

MISS GLADWIN COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ANNUAL COMPETITION

The Miss Gladwin County Scholarship Program is utilized as the means of choosing the most worthy student ambassador for the County of Gladwin. The program shall strive to select the candidate who best exhibits the qualities deemed important by the pageant committee which includes: academic achievement, leadership skills, commitment to community service, an ability to communicate effectively, a passion for Gladwin County, conducting themselves with an attitude of positivity and a sense of loyalty to self and to others.

Miss Gladwin County will earn a scholarship made payable to the college, trade school, or approved entrepreneurship opportunity as approved by the committee. There will be two runners-up selected – one from Gladwin and one from Beaverton who will also earn a scholarship. Miss Gladwin County is expected to represent the community at scheduled appearances on behalf of the local business community and its various civic organizations throughout her year of holding the prestigious title of Miss Gladwin County.

Scholarship Levels:

Miss Gladwin County: \$5,000

1st Runner Up: \$2,000

2nd Runner Up: \$1,000

Each year, the contestants are scored from a panel of judges. The selected judges are unbiased and unfamiliar with the contestants and their families. Judges will not live or work in Gladwin County. Judges will have an understanding of and appreciation for the qualities that are represented by Miss Gladwin County.

The board will accept applications from any potential candidate who meets the criteria and desires to compete for the title in the annual program. The application will consist of:

1. A personal resume. The resume is for the board to quickly get to know a little about each applicant and should include information about education, special skills, service projects, community impact, personal fun facts, and future aspirations.
2. A service initiative. Each contestant is required to select or develop a service initiative or platform which demonstrates a passion or advocacy for a project or program that will serve the community and make Gladwin County a better place in which to live, learn, or love others.

From these applications, the board will select the top 10 applicants to compete for the annual title.

THE MISS GLADWIN COUNTY PROGRAM ANNUAL COMPETITION

The annual competition will take place on the last Saturday of June each year alternating between the Beaverton Activity Center and The Gladwin High School Cafetorium.

The day of competition will begin with arrival at the program location. The afternoon will be devoted to personal interviews with the judging panel. The judges will have received a biography of each contestant prior to the competition. Contestants will participate in a personal interview with judges to assess their communication skills, demeanor, and ability to articulate their individuality. This criterion includes:

- Demonstrating knowledge of current events and community issues.
- Articulating personal values, aspirations, and future plans.
- Engaging in a thoughtful discussion about their platform or advocacy.

Contestants will have been provided with coaching and mock interviews prior to the formal interviews on the day of the competition.

INTERVIEW IS WORTH 30 POINTS

Judges and contestants will have lunch together to allow an opportunity for judges to continue to assess contestants' ability to communicate and interact in a social setting.

The competition will take place in front of an audience of community members, judges, family, friends, business sponsors, and civic leaders. It will begin that evening with a program opener that demonstrates the contestants' ability to work together toward a common goal of entertaining the audience and kicking off this prestigious event.

The stage competition will then begin with each contestant presenting a personal statement, including information about themselves and their hobbies, interests, and passions.

PERSONAL STATEMENT AND STAGE PRESENCE IS WORTH 15 POINTS

The next competition will be the "skills showcase" which is an opportunity for the contestants to highlight and share a special skill or talent in a unique and creative way. Contestants must

showcase a skill that demonstrates creativity, dedication, and enthusiasm. This criterion may include:

- Performing arts such as singing, dancing, playing a musical instrument, or acting.
- Visual arts such as painting, sculpture, or photography.
- Other passions such as public speaking, writing, or athletic abilities.

SKILLS SHOWCASE IS WORTH 15 POINTS

The next competition will be the “formal dialogue” which is an opportunity for each contestant to present themselves in business professional/semi-formal attire and have an on-stage short conversation with the emcee/judging panel.

FORMAL DIALOGUE IS WORTH 20 POINTS

Contestants will have an opportunity to promote a cause or platform that they are passionate about. The service initiative will be outlined and presented as a poster. These will be on display on the evening of the annual program competition but scores will have already been collected and tallied. This criterion includes:

- Articulating a clear and compelling platform.
- Demonstrating commitment to raising awareness or making a difference in their community.
- Providing evidence of initiatives or activities related to their platform.

The winning proposed service initiative receives the “Heart of Gladwin County” recognition as well as a \$500 stipend toward their cause.

SERVICE INITIATIVE IS WORTH 20 POINTS

Contestants will be evaluated on their overall presentation during the event. This criterion may include:

- Attitude, confidence, and stage presence.
- Appropriate appearance and attire for each category.
- Proficient engagement with fellow contestants, committee, audience, and judges.

Miss Gladwin County Scholarship Program Eligibility & Criteria

Introduction: The Miss Gladwin County Scholarship Program aims to recognize and reward exceptional young women in our community who demonstrate a commitment to learning, leading, and living with loyalty to themselves and others. The following criteria outline the standards by which contestants will be evaluated.

1. Academic Achievement: Contestants must exhibit a strong academic record. This criterion may include:

- Written plans to pursue higher education, a trade, or self-employment venture.
- Academic honors, awards, or achievements.

2. Leadership Skills: Contestants should demonstrate leadership abilities both within and outside of the academic environment. This criterion may include:

- Holding leadership positions in school clubs, organizations, or community groups.
- Involvement in projects or initiatives that showcase leadership qualities.

3. Community Service: Contestants should have an established commitment to serving their community and making a positive impact. This criterion may include:

- Volunteer work with local charities, organizations, or community events.
- Initiatives or projects undertaken to address community needs.

4. Passion and Engagement in Hobbies: Contestants should exhibit a strong commitment to and enthusiasm for their personal interests or hobbies, showcasing how these passions have contributed to their personal growth, community involvement, or academic pursuits. This criterion may include:

- Leadership roles in hobby-related activities
- Consistent involvement in extracurricular interests
- Articulation of how these passions have inspired positive change or achievements in their life.

5. Integrity and Individualism: Contestants must demonstrate a strong sense of integrity in their actions, decisions, and interactions with others. This includes upholding ethical standards, being honest, and making responsible choices in both academic and personal contexts. Additionally, applicants should demonstrate individualism by highlighting how they embrace their unique qualities, pursue their own path, and contribute original perspectives to their community. This criterion may include:

- Evidence of standing up for what they believe in, regardless of popular opinion, and making independent decisions that align with their values will be highly valued.
- Examples of staying true to themselves and others. Following through on commitments.
- A strong ethical and moral compass, and strong values
- Honesty and consistency
- A strong sense of self
- Self-awareness, individualism, look internally

These qualities will be applied and assessed throughout the application and competition. Contestants will have a chance to prove and demonstrate them.

Conclusion: The Miss Gladwin County Scholarship Program is honored to recognize young women in Gladwin County who exemplify a dedication to education, growth, leadership, and their community. Contestants are required to prepare thoroughly and represent the highest caliber of Gladwin County youth, from beginning to end of the process.

Miss Gladwin County Scholarship Program Code of Conduct

Each contestant participating shall follow The Miss Gladwin County Scholarship Program Code of Conduct as outlined below.

Applications must be received by Feb 1 of the current program year.

Contestants must be 16-18 years of age on the day of the program. Ideally, the contestants will be entering their Senior year in the fall following the annual competition.

Contestants must have lived in Gladwin County for the past 5 consecutive years OR have attended Beaverton, Gladwin, or Skeels Schools for the past 3 consecutive years (at a minimum).

The program will be held with a maximum of 10 contestants each year. If the Board receives more than 10 applications, the Board holds the responsibility of selecting the 10 program contestants based on their initial application and selected by majority vote.

A minimum of 7 contestants will be required to hold the annual competition. Less than 7 contestants may result in cancellation of the program for that year. Should the program be canceled, no Miss Gladwin County shall reign.

The contestant is responsible for any and all items deemed necessary by the contestant to participate in the program.

Contestants must attend all practices. Any absences will require prior notification by the contestant to a designated member of the committee. Unauthorized absences may result in dismissal. In the event of unauthorized absences, the committee shall review the circumstances and render a decision. All decisions of the committee are final and will stand as such.

Contestants will be allowed to apply upon submission of the application form which has been completed truthfully, accurately, and signed by the contestant and her parent, guardian, or adult sponsor. Falsification of any information contained in the application may result in disqualification.

The committee reserves the right to disqualify any contestant, at any time for non-compliance of rules and/or by-laws, or failure to follow the timeline, as set by the committee.

The committee will support the philosophy of the Gladwin County S.A.F.E.T.Y Supporting an Alcohol-Free Environment for our Teens and Youth, designed to prohibit the use of alcohol by minors and the use of illegal drugs by all.

Miss Gladwin County will serve as an ambassador for Gladwin County and will be required to attend community and sponsor events, fundraisers, and business opportunities as coordinated by the director of the Miss Gladwin County Scholarship Program.

MISS GLADWIN COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
CONTESTANT AGREEMENT

I, along with my parent(s)/guardian(s), have read the Miss Gladwin County Scholarship Program packet.

I agree to the rules and to the schedule as outlined in the bylaws packet.

If at any time I am having difficulties in any part of the program, I will address these issues with a committee member.

I understand that practices must be attended and on time. It is my responsibility to report to a committee member before an absence.

I understand that my participation in the Fourth of July parade and the Fundraising Gala is expected of Miss Gladwin County and all contestants. I understand that I will be expected to attend fundraisers & community events as coordinated by the Director of the Miss Gladwin County Scholarship Program. A schedule of required events is included in the "Program Guidelines."

As a representative of the Gladwin County Community, Miss Gladwin County is expected to maintain a code of conduct befitting her status. She is expected to conduct herself in a positive way and be willing to show cooperation and demonstrate leadership. As a contestant I agree to this code of conduct.

I accept that all scholarships are awarded the following year after a successful fulfillment of duties by Miss Gladwin County and her runners up.

DATE: _____

CONTESTANT SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____