

"Promoting intelligent, strong young ladies with the power to change the world!" The Miss Eustis Program is committed to the continued growth and development of young ladies within our community. With a spirit of service, both contestants and titleholders are encouraged to engage with residents, seeking an opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of others. Working with many of our area's strongest leaders, it is the goal of our organization to provide all participants a variety of tools for continued life success.

Contestants selected to represent Eustis as a titleholder will be expected to actively attend community events, volunteer opportunities, and general public appearances. The following is a sample of the annual schedule;

February

Eustis Recreation Character Day - TBD Annual Georgefest Celebration – February 15 through 22, 2025

March The Amazing Race – March 30, 2025

May Eustis Recreation Special Needs Prom - TBD

July Hometown Celebration – July 5, 2025

September EHS Homecoming Parade - TBD

October Fall Fest – October 18, 2025

November

Salute to Veterans – November 8, 2025 Light Up Eustis – November 28, 2025

December Snowflakes by the Lake – December 12, 19, and 26, 2025

Titleholders will additionally be encouraged to attend community parades and festivals in neighboring cities, on their own throughout the year as they wish to do so.

Program Rules

1. Contestant's permanent legal address must be located within the following school districts;

Middle School	High School
Eustis	Eustis
Mt. Dora	Mt. Dora
Tavares	Tavares
Umatilla	Umatilla
	Eustis Mt. Dora Tavares

Lake County Schools School Locator Map will be utilized with regards to any questions of location eligibility. You can access this tool on their website, <u>https://www.lake.k12.fl.us/departments/operations/growth-planning/school-locator</u>.

2. Eligibility is based upon the contestant's birth year. A copy of the individual's birth certificate is required with the application packet.

Division	Birth Year
Tiny	2019 – 2020
Little	2016 – 2018
Junior	2013 – 2015
Teen	2010 – 2012
Miss	2007 – 2009

- 3. Contestants must have been born a female and have always been female.
- 4. Contestants must be single, never have been married or had a marriage annulled. Contestants can never have been pregnant and should not be the adoptive parent of a child.
- 5. Individuals may only win each title (Tiny, Little, Junior...) one time. They may compete in the next age-appropriate category the year after giving up their current title. I.E. If a contestant is named Tiny Miss Eustis in 2025, she may not compete in Little Miss Eustis until 2027. She may not hold a Miss Eustis title and compete for a new title at the same time.
- 6. Titleholders must agree to commit a large portion of time to the City of Eustis for an entire year. If a titleholder travels out of the area for school, she will still be expected to attend many events. By participating in the pageant, contestants acknowledge this requirement and understand the duties associated with winning a title.

- 7. Any contestant with a current title from another must notify pageant leadership. Should the contestant also win a Eustis title, there will be an expectation that Eustis shall be represented first and foremost at local community events. Any "Miss" titleholders choosing to participate in Miss Florida's Teen program will be required to relinquish any additional titles if required by that program's contractual agreement.
- 8. Winners in the "Miss" division will be eligible to be considered for the Miss Florida's Teen program, through the Miss America Organization. The City of Eustis will facilitate communications and the application process through the Miss Florida Scholarship Program. If accepted, the City of Eustis will sponsor the contestant's entrance fee, paid directly to the Miss Florida Scholarship Program. Contestants will be responsible for any additional costs.
- 9. Contestants agree that the decision of the judges is FINAL.
- 10. Contestants are prohibited from displaying, communicating and/or providing, or having knowledge of <u>inappropriate language, materials, or photographs</u> on the internet/websites including but not limited to <u>Facebook, Instagram,</u> <u>Snapchat, Twitter, TikTok or personal blogs.</u> It is at the discretion of the City of Eustis to determine what is inappropriate. Such behavior could result in the individual being asked to forfeit their title, all prizes, and gifts received.
- 11. Contestants agree that all garments worn while representing the City of Eustis both on stage the day of the pageant or throughout the year as a titleholder shall be in good taste and age-appropriate. Furthermore, titleholders will be expected to dress for various occasions which could include a sundress for an event day in the park or Sunday best for a special meeting or appearance.
- 12. Contestants will be allowed one (1) chaperone (must be female) in the backstage area. This could be the contestants Mom, hairdresser, or best friend, but no additional visitors will be allowed. Each chaperone will be given a wristband for the day, providing them the ability to go from the dressing room to the audience. Choose someone who is helpful, supportive, and will not add to the contestant's stress. We are here to have fun and enjoy the day!
- 13. If at any time a current titleholder is unable to continue fulfilling their obligations, they agree to notify the pageant team immediately and understand they may be asked to relinquish their title to a runner-up.
- 14. All contestants as well as friends and family shall exhibit good sportsmanship at all times. Those unable to do so will be asked to leave. Depending on the severity of the issue, contestants may be removed from the competition and asked not to return in the future.

Phase of Competition

Miss and Teen

Interview:

Each contestant will have a 5-minute interview with a panel of judges. Questions could range from "Tell us about yourself" to "Why do you want to be Miss Eustis?". This is a light, conversational opportunity for the judges to get to know the contestants individually. It is also a chance for our young ladies to begin learning and enhancing their interview skills. Whether applying for University or trying to land a dream job, developing these professional traits will be valuable to our contestants' future. Contestants should wear their Sunday best or professional attire, just as they would for a professional interview.

Fitness Wear:

Toss away your heels and grab your sneakers! Whether you love your softball, cheerleading or volleyball uniform or have favorite gym wear, model your best fitness attire to fun, upbeat music. Show the judges your confidence, positive attitude, and high-level of energy in this 20 - 30 second on-stage, personal routine.

Evening/Red Carpet Attire:

We will slow things down for an opportunity for our ladies to shine on stage in their favorite eveningwear. The judges will be looking for poise, confidence, and the contestant's ability to captivate the crowd in this 20 – 45 second on-stage, personal routine.

On-Stage Question:

During our final phase of competition, our judges will ask each contestant an on-stage question. These questions will either be one they previously answered well in the personal interview, or a question that directly relates to their personal application page. Questions will be selected by the judges.

Contestants will be given a score of 1-10 for each category and those scores will be weighted as follows;

35% Interview
25% Evening Attire
20% Fitness Wear
20% On-Stage Question
Ties will be broken based upon individual category scores in interview.

Pageant Dates – Miss and Teen

The program will be held in conjunction with the Miss Georgefest Scholarship Program, a preliminary for the Miss Florida Organization.

Sunday, February 16, 2025 7:00 p.m. LifePointe Church 3551 E. Orange Ave. Eustis, FL 32736

Contestants should expect to arrive as early as 9:00 a.m. Exact times will be determined at a later date, based upon the number of registered contestants. Throughout the day contestants will have rehearsal time on the stage and participate in interviews. Please remember only one (1) individual may join you in the backstage areas. This includes rehearsal times as well.

The pageant is free to attend and seats are first-come, first-served.

Prize Packages

All contestants will receive a special gift courtesy of our sponsors and the City of Eustis.

People's Choice winner will receive ½ of the funds collected from the contest. The remainder of the funds will be a fundraiser for the Miss Eustis and Miss Georgefest Scholarships.

Division winners will each receive a crown and sash.

Teen Miss Eustis will receive a \$500 scholarship* to use at educational institute of her choice.

Miss Eustis will receive a \$750 scholarship* to use at the educational institute of her choice.

*Scholarships are payable directly to the institution or to the contestant with appropriate documentation. **Scholarships expire February 16, 2035.**

Application Deadline

Contestants must submit the following;

Completed Application

Digital Photo – This does not need to be a professional image, but it will be used in the program book and will be seen by the judges, so use a picture you feel great about. Copy of Birth Certificate

The deadline for submission is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 31, 2025. Late applications will not be accepted.

Paperwork can be emailed to <u>events@eustis.org</u> or dropped off at the Events & Tourism Department inside City Hall.

Teen and Miss Eustis Application

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	Email:
Birthdate:	School:
Division: Teen Miss	
Parents:	
Tell us about yourself:	
What are your future goals?	

Why do you want to represent the City of Eustis?

What are some of your biggest or favorite accomplishments?

Please list some of the activities you are involved in:

Tell us a fun fact about yourself:

I have received and read the rules for the Miss or Teen Miss Eustis program. I understand the decision of the judges is final. I agree to participate in City of Eustis events through the coming year, should I be chosen as a winner. I understand I need to keep in close contact with the City of Eustis Events & Tourism team to ensure my calendar is up to date and I am providing excellent representation throughout the year.

Contestant Signature

Date

Contestant Printed Name

Parent's Signature

Date