



Miss Czech-Slovak US Pageant Official Rules and Procedures

Rules

Failure to comply with any of the below rules will result in disqualification of contestant from the Miss Czech-Slovak US Pageant.

1. Contestants must be between the ages of 16 and 26 prior to August 1 of the current year.
2. She must be attending high school or be a high school graduate.
3. Contestant must be a citizen or eligible to work in the United States of America.
4. Contestant must be of partial Czech, Moravian, Slovak, Rusyn, Silesian descent or be legally adopted by parents of this descent.
5. Contestant must appear in a Czech, Moravian, Slovak, Rusyn or Silesian kroj (costume). Contestants are limited to bringing only three (3) kroj with them for the pageant weekend.
6. Contestants must be single and never married and have no offensive behavior that could cause a negative impact to the pageant.
7. There shall not be more than one contestant from each US State, US Territory, or Washington D.C. Any contestant may represent a state where she is not a legal resident but, attending an accredited high school, college, university, tech school, trade school or business school.
8. Contestant must be personally present and participate in all four pageant categories and all pageant scheduled events as scheduled per pageant committee. The four categories in order are: Private Interview by Judges, Public Onstage Interview, Kroj Modeling, and Talent Presentation. Failure to complete any category or attend a weekend event will result in disqualification from the pageant. If contestant is not properly prepared for any category resulting in pageant order deviation will result in a deduction of 5 points.
9. Contestants can compete two non-consecutive years at the national pageant.
10. Contestants can only wear state sash while in kroj. Contestants will not wear state crowns during pageant weekend.

Procedures

1. All contestants and only contestants stay at the Historic Hotel Wilber.
2. Contestants are required to check into the Hotel Wilber by 6:00 pm on Friday.
3. Contestant must attend the mandatory orientation Friday evening.
4. Contestants must respect the nightly 11:00 pm Hotel Wilber curfew.
5. Males are not allowed on the 2nd floor of the Hotel Wilber from Friday at 6 pm until Monday at 7 am.
6. No alcoholic beverages will be consumed by contestants during pageant weekend or while in crown and sash.
7. Little Sisters will be appointed by the Miss Czech-Slovak US pageant committee.

Contestant's Entry Information

- Entries must be post marked by May 22, 2020.
- No changes to entry form, kroj description, or questions are allowed after submission.
- The following parts must be included in Contestant's Entry Packet
 - Entry Form and Pageant Questions (two – one sided sheets of paper)
 - Kroj Description (Double-spaced 12 point Times New Roman Font)
 - Each form should have contestant's name and state in page header.
 - \$50.00 Entry Fee payable to Miss Czech-Slovak US Pageant.
 - Photo (headshot – from shoulder up in kroj) WITHOUT state crown or sash. Photo can be any size up to 5x7. Photos are preferred in color. Photos will not be returned to contestants.
- Contestant's entry packet should be mailed to:
Alexandria Cerveny Sandall 5610 N 18th Street, Lincoln, NE 68521
- All paper forms can be emailed to acerveny10@gmail.com
– *Mandatory*: Email kroj description in word format



Individual Category Rules

All Categories: Contestants compete in alphabetical order by last name.

Private Interview Rules

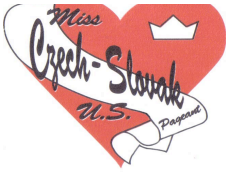
- Contestant must be interviewed in the same kroj she presents during kroj modeling category.
- Contestant will receive a seven (7) minute interview panel-style with the judges.
- All contestants will receive the same first three questions. After these standard questions judges ask questions utilizing the contestant's entry form and questionnaire.
- Judges cannot ask questions about personal political affiliation, sexual topics, or personal religious affiliation or beliefs.
- Timer will announce when 30 seconds are left, contestant should answer final question or finish current question.

On-stage Interview Rules

- Contestant must be interviewed in the same kroj she presents during kroj modeling category.
- Contestant will draw for three formal questions. A study guide of topics and subjects will be sent, via email, on or about, two weeks prior to the pageant to the contestants.
- First question will be "Americanized", second question will be "Authentic" and the third question will be an impromptu kroj question. The "Authentic" question will be determined by a dignitary, appointed by the pageant committee, upon reading the completed application submitted by the contestants.
- Contestants cannot read the questions prior to handing to Master of Ceremonies.

Kroj (costume) Rules

- A **250 word** description of your kroj must be sent with the Entry Form. This description will be read aloud as you model your kroj on the stage during the kroj competition. Example: Suzy is wearing an Americanized kroj. *If the description is more than 250 words, the pageant committee will edit the contestant's description.* There are two divisions in the Kroj category: *Americanized and Authentic divisions.* The kroj should represent your family's cultural heritage. Judges may deduct point for kroje that do not represent the region, town or village of your family's ancestry.
- Kroj description should include (but not limited to):
 - The origin, how it represents you, if any part is authentic, the meaning of the kroj and physical description.
- All contestants must complete their kroj with footwear.
- All contestants receive similar introduction including: Name, State, Kroj Division, and Kroj construction. This information is found on the entry form. This introduction does not count towards 250-word count.
- Authentic kroj are traditional Czech, Moravian, Silesian, Rusyn or Slovak costumes that are from the native country or are very similar representatives of the original. For example, if you took a picture and recreated the authentic picture. Contestant must submit two pictures (one front and one back) of the authentic replicated kroj to be presented for the judges. Pictures must be in color and a 4x6 photo.
- Americanized kroj are costumes that represent Czech, Moravian, Silesian, Rusyn or Slovak ancestry with American or modern accents.
- Description should be 12 point Times New Roman font, double-spaced and able to print on one page.
- Description must be typed with contestant's name and state in page header.
- All kroj descriptions must be emailed to the national pageant director at acervenyl0@gmail.com



Talent Rules

- Talent act is limited to no more than **four (4) minutes**. It begins with a formal introduction and concludes with final work, note or motion.
- Contestants are encouraged, but not mandated, to introduce their talent including: what talent they will be performing, why they chose their talent and how it relates to the contestant. The introduction is part of the four (4) minute time limit.
- Talent can be signing, dancing, playing a musical instrument, dramatic reading, art display, dress designing, poetry, drawings, gymnastics, or a verbal oration on a subject or topic.
- Pre-recorded and pre-created props will not be considered/judged in overall performance.
- An on-stage accompanist is allowed but no other partners can perform with contestant.
- Contestants must describe their talent in detail on their pageant application.
- Contestants are responsible for all props for their talent. Pageant will provide, microphone (handheld and cordless), piano, and speaker system. All other props must be provided by the contestant.
 - Talent is performed at the Wilber Outdoor Theater. PowerPoint presentations are not recommended and are not guaranteed to be seen by judges and audience.
- We encourage contestants to perform their talent in Czech or Slovak language or works by Czech or Slovak composers. However, performing a Czech or Slovak talent is not mandatory.
- There will be an official talent timer located next to the judges' table. The timer will hold up cards at minute intervals for the contestant's information. At four minutes the timer will hold up a STOP card. If the stop card is held up the contestant will be deducted 5 points from her overall talent score.

At – Large Program

Currently there are 9 state pageants – Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.

If a contestant would like to represent a state without a state pageant, they must enter via the national at-large program.

1. If a state has a Board of Director Member (BOD), that individual has the right for 1st appointment of the state contestant.
2. If the BOD has not found a contestant by April 1, the national pageant can appoint a candidate, meeting the national rules, to a state.
3. If your state does not have a Board of Director please immediately contact the National Pageant Director.
4. **All at-large contestants must have their pageant entry form, picture and questions sent to the national pageant director by May 1 for confirmation by the pageant committee.**
5. At-large contestants will be notified by May 10 of status of application and must turn in entry fee and kroj description by June 1 to complete the application.

At-large contestants can submit their application for approval at any time prior to May 1.

If an at-large contestant submits the above requirements earlier than May 1, she can receive early approval.

Contact the National Pageant Director for all at-large questions.



Traditional Prizes

Miss Czech-Slovak US will receive

- \$2,000 Cash Scholarship
- \$2,500 towards a trip to either the Czech or Slovak Republic arranged personally or through a Tour Agency. All tours must be approved through the National Pageant Director.
- A \$250 special scholarship from Cecelia Rokusek.
- Jeweled crown, trophy, and flowers

She will also receive the traditional traveling Fiala and Bohemian crystal crowns. The National Queen will use these for personal appearances throughout the year and pass them down to the next National Queen.

The 1st Runner-Up will receive

- \$1,500 Cash Scholarship
- Crown, sash, trophy and flowers

The 2nd Runner-Up will receive

- \$1,000 Cash Scholarship
- Crown, sash, trophy and flowers

Talent Awards:

Grand Talent Winner: Cash Scholarship and trophy

Talent Runner-Up: Cash Scholarship and trophy

Kroj Awards:

Authentic Kroj: Cash Scholarship and trophy

Americanized Kroj: Cash Scholarship and trophy

Oratory Award: Cash Scholarship and Crystal

An oratory award will be present to the contestant who has the best overall oratory skills. These skills include presentation, poise, clarity, expression, and public image. Judges will evaluate these skills throughout the pageant weekend for example, main street bandstand, parade, and evening introduction.

Other Awards: All awards below receive a cash prize and Crystal

Miss Congeniality Award: This award is determined by the contestants. Contestants vote for the young lady, who exhibits the best attitude and spirit of the pageant.

Lois & John Fiala Spirit Award: This award is presented to the contestant with the most passion and spirit for her heritage.

Heritage Involvement Award: This award is presented to the contestant with the most and best community involvement in their heritage. This is determined by the contestant's entry form.

Sokol and Sokol Runner-Up Awards: These awards are presented to the two best sokol or sokol-like talents. These awards are only awarded if sokol talents are presented.

All awards are subject to change based upon received donations.