

Section 5 - Fair Queen

Committee

Carly Shissler, Chairman ~ 717-847-3531

Alexis Findley, Katherine Tshudy

Contest Date: Saturday, September 12, 2026

Contest Deadline: Sunday, September 1, 2026. Applications can be found at www.solancofair.org

Crowning Date: Friday, September 18, 2026, 4:30 PM in the Show Barn

Purpose: The purpose of the Pennsylvania State Fair Queen Program (PSFQP) is to promote the education of young women in Pennsylvania through the operation of a scholarship program providing educational opportunities for selected applicants and to promote greater public understanding and awareness of agriculture and its importance to Pennsylvania.

1. Contestant must be a female who is a US citizen and a resident of the Solanco School District.
2. Contestant must be at least 16, but no older than 20 years of age as of June 1 of the contest year.
3. Contestant must be single, have never been married, have not been pregnant or given birth to a child.
4. Contestant must not have been former Queen of the Solanco Fair Queen Contest or contestant of the PA Fair Queen Contest.
5. Contestant must not hold any other title for any other commodity group or pageant during her reign.
6. Contestant must have parent or guardian permission to enter the competition.
7. Contestant must be of good moral character and act in accordance with the PA Fair Queen "Behavior Policy."
8. Contestant must be able to meet all the time commitments, obligations and dress code as set forth by the committee and PA Fair Queen program.
9. Each contestant must submit: 1)completed entry form, 2)written essay and 3)brief biography by the contest deadline.
10. Contestants are required to attend a personal interview with judges on the day of the contest.
11. Contestants are required to submit at least one entry of their choice in the Solanco Fair.
12. All contestants are expected to attend fair activities that are scheduled during the 2026 fair week.
13. If named Fair Queen, it is mandatory to attend fair activities during the following fair (2027) that are scheduled by the committee. Winner is expected to represent the fair at various activities outside of fair week as well.
14. If named Fair Queen, it is mandatory to represent the Solanco Fair at the PA Fair Queen Competition in January, with an attending parent or guardian chaperone.
15. If the winner fails to complete her obligations as Queen or fails to adhere to policies, it will result in forced resignation and loss of scholarship monies.
16. In the event the Queen must resign, the alternate will be asked to fill in.
17. Contestants agree to abide by all rules of the contest.
18. The judges' decision is final. No score sheets will be shared.

Judging Criteria

Written Essay - "What the Fair Means to my Community" (300 words or less) contestants will be judged on their grammar, spelling, content.

Personal Interview - contestants will be judged on their conversational ability, answers to questions, appearance/poise, activities, and knowledge of fair industry.

Impromptu Question - contestants will be judged on their conversational ability, answers to the question(s), appearance/poise, activities, and knowledge of fair industry.

Speech Presentation - "Why You Should Come to my Fair" (3-5 minutes, timed) Speech content to include agriculture. Contestants will be judged on their speech content, speech format, public speaking ability, appearance/poise, and ability to convey a persuasive message.

Introduction - 15 second personal introduction to audience. Contestants will be judged on their ability to deliver strong informative content and have a good stage presence, appearance/poise.

PRIZES - The winner receives scholarship upon meeting her obligations as Fair Queen.

Queen: \$1,000, Alternate: \$500.

Contact committee members for additional information.