

Modoc County Fair Queen Contest Information and Schedule

Welcome to the Modoc County Fair Queen Contest. We are excited that you are applying to become a part of Modoc County history. The information below is your guide to the contest. If you have any additional questions or need clarification on a part of the contest, please feel free to reach out to Tiffany Martinez at (530) 605-5350 or Macey VonRadar at (530) 640-3696.

The Modoc County Fair Queen committee is working to retain the spirit of Modoc County by keeping horsemanship as a part of the contest. This being said, we also understand that we must adapt the contest to keep it viable. With this in mind, the committee has made the horsemanship optional for contestants.

If a contestant completes the horsemanship portion of the contest, they will be awarded points up to 10% of the total score.

If a contestant does not submit a horsemanship video by the deadline, then no points shall be awarded in this area, but they shall still be a qualified contestant.

ELIGIBILITY

- Contestants must be at least 14 years of age at the time of application, but not older than 19 years of age.
- Contestants must never have been married nor a parent.
- No contestant may have been convicted of a felony.
- *If the contestant is still in high school, a "C" average GPA must be maintained.*
- Contestants who have been placed as Queen in this contest are no longer eligible.
- Any Modoc County Fair Queen and Court titleholder who violates the eligibility requirements and/or General Rules during the contest or reign will relinquish all rights and privileges of her title at the request of the Contest Committee or 34th DAA Board of Directors.
- **Submit an application no later than 4:00 p.m. on July 31, 2026.**
- Applications can be turned in via mail to PO Box 26, Cedarville, CA 96104, or by email at modocfairgrounds@gmail.com.

AWARDS

The Modoc County Fair Queen and Court shall consist of two ladies: 1st Place Queen and 1st Runner Up Princess. The winning contestants will receive the perpetual leather chaps and crown, in addition to a buckle and sash. A scholarship/savings bond will be awarded when proof of registration at a college or trade school, etc., has been received. The Modoc County Fair Queen will receive \$1,000.00, and the Modoc County Fair Princess will receive \$500.00. If either the Queen or Princess is not planning to continue her education, she will receive a savings bond in lieu of a scholarship. The Queen and Princess shall act as official hostesses of the Modoc District Fair, as well as ambassadors for Modoc County, by attending local and neighboring county events.

Application

The deadline for applications to be submitted to be a part of the Modoc County Fair Queen contest **must be physically received by 4:00 p.m. on July 31, 2026**, via mail to Modoc District Fair, P.O. Box 26, Cedarville, CA 96104, or by email at modocfairgrounds@gmail.com

Orientation

You will receive a Zoom link via email to participate in a remote pageant orientation on **Monday, August 3, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.** You must attend the orientation in order to compete in the contest.

Horsemanship

If a contestant chooses to complete the horsemanship portion of the contest, they must **submit a video** to the Fair Queen Committee via email by the deadline on **Monday, August 24, 2026**. The video must contain the following elements:

1. Completion of the requested pattern
2. Mount and dismount your horse
3. If possible, demonstrate a Queen run

The Modoc District Fairgrounds arena is available for use if a location is needed to film your horsemanship video. Please submit your videos to modocfairgrounds@gmail.com

Horsemanship Wardrobe Guidelines

The Pageant Outfit: Long-sleeve western blouse, blue jeans, belt, and western hat.

Interview, Modeling, Speech, and Question

The remaining competition components will be held on **Friday, August 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., during the Sheriff's Posse BBQ held at the pavilion.**

The following will be what is expected of a contestant for this portion of the competition:

1. Interview – Be prepared to tell the judges about yourself and answer at least one question from each judge.
2. Modeling – Be prepared to model your western dress attire in front of the audience present at the annual BBQ. You will enter from the street side of the pavilion with your escort. A short modeling period with music will be provided to showcase your attire. Adequate coverage of the stage is important.
3. Speech – Prepare a speech that is at least 2 ½ minutes in length on the following topic: What does Modoc mean to you?
4. Question – Be prepared to answer one impromptu question in front of the audience at the contest.

Interview, Modeling, Speech, and Question Wardrobe Guidelines

It is important to remember that as a Modoc County Fair Queen contestant your goal is to

display a professional and appropriate appearance. The Fair Queen Committee recommends a western dress and **requires a cowboy hat to be worn**, as the crown is made to be placed on a cowboy hat. The dress can be of any style, but should be an appropriate length and coverage to project a professional appearance. A prom dress matched with a professional jacket would be acceptable. You are allowed to have an interview outfit and a stage dress if you so choose, but it is not required. Please reach out to a committee member if you have any questions about attire.

You will be judged in Four Divisions

Application - neatness, thoughtful answers 10%

Interview - appearance, poise, personality, communication 40%

Stage Performance - Speech - comfort, appearance, communication 40%

Horsemanship (Optional) - ability, appearance, wave, knowledge 10%

JUDGING

The Modoc County Fair Queen and Court contest will follow these guidelines:

→ Qualified judges selected for their experience will be used for each category:

Horsemanship, Appearance, Poise, Personality and Personal Interview

→ Decisions of the judges are final

→ In the event of a tie for Queen or Princess, the contestant with the highest score in horsemanship will receive the higher ranking or a additional question shall be asked if there are no contestants who submit horsemanship videos.

Pageant Schedule

The pageant schedule will be as follows:

5:00 p.m.

Arrive in contestant attire at the Fairgrounds Office and check in with the Fair Queen Committee. Numbers will be drawn for the order of speech and questions.

5:15 p.m.

Interview of contestants with judges at the Fair Board Office

5:50 p.m.

Report to the pavilion for the contest

6:00 p.m.

The contest will begin. Contestants will be introduced and will need an escort to lead them to the stage.

In order of the draw, contestants will give their speech and answer one question.

Following the contestants' speeches, a historical video will be shown to allow the judges to tabulate. Once the scores are tabulated, the 2026 Modoc County Fair Queen will be announced.

GENERAL RULES

1. Contestants must use the same horse during the competition and reign (exceptions can be made with the approval of the Modoc County Fair Queen and Court Committee if extenuating circumstances are present. Contestants must supply their own tack and a dependable and safe horse. Your horse must be able to appear in parades and grand entries comfortably. Your tack needs to be clean for each appearance. If the Queen or Princess does not have access to a horse for parades, the Queen or Princess is responsible for finding other means of transportation for the mandatory parades.
2. Parents, friends, and relatives: The Modoc County Fair Queen and Court Committee welcomes and encourages the presence of parents, friends, and relatives during the competition. It is requested that there be complete cooperation from these supporters during the contest activities. At no time during the contest shall parents, friends, or relatives disturb contestants. During the contest, contestants will be required to be together as a group without coaching or other activities taking place. *Some of the contest activities will only be open to the contestants, judges, and Committee. If parents, friends, or relatives attend closed events, the contestant they support could be excused from the contest.*
3. **Problems and Complaints:** Any problems and/or complaints should be immediately referred to the Modoc County Fair Queen and Court Committee before the day of the contest. The Committee and 34th DAA have full authority over the contest, and any decision they make regarding rules and participation is final.
4. **Sportsmanship:** The Modoc County Fair Queen and Court Committee and 34th DAA expect each contestant to display the highest degree of sportsmanship during the contest and following crowning. Each contestant should be mindful that they are representing Modoc County, the 34th DAA Modoc District Fairgrounds Board of Directors, Modoc District Fair, and themselves. Unsportsmanlike conduct will result in disqualification and affect future eligibility to compete in the Modoc County Fair Queen and Court contest.
5. The Queen and Princess will have a raffle item to raise funds to help cover travel expenses.
6. **Mandatory Events:** The Mandatory Events list below. As Queen and Princess, you are obligated to attend each event on the list. In accepting the crown, you are agreeing that all parades, rodeos, and events take priority over other functions that may come up, including employment.
7. Contestants, Queen and Princess must have a positive attitude, clean and pressed clothes, clean and combed hair, etc. You are representing Modoc County and yourself. It is important to maintain a tidy appearance throughout the contest and your reign.
8. As a representative of Modoc County, improper behavior such as smoking, drinking alcohol, and holding hands/displaying affection is not acceptable. Such behavior could be grounds for the removal of the title.

Tips for Horsemanship: The purpose of this category is to select the young lady who rates highest in:

1. Mount and dismount, proper ring etiquette, and control in an unexpected situation.
2. Balance, ability, and position of hands, feet, and seat.
3. Knowledge of horsemanship, horse science, and rodeo facts. Horsemanship interview topics could include:
 - a. Knowledge of tack
 - b. Horse science (including feeding, grooming, and parts of the horse)
 - c. Rodeo facts
4. Showmanship: how the contestant projects her personality to the audience from horseback.
5. The understanding and skill of the contestant will be judged, not the horse or equipment.
6. No ropes or chaps shall be allowed in the competition.

Tips for Appearance: The purpose of this category is to select the young lady who rates highest in:

1. Grooming: This includes meticulous care in neatness and cleanliness in every detail, such as complexion, hands, fingernails, hair, hat, boots, and other apparel.
2. Posture: This includes carrying oneself straight and tall with self-confidence and poise.
3. Poise: This includes handling every type of situation with grace, style, and proper etiquette.
4. Proper fit of clothing: This includes figure-flattering styles altered for personal fit, if necessary, and properly fitted and shaped hats, which flatter contestants' faces.

Judges will look for versatility and imagination in the contestant's ability to carry out a "total look", rather than an excessive amount of clothing.

Tips for Personality: The purpose of this category is to select the young lady who rates highest in:

1. Intelligence and common sense.
2. Conversational ability in varied situations with an emphasis on correct grammar and enunciation.
3. A good sense of humor.
4. Self-confidence, high moral standards, sincerity, and integrity.
5. Genuine interest in people and consideration of others.
6. Self-projection (the ability to project one's personality) in any situation, whether from horseback or on stage.
7. Positive outlook on life.
8. Promptness and cooperation. Please note: If a contestant fails to arrive on time for any contest event, she may be disqualified at the Committee's discretion.

9. Maturity

MODOC COUNTY FAIR QUEEN AND COURT MANDATORY EVENTS LIST

JUNE

Modoc County Fair Queen and Court Orientation - Cedarville, CA

JULY

Fandango Days Parade - Alturas, CA

Modoc County Fair Queen and Court Competition and Coronation - Cedarville, CA Eagleville
BBQ - Eagleville, CA (Optional)

AUGUST

Modoc District Fair and Parade- Cedarville, CA

SEPTEMBER

Lake County Roundup Parade- Lakeview, OR

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Farm Bureau/Modoc County Cattlemen's Association Dinner