

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Each category listed below gives a detailed description and percentage value for scoring.

OPENING NUMBER is not listed because contestants are not scored in this element. However, it is your first impression on stage.

Teen and Miss Lumbee Pageant

2025 COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS



AGE REQUIREMENT

Teen Miss: Contestants must be 14 -17 years old and still attending high school.

Miss Lumbee: Contestants must be 17-26 years old and have graduated from high school or have met graduation requirements if enrolled in an Early College Program.

PRIVATE INTERVIEW (25%)

Each contestant will be interviewed by a panel of judges that will last **9 minutes with a 30-second closing statement**. The interview will be held earlier in the day prior to the stage competition. Time and location will be determined closer to pageant day. Only one person is allowed to accompany you to the interview and will not be allowed in the interview area. ANYONE who attempts to communicate with the judging panel at any time during the competition will be subject to disqualification. You will be judged on **Tribal Knowledge** (Overall understanding of Lumbee history and culture), **Communication Skills** (Validated opinions, grammar, speaking skills, confidence, and personality), **Personal Appearance** (Poise, posture, eye contact, wardrobe choice, hair, and makeup).

TALENT (20%)

Each contestant's presentation should be limited to **2 minutes and 30 seconds**. Each presentation will be evaluated for the time limit prior to competition day. You will be judged on **Technical Skill** (execution technique and skill level), **Stage Presence** (personality, confidence, smile, eye contact, and level of entertainment), and **Overall Appearance** (Hair, makeup, appropriateness of song choice, and attire for talent).

EVENING GOWN (15%)

Each contestant will compete in the Evening Gown Competition. You should select a gown that best fits your personal style. Keep in mind that you are not judged on the dress itself but on your ability to express poise and overall stage presence. No long trains are allowed. You will be judged on **Stage Presence** (Eye contact, smile, and overall personal presentation), **Technique** (walking, posture, and grace on stage), and **Overall Appearance** (Personality, self-confidence, eye contact, fit, style, color, and appropriateness).

ON-STAGE QUESTION (10%)

Each contestant will be asked a question based on their personal platform statement. This should not be a rehearsed response therefore you will not be given the "specific" question prior to the competition. Judges will be looking for your ability to think on your feet and your ability to convey your message clearly expressing thoughts and opinions. You will be judged on **Communication Skills** (Ability to express thoughts/opinions clearly and articulately.), **Overall Impression** (Confidence, eye contact, and overall stage presence with the ability to engage the audience and judges).

REGALIA (25%)

Each contestant will wear a **traditional Lumbee Patchwork Regalia** designed by personal choice and expression. You are **NOT** judged on the design of regalia itself so it does not matter how much detail you use; this element is not competitive but expressive. The regalia should be a **SIMPLE TRADITIONAL DESIGN**, which means no crinoline under the skirt, no paintings or large embroidery on the aprons. Take the time to research the traditional design and build your regalia from there utilizing a simplistic design that represents you. You are judged on **Technique and Poise** (Walk, posture, confidence, eye contact, personality, stage presence, and SMILE!), and **Overall Appearance** (Hair, makeup, fit of regalia, and first impression).

CULTURAL PRESENTATION (5%)

Each contestant is required to prepare a **ONE-minute Cultural Presentation** demonstrating a topic of her choice. **It will be timed the night of the pageant and your score will be deducted 1 point if you go over the time limit**. No props allowed that you cannot carry on stage yourself nor are extra people allowed on stage with you. The best props are small and easy to handle on your own because we do not have space backstage to store props. You will be judged on **Cultural Platform** (Elements of Lumbee culture clearly displayed, enunciation, and overall delivery of the message.), **Time Limit** (adhere to the ONE-minute time limit.)

Applications will be released in spring 2025 with a TWO WEEK deadline to apply. You are **REQUIRED** to attend an **Applicant Orientation Meeting** to review and discuss the pageant rules and regulations, contestant agreement, and titleholder contract. This is your opportunity to ask questions and gain a full understanding of LRDA's expectations and guidelines. You will be notified by the Pageant Director of the meeting details after the close of the application deadline.

Contact Natascha W. Tilson at ntilson@lumbee.org for questions regarding the information listed above.

Teen and Miss Lumbee Pageant

2025 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

01

Official Application

To be submitted online through the link provided at www.lumbee.org or on social media sites.

02

Entry Fee

Money Order or Cashier's Check for \$250.00 made payable to LRDA Homecoming, or the fee may be paid online when submitting the application.

03

3 Reference Letters

References should be from persons who can attest to your character, work ethic, and ability to hold the title on behalf of LRDA, Inc. For example, teachers, supervisors, spiritual leadership, etc. References from immediate family members will not be accepted. **Word or PDF file formats only, no pictures.**

04

Proof of Tribal Enrollment

Please include a copy of your tribal enrollment card or certification letter from the Tribal Enrollment Office. If you do not have an enrollment card, you can submit a biological parent's tribal enrollment card.

05

Proof of Age

Must include a copy of your birth certificate.
Teen Miss Lumbee
Contestants must be 14 -17 years old and still attending high school.
Miss Lumbee
Contestants must be 17-26 years old and have graduated from high school or have met graduation requirements if enrolled in an Early College Program.

06

Headshot

The pageant committee will schedule a date and location to take these. Photos are not judged but are used for the program book and other media outlets.

07

Talent Information

Please include the type of talent, the title of your music, and a brief description of your talent. This will be used as your talent introduction on the night of the pageant.

08

Contestant Agreement

A signed contestant agreement must be included with your application. This is your statement that you have read, understand, and will abide by the rules and regulations as a Teen/Miss Lumbee Pageant contestant.

09

Attestation Acknowledgment

This is a signed statement that you have never posed for semi-nude, nude, or sexually explicit photos and that no such photo exists. Nor have you appeared in any photos that could give the appearance of participating in or condoning substance use, including alcohol.

10

One Page Essay

The essay must be **ONE PAGE TYPED**. The essay should be **double-spaced**, **Times New Roman 12pt**. Font with your name signed at the end. No handwritten submissions will be accepted. **Word or PDF file formats only, no pictures**. Essay should include the following:

- Why do you want to be Teen/Miss Lumbee?
- Demonstrate your knowledge of Lumbee history.
- What knowledge, skills, or experience do you have that will make you the best person for the job of Teen/Miss Lumbee?
- What do you hope to gain if crowned the new Teen/Miss Lumbee?

Please refer to the rules and regulations prior to submitting your application at www.lumbee.org.