



State Contestant Manual 3.1

www.texasuniversalmis.com

Age Divisions (age as of January 1, 2023)

Universal Baby 0-2	Universal Teen 13-16
Universal Mini 3-6	Universal Junior Miss 17-20
Universal Young Miss 7-9	Universal Miss 21-29
Universal Preteen 10-12	Universal Elite Miss 30+

Contestants that have children/married/divorced must move to either the Miss or Elite Miss divisions.

Our Fabulous Host: **ULH Event Center**

331 United Leuva Circle, Houston, TX 77060

The following hotels are located near our event location:

Hyatt Place Houston- North

Hilton Houston North

Hyatt Regency Houston Intercontinental Airport

Studio 6 Houston, TX - Intercontinental Airport South

Red Roof PLUS+ & Suites Houston - IAH Airport SW

Red Lion Hotel Houston Intercontinental Airport

Contestants/Chaperones/Guests are responsible for their own housing accommodations and transportation.

Please note that a female-only changing area will be available for contestant/chaperone ONLY!!!

**Limited HMU spaces will be available at the event location! These spots will be open for vendors to purchase. Please contact Darci:
texas@universalpageantsystem.com for more information.**

Tentative State Schedule

Day 1 - Friday, February 24, 2023

Evening VIP Registration/Cupcakes with the Queens
 Open Registration*
 Practice Interview (Optional)
 Optional Competitions

Day 2 - Saturday, February 25, 2023

Morning Interview (All ages) *
Afternoon Open Fashion (All ages) *
 Personal Intro (7+) *
Evening Rehearsal & Group Photo (All ages) *
 Special Event (TBD)

Day 3 - Sunday, February 26, 2023

Morning Formal Wear (All ages) *
 Special Awards
 Crowning (All ages) *

*Suggested arrival times-

Report to designated staff 10 minutes BEFORE the competition begins

Subject to change. A final schedule will be provided no later than 1 week prior to competition.

State Entry Fee Information

Registration Fee
\$100 (NOT deducted from mandatory fee)

Mandatory Fees

1. State Contestant \$400

-Eligible for any official placement/title. Includes all required competitions, 1 contestant packet, 1 contestant badge, 1 chaperone badge, 1 program book, entry into all State events for contestant and chaperone, 1 goody bag, 1 commemorative t-shirt, 1 entry for Director's Choice. Will receive judge's comments.

2. Protégé Program \$150

-Not eligible for any official placement/title, PRACTICE ONLY. Includes all required competitions, 1 contestant packet, 1 contestant badge, 1 chaperone badge, 1 program book, entry into all State events for contestant and chaperone, 1 goody bag, 1 commemorative contestant t-shirt, 1 entry for Director's Choice. Will receive judge's comments.

3. Optional Only Contestant \$100

-Not eligible for any placement/title. May choose to purchase and compete in any Optional competition. Includes 1 contestant packet, 1 contestant badge, 1 chaperone badge, entry into all staged competitions for contestant and chaperone.

Discounts: All Appointed Title Holders, 1st Alternates and 2nd Alternates from our 2022 State Competition will only pay \$1 for registration! Sister/Mother contestants will receive \$100 off mandatory fees for second participant except for Optional Only contestants.

Appointed Titles \$200

-Appointed titles will be available for anyone that joins us at the 2023 National Competition. See requirement details below.

GUEST PRICING

ALL-ACCESS BADGE - ADULT

Includes:
All Events for the entire weekend
for one adult

\$50

ALL-ACCESS BADGE - CHILD

Includes:
All Events for the entire weekend
for one child

\$40

A LA CARTE - ADULT

Day 1 Only - \$15

Day 2 Only - \$25

Day 3 Only - \$25

A LA CARTE - CHILD

Day 1 Only - \$10

Day 2 Only - \$20

Day 3 Only - \$20

Adult (13+)
Child (4-12)
Guests ages 0-3
will not need
passes.

NOTE:
Entry to all events
is included in the
mandatory fee for
contestant and their
chaperone.

ALL-ACCESS Badges will only be available on the
Contestant Forms. Day Passes will be available for
purchase at the door.

Program Book Space

Sell space to Earn Money off Fees!!!
Will you be the 2023 Texas UM Social Butterfly?

Social Butterfly Award
Unique Crown and Banner!

To qualify for Social Butterfly, you must sell a minimum of \$200

Full Page
8.5 Inch X 11 Inch

Ad Cost	You Earn
\$100	\$50

Half Page
8.5 Inch X 5.5 Inch

Ad Cost	You Earn
\$50	\$25

Quarter Page
3.5 Inch X 4.8 Inch

Ad Cost	You Earn
\$25	\$12.50

Eighth Page
3.5 inch X 2 Inch (Business Card Size)

Ad Cost	You Earn
\$12.50	\$6.25

Advertising Requirements:

1. Submitted Print-Ready in a PDF or JPEG Format
2. Submitted by Pageant Program Deadline
3. Color or Black/White ads accepted
4. Can be Business or Personal
5. Money earned from ad sells can only be used for pageant expenses. Cannot be exchanged for cash.

Submit your Print-Ready Ads to texas@universalpageantsystem.com by January 5th, 2023. Any ads that are not print-ready will be returned until fixed.

Competition Guidelines - Ages 0-6 Years

We stress individuality when selecting your wardrobe. Makeup is allowed; however, application must be age appropriate.

Modeling Formation: High fashion modeling is allowed. Showing your personality on stage is encouraged. Have fun with your time on stage!

→Formal Wear: Formal dress

0-2 years: short length, strapless not allowed

3-6 years: short or long length, strapless not allow

Dresses showing the midriff are not allowed for any age. All should be age appropriate.

Judging will be based on facial beauty, stage presence, and poise. Contestants are not judged for the type of dress they are wearing but how well it compliments their style and personality as well as the fit of the garment.

→Open Fashion

All contestants will model a professional pant, short, or skirt outfit or a dress (not a formal pageant dress) of their personal style. Have fun with this competition! Note: Open Fashion can be as simple or as high fashion as you like. Halloween type costumes not allowed.

Judging based on facial beauty, stage presence, and poise. Contestants are not judged for the type of outfit they are wearing but how well it compliments their style and personality as well as the fit of the garment.

→Interview

Age-appropriate Sunday's Best/Tailored Dress (Not a formal pageant dress). A skirt/jacket combo or a pant outfit can also be worn.

Universal Baby division - Contestants will have an escort who will introduce the contestant to the judges and will be given this time to share a few fun facts about the contestant. Baby contestants will be judged on their overall appearance, their behavior, and personality.

Universal Mini Division - Contestants will meet with their panel of judge's one-on-one, will introduce themselves, and will be given a series of age-appropriate questions by the appointed moderator. Judging will be based on the contestant's confidence, poise, overall appearance, ability to answer the questions given, and personality. Example questions:

Who is your best friend? What is your favorite holiday? What is your favorite food?

Competition Guidelines - Ages 7+ Years

We stress individuality when selecting your wardrobe. Makeup is allowed; however, application must be age appropriate.

Modeling Formation: High fashion modeling is allowed. Showing your personality on stage is encouraged. Have fun with your time on stage!

→Formal Wear: Formal dress

7-9 years: short or long length, strapless not allowed (If wearing long dress, slits cannot be above knee.)

10-12 years: long length, strapless not allowed (Slits cannot be above knee.)

13+ years: long length, strapless allowed

Dresses showing the midriff are not allowed for any age. All should be age appropriate.

Judging will be based on facial beauty, stage presence, and poise. Contestants are not judged for the type of dress they are wearing but how well it compliments their style and personality as well as the fit of the garment.

→Open Fashion

All contestants will model a professional pant, short, or skirt outfit or a dress (not a formal pageant dress) of their personal style. Have fun with this competition! Note: Open Fashion can be as simple or as high fashion as you like. Halloween type costumes not allowed. All should be age appropriate.

Judging based on facial beauty, stage presence, and poise. Contestants are not judged for the type of outfit they are wearing but how well it compliments their style and personality as well as the fit of the garment.

→Interview

Age-appropriate professional interview tailored dress or business suit (skirt and pants allowed). All should be age appropriate.

Contestants will meet with their panel of judge's one-on-one, will introduce themselves, and will be given a series of questions by the appointed moderator. Judging will be based on the contestant's confidence, poise, overall appearance, ability to answer the questions given, and personality. Political and religious questions will NOT be given.

→Personal Introduction

Contestants will have 45 seconds to introduce themselves on stage in front of the judges and the audience by saying their name, state, and something interesting about themselves and/or their future goals. Embrace You and be proud to share how amazing and unique you are!

Judging will be based on execution, content, and personality. Introductions will be done in Open Fashion outfit Note: any introduction going over the time limit will receive a deduction.

Rules and Regulations - All Ages

COVID-19– the health and safety of our contestants, employees, families, and friends is our top priority. We are diligently monitoring the Coronavirus/COVID-19 and closely watching official information from health authorities, such as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as it relates to our events, and competitions. All contestants and their chaperones/guests must sign an Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to Coronavirus/COVID-19 before participating/attending the State competition.

By participating in this competition, each contestant agrees that all decisions by the judges will be final; questions concerning comments on the score sheet will be allowed, however scores and judges decisions will remain final. Judges' scores/comments will be released to each contestant at the end of State finals.

Flash photography is not permitted in the staging area! All contestants, chaperones, guests/family members, directors, and staff grants permission to Universal Miss and its affiliates, designees, agents, licensees, and invitees to use the image, likeness, actions and statements of the attendee in any live or recorded audio, video, film, or photographic display or other transmission, exhibition, publication, or reproduction made of, or at, the event in any medium, whether now known or hereafter created, or context for any purpose, including commercial or promotional purposes, without further authorization or compensation.

Any unruly, aggressive, inappropriate, or belligerent behavior by contestants, chaperones, or spectators will result in potential contestant disqualification, removal from the event and/or barred participation from future UM Events with the possibility of suspension for following years.

Any contestant that does not adhere to the terms and procedures of this contestant manual will be subject to disqualification from the competition and will automatically forfeit any right to any prizes or awards presented by the competition. Disqualification from the State competition is a serious matter. If a contestant is disqualified, she will not be eligible for a refund.

Contestants and their chaperones should display professional manners, including good sportsmanship, before, during, and after competition. If you do not agree with the judge's decision you may contact us following competition and an executive staff member will be happy to assist in answering all your questions/concerns.

If a contestant is late and misses her place in line, she will be added to the back of the line-up for that event and a 1-point deduction will be given per judge. If a contestant misses the event in its entirety, they will be scored a zero in all areas of judging for the event missed.

All participants, chaperones and guests MUST observe housing rules and curfews imposed by the pageant.

Smoking is only permitted in the designated smoking areas.

Contestant must be a naturally born female. Contestant must be a citizen or legal resident of the United States.

All pageant fees are non-transferable, non-refundable. There is a Forty-Five Dollar (\$45) fee assessed for any returned check.

There are separate judges for official and optional competitions. Participation in optional competitions will have no bearing on the results in official competitions, final results, or crowning.

Interview

All contestants WILL go through a three-minute interview session. UM interview allows the judges to get one-on-one time with each contestant. There will be a moderator asking age-appropriate questions to each contestant. Each contestant will come in one at a time.

Contestants ages 0-2 years will come into the room with their escort. The escort will be directed to say the contestant's name, age, and some fun facts about the contestant. The moderator may ask the chaperone a question or for additional information.

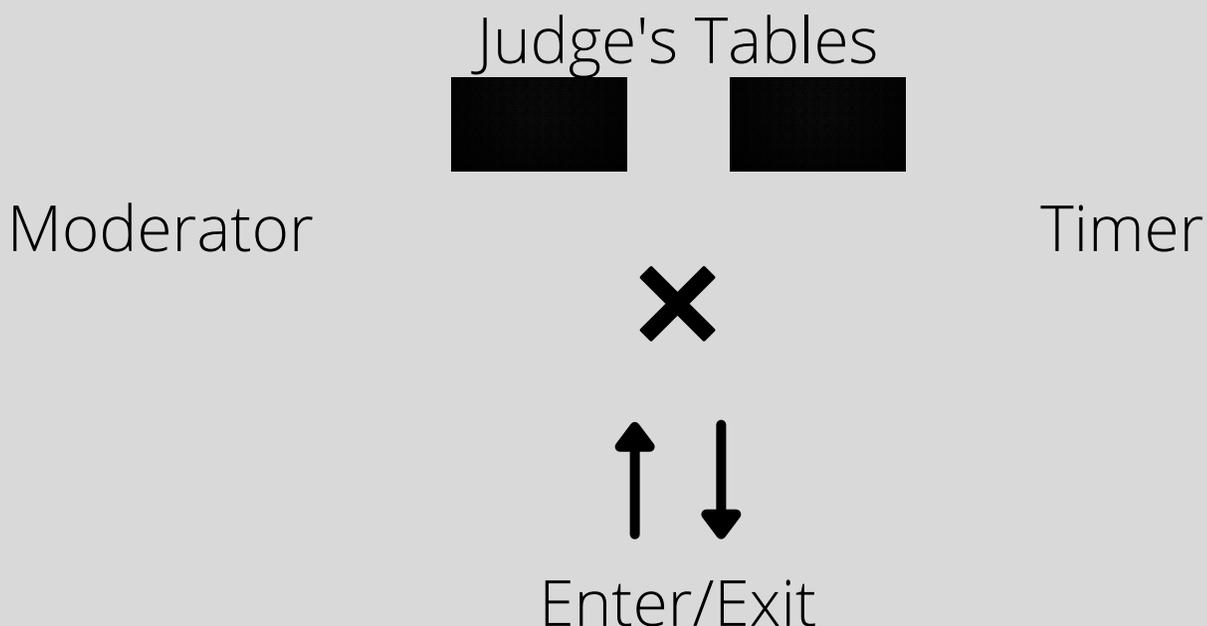
Contestants ages 3+ years will begin by introducing themselves by saying their name, age, and one or two interesting things about themselves. This will be followed by the moderator's questions. Once the contestant's questions are done, they will be directed to exit the room. At that point, their interview session will be completed.

Example Questions-

Age divisions Universal Mini- Universal Young Miss: What is your favorite holiday? Where is your favorite place to go out and eat? What is your favorite school subject or what game do you like to play outside?

Age Divisions Universal Preteen- Teen: What after school activities are you involved in? What do you plan on becoming when you grow up? What is your favorite book? What do you enjoy doing on the weekends?

Age Divisions Universal Miss-Universal Elite Miss: What are some things that help you destress? Where do you see yourself in the next decade? What is makes you special? How can you help mentor the youth?



Program Book

Each state/protege contestant will get a keepsake program book as part of their mandatory fee. Additional copies may be on sale during the weekend.

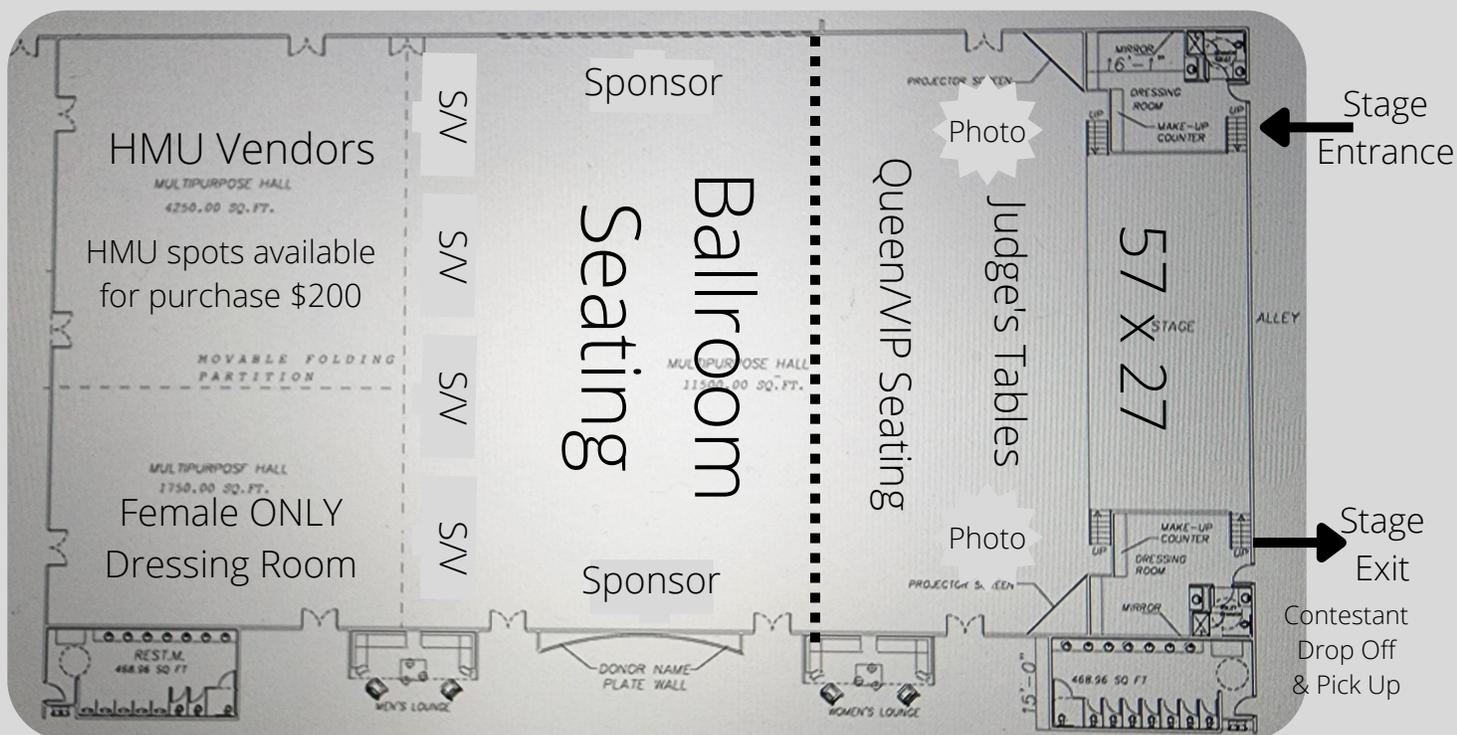
Photos must be submitted to texas@universalpageantsystem.com by January 5th, 2023.

Modeling Guidelines

At UM we want to see your personality during your time on stage. Relax, be yourself and shine on the stage!

All contestants will have a 45 second time limit. You do not have to use the entire 45 seconds, but a red light will be flashed when your time on stage is up. You will be required to exit the stage when the red light is seen.

X's will NOT be placed on the stage.



SV = Sponsor or Vendor (Vendor spots available for purchase.)
Staff/Judge's/Queens/Photographer only beyond dotted line.

Note: This is an example of the general stage setup. Understand it may be different at the event. This does provide a guide to entrance and exit locations as well as drop off/pick up location for 3+ contestants. No chaperones, family, others will be allowed beyond the drop off location. If changes occur, an updated configuration will be provided as soon as it is available.

Scoring Guide: Official Competitions

Formal Wear 30%

Facial Beauty/Overall Look	10 points
Outfit/Grooming	10 points
Poise	10 points
Personality	10 points
Stage Presence	10 points

Points Possible

Open Fashion 30%

Facial Beauty/Overall Look	10 points
Outfit/Grooming	10 points
Poise	10 points
Personality	10 points
Stage Presence	10 points

Points Possible

Interview 30%

Facial Beauty/Overall Look	10 points
Outfit/Grooming	10 points
Poise	10 points
Behavior/Confidence (0-6 years)	10 points
Confidence/Speaking skills (7+ years)	10 points

Points Possible

Personal Intro 10% (7+ only)

Volume/Clarity/Expression	10 points
Confidence	10 points
Overall Grooming	10 points
Content/Relevance	10 points
Time Limit	10 points

Points Possible

Possible Deductions

Off-stage behavior	-1 points
Lateness to a mandatory event	-1 points
Off-stage inappropriate grooming	-1 points

Points Possible

OPTIONAL COMPETITIONS



Sign up for as many as you want!

Note: There are separate judges for optional competitions and these scores have no bearing on the official competition.

PRETTIEST & BESTS \$25 EACH

Prettiest Eyes, Prettiest Hair, Prettiest Smile, Best Formal Wear, Best Open Fashion, Best Headshot, & Best Portfolio

These will be judged per division and one winner per category will be selected.

Winners in each division will receive a Custom UM Medallion.

PRACTICE INTERVIEW \$25

Contestant will go through a mock interview session. Comments will be given back to help prepare contestants for the real event. All receive a small gift.



BELLA MISS \$50

Practice pageant. Contestants will model one formal dress. Judging based on facial beauty, stage presence/poise, confidence, personality, and dress fit. Winner in each division will receive a Custom Texas UM Tiara & Banner



UNIVERSAL PHOTOGENIC \$50 EACH

Photo will be judged on personality, beauty, grooming, fashion sense, and confidence.

Winners in each division will receive a Custom UM Banner and Tiara.

PERSONAL ESSAY \$25

Does your contestant have a gift of writing? If so, showcase her writing by submitting a personal essay to be judged with other contestant's submissions. Each year a topic will be given in the contestant manual. Submissions should be a minimum of 3 paragraphs, but no longer than 1 page in length. The winning essay will be printed in the program book. Essay MUST be written by the contestant and received by January 5th!

Winners (7-12 & 13+) will receive \$25 Cash and essay printed in program book.

UNIVERSAL MODEL \$25 EACH (LIMIT 5)

Multiple outfit categories will be offered for your contestant that loves the stage. Judging based on stage presence, modeling proficiency, poise, confidence, outfit choice and fit, and overall appearance. Judging system: point system. Each outfit modeled will have the opportunity to score the max. of 100 points.

Participants will receive a Custom UM Medallion for each entry.

UNIVERSAL ENTERTAINER \$40 EACH (LIMIT 2)

Multiple talent categories will be offered for your contestant that loves to perform. Judging based on stage presence/performance, ability/technique, choreography, musicality, and overall entertainment value. Judging system: point system. Each talent performed will have the opportunity to score the max. of 100 points.

Participants will receive a Custom UM Medallion for each entry.

OPTIONAL COMPETITIONS

Bundle and Save!

OPTIONAL BUNDLE ONE \$250

Entry into the following:

- 5 Universal Model categories
- One entry into each Prettiest/Best competition (Prettiest Eyes, Prettiest Hair, Prettiest Smile, Best Formal Wear, Best Open Fashion, Best Headshot, & Best Portfolio)
- One Universal Photogenic
- One Practice Interview
- One Bella Miss



OPTIONAL BUNDLE TWO \$300

Entry into the following:

- 5 Universal Model categories
- One entry into each Prettiest/Best competition (Prettiest Eyes, Prettiest Hair, Prettiest Smile, Best Formal Wear, Best Open Fashion, Best Headshot, & Best Portfolio)
- One Universal Photogenic
- One Practice Interview
- One Bella Miss
- One Personal Essay
- Two Universal Entertainer categories



Texas UM State Winner Requirements

Under contract State Winners must abide by the following rules/regulations:

1. Must compete at the 2023 Universal Miss Nationals Competition.
2. Must maintain a professional reputation on all professional and personal social media platforms during the duration of her reign. In fitting with the standards maintained by UM, parents of State Winners must do the same.
3. Must maintain a professional appearance at all times for all events related to UM. This includes hair, make-up, and clothing. State Winners must wear company colors when making appearances.
4. Must participate in Universal Miss Service Day activities.
5. Must attend 2024 State competition. Housing, passes, and remaining scholarship will be given to all divisional winners completing their yearly reign. Queens are invited and encouraged to attend any UM sponsored event throughout their reign as possible. Remember the more you put into your reign the more you get out of it.

Texas UM does NOT have a non-compete clause. However, we will require that you discuss participation in other systems with the Texas State Director PRIOR to entering. We hope to work together to make your year as our Texas UM Royalty special! We want to help you grow as individuals, experience new and exciting things, and make friends to last a lifetime!!!

Texas UM Appointed Title Requirements

Under contract Appointed Title Holders must abide by the following rules/regulations:

1. Must compete at the 2023 Universal Miss Nationals Competition.
2. Must maintain a professional reputation on all social media platforms during the duration of the year. In fitting with the standards maintained by UM, parents of Appointed Title Holders must do the same.
3. Must maintain a professional appearance at all times for all events related to UM. This includes hair, make-up, and clothing. Appointed Title holders must wear company colors when making appearances.
4. Must participate in Universal Miss Service Day activities.

Any contestant that joins us at the 2023 National Competition is eligible for an Appointed Title. The contestant will be presented with the crown and banner at the 2023 National competition. The State Director will provide you with the name of the title and IG profile name that you MUST use. Appointed Title Holders will be given multiple appearance opportunities!

Award Packages

Divisional Winner:

\$100 awarded at crowing, \$400 awarded upon completion of all duties at the 2024 State Competition, Custom UM Crown, Monogrammed Upgraded Banner, Director will pay \$100 toward 2023 Nationals, Crown case, banner storage, Custom UM banner magnet, Custom Texas UM Gear, Autograph cards, Personalized Social Media page (For use during reign), Queen photo shoot, discounted HMU for 2023 National competition, VIP Royalty Reception at 2024 State Competition, Director Gift at 2024 State Competition, Customized Year-In-Review Farewell Speech at 2024 State Competition, VIP Family Seating at 2024 State Competition, 2023 Queens Trip for contestant and chaperone, invitation to TX Royalty event & other travel opportunities!

1st Alternate:

\$100 Cash at crowning, Graduated custom UM Trophy PLUS Waived registration fee for 2024 State Competition

Note: If Divisional Winner is unable to fulfill her duties, 1st Alternates are only eligible to move up if she attends the 2023 National competition.

2nd Alternate:

\$50 Cash at crowning, Graduated custom UM Trophy PLUS Waived registration fee for 2024 State Competition

3rd & 4th Alternates:

Graduated custom UM Trophy PLUS Half-off registration fee for 2024 State Competition

Finalists:

Custom UM Trophy

Protégé:

Custom UM Trophy

Optional Only Contestant:

Any optional award earned during competition. (See awards above.)

Appointed Title Holders:

Waived registration fee for 2024 State Competition