



Are you thinking about applying but have a few questions about the program? We're here to help!

We anticipate your questions and appreciate your enthusiasm!

This is our 3rd Annual Queen Contest and we hope to see you soon!

About the IHC Queen Contest:

The Indiana Horse Council is seeking a highly motivated horsewoman between the ages of 18-25 to represent the Indiana Horse Council in 2017. Our queen will be crowned on the evening of Friday, March 31st, as we kick off the Hoosier Horse Fair & Expo™. Her initial appearance of the year, the Hoosier Horse Fair & Expo™, will require her presence March 31st – April 2nd, 2017. Our queen will make several appearances at equine-related events and activities throughout the year to promote, not only the Indiana Horse Council, but the horse.

Our ideal representative is actively involved in the horse industry with a desire to learn and grow. Women between the ages of 18-25 are eligible. Other rules apply. The program is designed to raise awareness of the Indiana Horse Council and its efforts within the equine industry. We need an outgoing, enthusiastic young horsewoman to be the face of our organization throughout the year!

This program is not only designed for the IHC; it is intended to build, inspire, encourage and help young women succeed in the equine industry.

- 1) **The application states that candidates will be tested on three components. When and where will the testing take place?**
 - All applicants will participate in the interview and written test components of our judging. These two components will take place on Saturday, March 4th. The location is still to be determined. The last two years it was held at Indiana Grand in Shelbyville, IN. We're looking into a new venue. (The day will consist of interviews, written test, guest speakers, horsemanship session, and more.)
 - The top ten from both of these components combined will move on to the horsemanship testing which will take place on Friday, March 31st - Day ONE of the Hoosier Horse Fair & Expo™. This testing component will take place rain or shine. More information will be sent to applicants as applications are received.

2) How will Miss Congeniality be chosen?

The top ten finalists will have the opportunity to vote on who should win the title of Miss Congeniality. Top ten finalists are eligible to win. Voting will take place sometime after the interview day. We will have a luncheon within the weeks leading up to the Hoosier Horse Fair & Expo™ for the top 10 and the girls will vote that day. She will not be announced until the crowning during the Hoosier Horse Fair & Expo™. Tentative days for the luncheon are Saturday March 18th or March 25th. We will try to schedule around Spring Breaks! This date will be chosen once we have our top 10 ladies and we will discuss schedules as a group.

3) Describe the horsemanship component. What disciplines are welcome? What skills should my horse and I be able to perform?

All disciplines are welcome! We will provide a pattern in advance that will be applicable to all disciplines. The level of difficulty will be beginner-intermediate level. Pattern will be provided 1 week before the testing date.

4) Do I have to own the horse I ride in horsemanship?

No, you do not have to own the horse you use for the horsemanship class. However, it is required that you do own or lease at least one horse of your own, even if you do not use the animal during the contest.

5) What should I wear on the interview day?

Since interviews will take place on this day, professional wear is highly encouraged. Boots and hats are welcome but not required. Meaning you will not be counted off if you wear a hat or chose not to. Please let your personality shine through! We want to know who you are. Use your best judgment and plan on presenting yourself in the most professional way possible! Clean boots or heels are welcomed. See our Facebook page for pictures of past interview outfits; Indiana Horse Council or Indiana Horse Council Queen on Facebook.

6) What types of questions will be asked during the interview?

Since we only have a short time to get to know our applicants, the interviews are of utmost importance! During the interviews, our judges may ask about your goals, activities within the horse industry, overall knowledge of the organization and more. Be prepared to be yourself and bring a positive, enthusiastic attitude! Interviews will only last around 3-5 minutes.

7) What will the written test cover?

The test will be over general horse knowledge and it will be written to challenge you. Topics may include questions related to: Equine genetics, breed info, body parts, internal and external functions, equipment/ tack, equine care, and the Indiana Horse Council.

8) If I win the contest, will I be reimbursed for my expenses throughout the year?

Yes, if you are selected as queen, you will be given a stipend amount to cover wardrobe and traveling expenses. The amount of the queen's stipend will be discussed after crowning. The queen's court will also be reimbursed expenses such as hotel, travel, and food when accompanying the queen at events.

9) What types of awards will be given?

Among our impressive spread of awards, prizes include a custom belt buckle, show saddle, hats, horse products, clothing, jewelry & more! All participants will receive a gift at interview day. We will have gifts for the top 10, and additional gifts for the Queen and her court. In 2017 the queen will receive a one year lease on a trailer, compliments of Murphy Trailer Sales.

10) Are there alternative dates for testing?

Unfortunately the answer is no. Since multiple judges will be present that day you must be present with no make-up days. If selected as a top ten finalist, you must also be present on March 31st for the horsemanship portion of the test.

11) Will I still be eligible if I turn 26 in 2017?

Yes! If you are 18-25 years of age as of January 1st, 2017, you are eligible to compete in the 2017 contest.

12) Will I have to attend the Tail Gait Event that is held Thursday night before the Horse Fair kicks off?

If you are chosen as one of the top 10 ladies the answer is, YES. We will provide hotels for the top 10 Thursday night through Sunday. Guests are welcome; the IHC will provide one-two tickets per person

13) Why do I have to be a member of the Indiana Horse Council? How can I learn more about the organization?

We require current IHC membership because this is an activity of the organization and should you win or become a finalist in the contest, you'll be representing the Indiana Horse Council at several events. One goal of the program is to raise awareness of the Indiana Horse Council and its efforts within the equine industry. You can learn more about the organization by visiting <http://www.indianahorsecouncil.org/> or requesting more information from Jessica Harmeyer at jpeters841@gmail.com

More questions? Contact:

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OR

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