



2026 Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Contest Application

BIG KNOB GRANGE FAIR QUEEN APPLICATION ITEM CHECK LIST

- ____ 1. Application Form
- ____ 2. Short Biography
- ____ 3. Photo
- ____ 4. Biography Form
- ____ 5. Essay
- ____ 6. Signed Understanding of Rules and Regulations
- ____ 7. 01-Certification Form

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 14, 2026

Completed Big Knob Grange Fair Queen application forms are due to the Big Knob Grange Fair by July 14. Please see below for the fair address and attached is the application.

TBA - August 2026

The Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Judging will be held in August (date TBA). Contestants will participate in an interview with the panel of judges, followed by public presentations in which they will give their introductions, deliver their speeches, and answer an impromptu question on stage in front of the judges and audience. Family and friends are welcome to attend the public portion of the competition. Contestants are required to wear business professional attire for both the interview and the on-stage presentations.

September 1-5, 2026

84th Big Knob Grange Fair. On September 1, the 84th Big Knob Grange Fair Queen will be crowned at Opening Ceremonies. Contestants are required to wear a formal dress for the crowning ceremony.

Mail/Hand Deliver and Email Application packet to:

Mail to: Big Knob Grange Fair, 336 Grange Road Rochester, PA 15074 OR

Call to hand deliver: 724-774-7093, select prompt 6

Printed copy is to be in a resume cover

Email copy to: queen@bigknobgrangefair.org



2026 Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Contest Application

APPLICATION ITEM #1: Application Form

Name of Contestant: _____ Age:(as of 6/1/2026)_____

Contestant's Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Contestant's Phone #: (_____) _____ Contestant's Email: _____

APPLICATION ITEM #2: Short Biography

INSTRUCTIONS

1. The short biography is a required part of the application. It will be used for the 2026 Big Knob Grange Fair Program and website. It could also be used in the 2027 Pennsylvania Fair Queen Coronation Program.
2. Submit a typed biography on a separate sheet of paper. Handwritten biographies will not be accepted.

A sample is included below. Please keep the paragraph to this length. The committee reserves the right to edit the biography paragraph to the proper size to fit beside the photo of the contestant in the program or on the website.

Example of Biography:

Emily Carter — *Big Knob Grange Fair*

Emily Carter is a 17-year-old senior at Freedom Area High School. She has been involved with the Big Knob Grange Fair since she was young, entering projects in the Youth Building and volunteering with her family each summer in the food booth. In school, she is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, and the Varsity Cheer Team. She also volunteers with the local food bank and helps with children's activities at her church. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, swimming, reading, and playing with her dog Max. After high school, she will pursue a degree in Nursing at CCBC.

APPLICATION ITEM #3: Photo

Each Contestant must submit a photo for the competition. Photo should be a headshot. Photo is used for, but not limited to, the competition program, the website, and the fair program. Photo becomes property of Big Knob Grange Fair.

2026 Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Contest Biographical Information

Name of College: _____ Year of Anticipated Graduation: _____

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLASTICS ACHIEVEMENTS, ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

[illegible]

COLLEGE SCHOLASTICS ACHIEVEMENTS, ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

[illegible]

PARTICIPATION IN FAIR(S)

Describe Involvement, Activities, Honors, and Awards	Leadership Position Held (if applicable)	Year

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

List any Community, Church, or Club Activities, Honors, and Awards	Leadership Position Held (if applicable)	Year

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE *(if applicable)*

Place of Employment	Position Held	Year

APPLICATION ITEM #5: Essay

This is a judged item on content, grammar/punctuation/spelling, and length (300 words or less): “What Big Knob Grange Fair Means to My Community.”

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. The essay must be typed on a separate sheet of paper. Handwritten essays will not be accepted.
- 2. Contestant’s name should be included in the top right-hand corner of the page.
- 3. Include total word count on the bottom right-hand corner of the page. The body of the essay must be 300 words or less.
- 4. Topic: “What Big Knob Grange Fair Means to My Community.”

APPLICATION ITEM #6: Signed Understanding of Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Rules and Regulations

RULES FOR ELIGIBILITY:

1. Be a female who is a U.S. citizen, a resident of Pennsylvania, a member of Big Knob Grange, or have participated in Big Knob Grange Fair.
2. Be at least 16 years old, but not older than 20 years old, by June 1, 2026.
3. Never served as a local or state fair queen.
4. Have parent or guardian's consent.
5. Fill out a 01-Certification.
6. Be single, never married, have had no children, and remain so during her reign.
7. Not hold any other state or local titles for any other commodity group or pageant during her reign.
8. Be available to participate in events during the five days of the Big Knob Grange Fair.
9. Any contestant who has competed in the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Competition and has not been crowned the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen is eligible to compete again.
10. Act in accordance with the PA Fair Queen "Behavior Policy."
11. Meet all time commitments, Queen obligations, and "Dress Code" as set forth by the Big Knob Grange Fair and the PA Fair Queen Program.
12. Attend the state competition in Hershey, PA, in January 2027.
13. Agree to promote the Big Knob Grange Fair positively throughout her reign.
14. Be available for publicity during her reign, including but not limited to, newspaper, social media, radio, public appearances, parades, and dinners.
15. Participate in fundraising events/activities for the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Program.
16. Maintain good communication with the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Coordinator(s) throughout her reign.
17. Understands that her photo will be taken throughout her reign and used by the Big Knob Grange and Big Knob Grange Fair for promotional purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, social media, print materials, news coverage, and fair-related publications. All are at the discretion of the fair committee.
18. Understands that the Fair Queen participates in public events where the Big Knob Grange cannot control or prevent others—such as attendees, media outlets, or community members—from taking or sharing photos.

FAIR QUEEN BEHAVIOR POLICY:

The contest's governing committee shall have the sole discretion to determine whether, in its judgement, the Queen and contestants may continue to participate in the program, in the event the committee determines that any statement or representation is not true or accurate, or that any action is inconsistent with the rules, standards, and dignity of the program.

The following will be considered violations of the policy and will be grounds for immediate disqualification, dismissal and/or being banned from future Queen competitions:

1. Any infractions of any Queen contest rules.
2. Smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, chewing gum, foul language and/or public displays of affection to dates/boyfriends while wearing the crown and/or sash and representing the Queen program.

- 3.Engaging in any illegal, partisan, unethical, indecent and/or morally questionable behavior, including, but not limited to, online representations on social media sites, such as, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, SnapChat, TikTok, Instagram, etc.
- 4.Using any illegal controlled dangerous substances or abusing the use of alcohol or other dangerous substances.
- 5.Any defamation of the Queen Contest, its winners and contestants, and the Big Knob Grange Fair or the PA Fair Queen Program and their directors, committee members, or staff. This includes postings on the internet and social media apps.
- 6.Any uncooperative or unsportsmanlike conduct before, during, or after the competition.
- 7.Appearing in crown and sash at any event without an official invitation from an authorized event coordinator or committee member.

FAIR QUEEN DRESS CODE:

Wearing of the Fair Queen crown and/or sash is to be considered an honor and privilege. The bearer represents herself, her family, her community, and Fair. Therefore, professional appearance is expected while in the crown and/or sash:

- 1.Attire that is conducive to the specific appearance or event (i.e. business casual, formal, etc.)
- 2.No jeans, sneakers, flip flops, or boots. Certain boots may be permitted with prior approval from the Fair Queen Coordinator(s).
- 3.It is strongly recommended that closed-toe shoes be worn when in livestock areas, for safety reasons.
- 4.No visible piercings (other than earrings) or tattoos.
- 5.No outfit that shows cleavage.
- 6.Dresses/skirts must be no shorter than the height of a dollar bill from the bottom of the dress/skirt hem to the top of the knee cap.
- 7.No clothing that advertises, promotes, or glorifies the use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or anything inconsistent with the dignity of the Queen Program.

Agreement:

I understand that the information provided on the prior pages will be used in the judging process, and hereby verify that it is truthful and correct. I have read, understand, and am in compliance with the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Program's rules and regulations as listed above. If selected as the new Big Knob Grange Fair Queen, I will exclusively be the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen during my entire reign and will not participate in any other programs nor hold a title for any other commodity group during that time.

Contestant's Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian's Signature if Under 18 Years of Age

Date

The contest consists of five segments with each segment counting towards points:

1. Written Essay

Each contestant will be judged on her essay on the topic: “What My Fair Means to My Community.” The essays will be judged on content, grammar/punctuation/spelling, and length (300 words or less). (25 points)

2. Personal Interview

Each contestant will meet privately with a panel of three judges. The interview is judged on conversational ability, the answers to a variety of questions, appearance/poise/presence, and knowledge of the Big Knob Grange Fair and the fair industry. (50 points)

3. Introduction

This segment is conducted in front of guests and three judges. Each contestant will walk on stage and introduce herself to the audience. This introduction should be similar to that which a Fair Queen would give when visiting a fair or other public event. The introduction is to be completed in less than one minute. This introduction should include name, age, and something about herself. This event is judged on content, stage presence/poise, and appearance. (25 points)

4. Speech Presentation

This is a persuasive speech on the topic: “Why You Should Come to the Big Knob Grange Fair”. A three to five-minute (timed) oral presentation is given in front of the audience. The speech should include daily and featured events, agricultural exhibits, something unique/special about Big Knob Grange Fair, and how the fair impacts our community. This speech should be appropriate for an audience of adults. Contestants are judged on their public speaking ability, their poise/presence, the speech format, conveying the importance of attending the fair, and time (between 3-5 minutes). (50 points)

5. Impromptu Questions

Each contestant will be required to answer the same impromptu question in front of the panel of three judges and audience. It is judged on ability to speak, event information, and enthusiasm. (25 points)

Award:

The winner will receive a crown, sash, five hundred-dollars, and various gifts. An additional bonus of up to two-hundred-fifty-dollars may be awarded at the end of her reign, based on eligibility and at the discretion of the Fair Queen Coordinator(s).

01-CERTIFICATION

Name of Contestant: _____
List name exactly as it appears in all contest documents

Name of Sponsoring Fair: _____

Name of Adult Chaperone[s]: _____
Will serve as the contestant's chaperone[s] for the 2026 Big Knob Grange Fair Queen competition

Number of Contestants for the Fair's 2026 Queen Contest: _____

By checking the box below I hereby

- Certify that my fair has officially named me as a contestant for the 2026 Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Competition.
- Verify that I am eligible to compete in the 2026 Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Competition according to the official rules listed in the Application Packet.
- Certify that I was at least 16 years old, but not older than 20, years of age, as of June 1, 2026.
- Acknowledge that I personally participated in completing any forms for this application.
- Understand that deductions of -5 points for handwritten or re-formatted applications and -30 points for late entries [postmarked after November 15] will apply.
- Verify that the information provided is truthful and correct to the best of my ability.
- Acknowledge that I have downloaded, read, and understand the entire 2026 Application Packet instructions that were posted to the website and that the online application is due July 14, 2026.
- Verify that this application Packet and forms have been shared with the Fair Queen Coordinator[s] and a Board Member/Director/Secretary of my Fair.
- Verify that I will have an adult chaperone [21 years old or older] with me for the entire duration of the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Competition
- Verify that I will follow the PA Fair Queen Program's official dress code and behavior policies as listed in the Application Packet.
- Understand that if I am selected as the new Big Knob Grange Fair Queen, I must sign a contract with the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Program, that I must be exclusively the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen during my entire reign, and that I may not participate in any other pageants nor hold a State title for any other commodity group during that time.
- Understand the time, manner, and method of conducting the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Contest is solely within the discretion of the Big Knob Grange Fair Queen Contest Coordinators and the Big Knob Grange Fair Committee, and that the decision of the Judges is final.
- Understand that judging comments and judging scores are **not available** for distribution during or after the competition.

☐

Contestant Check Box

Name of Fair Queen Coordinator who received a copy of the Application Packet

Name of Fair Member who received a copy of the Application Packet

Title