

# 2026

*miss mississippi*

# VOLUNTEER

JUNE 30 - JULY 4, 2026  
TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI



# *miss mississippi* VOLUNTEER

## **PAGEANT LOGISTICS**

- Pageant Week: June 30 - July 4, 2026 in Tupelo, Mississippi  
More details regarding pageant week events will be released at a later date.
- Registration Fee: \$550  
This includes the cost of your official Miss Volunteer America sash with the title of your choice. You may pay in installments, and once an installment is paid, you will be able to select your title for competition. To sign up, visit our website.
- Eligibility Requirements:  
Contestants must be at least 17 years old and a high school graduate by July 1, 2026. Contestants must not be older than 26 on the day she signs up to compete.
- All contestants are responsible for their own housing. We have a host hotel with a block of rooms reserved, if you would like more information on that. Miss Contestants under the age of 21 must stay with a family member. You will need to provide your own transportation to and from rehearsals, etc. during pageant week.
- We will allow you to bring your own hair/make-up artist. After we receive all of your paperwork and entry fee, an e-mail will be sent to you with these details.
- A wardrobe information sheet can be provided to you upon request once confirmed.
- We will be glad to connect you with any resources that help you prepare and feel your absolute best when you come to compete with us. Our mission is to ensure that all contestants feel confident in their ability to compete, WIN, and become Miss Mississippi Volunteer! Please reach out if you feel that you need more guidance in any area of preparation or have any questions about competing.



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## **WINNINGS & PRIZES**

- \$10,000 Scholarship
- Recipient of in-kind scholarships to various colleges and universities
  - (Previous schools include Delta State University, Northeast MS Community College, William Carey University, Mississippi State University, Mississippi University for Women, University of Mississippi)
- Spokesperson for the Mississippi Highway Patrol Department's D.R.I.V.E. (Driving Requires Initiative, Value, and Education) campaign
- Statewide ambassador for The Salvation Army and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- Mississippi's representative at Miss Volunteer America 2027 with a custom couture competition wardrobe designed with Sherri Hill and Lasting Impressions Formal Wear and Jayme Shaw Swimwear
- Recipient of a custom \$5,000 diamond necklace from Van Atkins Jewelers
- Sponsored hair services for one year by Lynsee Pannell at Citizens Style
- Miss Volunteer America preparation team comprised of nationally-known coaches, multiple sponsors, and incredible support members
- Featured media appearances across the state and nation
- And thousands of dollars in sponsored clothing, photoshoots, goods, and services!



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## **ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION**



### **SCHOLARSHIP**

Made over \$400,000 in scholarships available to contestants since 2021.



### **EDUCATION**

Established partnerships with 6+ colleges and universities in Mississippi.



### **RESPONSIBILITY**

Aids in young women's development to become respected, reliable resources for their employers, families, and communities.



### **VOLUNTEERISM**

Partner with the Mississippi Highway Patrol to travel the state and promote the D.R.I.V.E. campaign.



### **EMPOWERMENT**

Scholarships are received. Education is pursued. Responsibility is learned. Volunteerism is fulfilled. And as a result, young women are empowered!

## **THE FIVE POINTS OF THE CROWN**

*our motto,*  
**S.E.R.V.E.**

### **Mission of Miss Volunteer America Organization:**

"To empower young women across the country through educational scholarships and extraordinary opportunities."

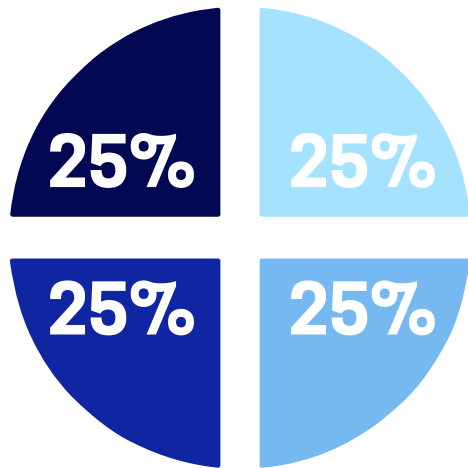


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## **THE PAGEANT COMPETITION**



TALENT 25%  
INTERVIEW 25%  
EVENING GOWN 25%  
FITNESS & WELLNESS 25%

ONLY THE TOP 5 WILL ANSWER AN ON-STAGE QUESTION.  
THE JUDGES WILL OBSERVE, NOT SCORE, THE ANSWERS.

### **Pageant Competition Details:**

- **Interview** - This will be a 10-minute total interview with 8.5 minutes of questions from the panel of judges. There will be 90 seconds at the end for you to finish answering any questions, give a closing statement, or emphasize why you should be the next Miss Mississippi Volunteer.
- **Evening Gown** - Focus on the first impression! This phase is designed to feature the young woman wearing the dress rather than the dress itself. Judges will consider your composure, confidence, personality, poise, and stage presence.
- **Talent** - You will have 90-seconds to perform your talent.
  - Can be a dance, comedy, athletic skill demonstrations, vocal performance, monologue, instrumental performance, career demonstration or interest, baton twirling, operatic performance, illusion performance, ventriloquism, performance art, avocation.
- **Swimsuit** - Onstage swimsuit competition is designed to demonstrate your commitment to a healthy lifestyle and will be judged based on your confidence on stage, display of charisma, and dedication to mind-body balance, but not on a contestant's size or shape.



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## THE PAGEANT COMPETITION

### REGARDING INTERVIEW:

The panel of judges will receive the resume-style paperwork that you will submit for them to learn more about you, prior to your interview. The paperwork will also include prompts about your S.E.R.V.E. initiative, platform, or community service work.

In addition to this, they will be provided with the Miss Volunteer America job competencies set forth by the national organization. These include example questions related to each competency.

We suggest that you cultivate some talking points for things that you want to mention in your interview.

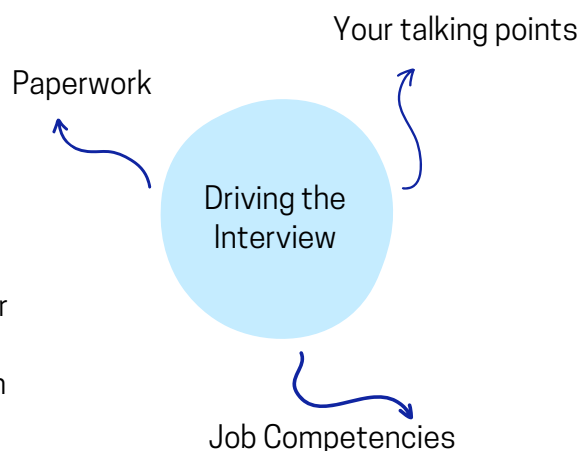
The Miss Mississippi Volunteer interview **will not** include any political questions or topics, unless brought-up by you!

### FOR YOUR PLATFORM:

"S.E.R.V.E. Initiative" is used by the Miss Volunteer America organization to describe a contestant's philanthropic platform work. This can be a community service project/group that you can volunteer with or a cause that you advocate for and work with.

#### Examples:

- Mentoring - creating a mentoring club at your school
- American Heart Association (AHA) - raising awareness about heart disease & fundraising for AHA
- Advocating for those with special needs, etc.



## 10 COMPETENCIES

*job readiness*

1. COMMUNICATION
2. LEADERSHIP
3. SELF-REPRESENTATION
4. PROFESSIONALISM
5. JOB MANAGEMENT & RESILIENCE
6. TEAMWORK
7. DIVERSITY AWARENESS
8. REFLECTIVE & INDEPENDENT THINKING
9. TELECOMMUNICATIONS
10. EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE



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## **MISS VOLUNTEER AMERICA**

- Founded by Allison DeMarcus in Tennessee in 2020
- Held first national Miss Volunteer America pageant in May 2022 in Jackson, TN
- \$150,000 in scholarships were awarded at the first national pageant
- \$550,000 in scholarships were awarded in total at the state level in 2021-2022

**“Scholarships are received. Education is pursued. Responsibility is learned.  
Volunteerism is fulfilled. Young women are Empowered.”**



**MISS VOLUNTEER AMERICA 2026**

**LAUREN  
SALIMBENE**

 @missvolunteeramericapag



- Winner of \$50,000 Scholarship
- Meeting with the following agencies regarding representation and collaboration:
  - Creative Artists Agency; Big Machine Label Group; Red Street Records
- Representative and Spokesperson for nationwide service organizations: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Salvation Army, and the American Red Cross



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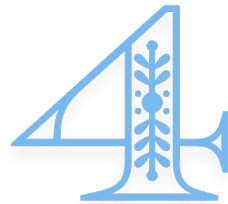
**JOIN THE MISS MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEER LEGACY**



**MVA Swimsuit  
Winners**



**National  
Winner**



**MVA Top 5  
finishes**





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**TO REGISTER:**

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