due Date: July 1 (Application available at nationalcattlecongress.com)

Contest Date: Saturday, July 6

Contest Location: Electric Park Ballroom on the National Cattle Congress Fairgrounds

Contest Schedule:

- Arrive by at least 8:45 A.M. to be ready for competition by 9:15

- Formal Group Welcome (Formal Gown)
- Pictures (Formal Gown)
- Introductions (Formal Gown)
- Individual Interviews (Formal Gown)
- Snack (Business Attire)
- Business Interview (Business Attire)
- Group Interviews (Business Attire)
- Judges' Comments (Business Attire)
- National Cattle Congress Queen Coronation (Business Attire) – Approximately 11:30

Attire:

- Arrive in casual attire so contestants are comfortable and do not wrinkle or soil their competition clothing
- Formal Gown – At least one portion of the hemline must be floor length (touching the floor or the contestant's foot). A gown with the skirt split more than 2 inches above the knee, a low-cut bodice and/or cut/design inappropriate for the pageant may be discounted by the judges.
- Interview Attire – During the individual and group interviews, contestants need to wear a business-appropriate dress (with a jacket or sweater if desired), jacket/skirt/pants, or a one-piece outfit.

Additional Information:

- Parents, guardians and others accompanying the queen candidates must leave Electric Park during the contest. However, they are welcome to return shortly before coronation to be present for the portion of the event.
- Judges will be interacting with and observing contestants outside the interview and formal gown judging (except during private time for wardrobe changes, etc.), just as the judges at the Iowa State Fair Queen pageant are constantly present and evaluating the candidates.
- The 2024 Queen will have an experienced local assistant to help them prepare for the Iowa State Fair Queen Contest in August along with the 2023 Queen.
- The National Cattle Congress Queen is required to participate at the National Cattle Congress Fair September 18-22, 2024, including but not limited to opening night events (Wednesday); open dairy show (Friday); youth dairy show, and foods judging and auction (Saturday).
- The National Cattle Congress Queen will attend and participate in the Friends of NCC Barn Bash Saturday, August 24, 2024, and the 2025 National Cattle Congress Queen Contest in July 2025.

- The National Cattle Congress Queen may be asked to represent the National Cattle Congress Fair in the My Waterloo Days Parade and the Sturgis Falls Parade.
- The National Cattle Congress Queen must act respectfully and dress appropriately at all times, including when not officially representing the organization. The queen may be required to relinquish her crown and title if it is determined that any conduct does not reflect positively on herself, her family, and/or the National Cattle Congress Fair.
- At the end of the queen's successful reign, she will be awarded \$100 following coronation of the next queen.