

2026 Miss Alden Contest

Miss Alden Committee:
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Dear 2026 Miss Alden Contestant:

Welcome to the 2026 Miss Alden Contest! This letter will provide you with important information regarding the schedule of events for this year's contest. We have formed a committee to coordinate the process of selecting the next Miss Alden. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

1) Eligibility

- a) Each contestant must be at least 16 years of age, but not more than 21 years of age as of August 1, 2026.
- b) Contestant must be unmarried and must have never been married or have children.
- c) Contestant must live in Alden or Alden Township.
- d) Contestant must be an active member of at least one service organization in her community such as a church group, Girl Scouts, 4-H, FFA, etc. (Eligibility is not limited to 4-H or FFA membership.)
- e) No professional model is eligible
- f) The judging panel will consist of five judges with at least one judge that does not live in Alden.
- g) Eligibility, interpretation of rules, and contest decisions announced by the Miss Alden Committee are final!

2) Application

- a) A questionnaire form for the Miss Alden Contest is attached to this letter. Please complete the questionnaire and return to the Alden Public Library along with your essay, postmarked no later than **May 29th, 2026**.
- b) Failure to return the questionnaire and essay on time will result in disqualification. If there are less than three contestants entered at the deadline, the Miss Alden Committee reserve the right to extend the deadline or cancel the contest.

3) Judging Criteria

The 2026 Miss Alden will be selected from the following criteria:

From interview:

In Person Interview Questions	20 points
Overall Poise & Presentation	10 points

From Miss Alden Application:

Leadership	10 points
Community Service	10 points
Involvement in school activities	5 points
Involvement in other activities	5 points
Grammar & completeness of application	5 points
Essay about Miss Alden	25 points
Essays (2)	50 points
Final Question (night of crowning)	10 points
Total points 150	

4) Prizes

- Miss Alden will receive a crown, sash, bouquet of flowers, and monetary award.
- First Runner-up will receive flowers, sash, and a monetary award.
- Second Runner-up will receive flowers, sash, and a monetary award.
- All contestants will receive a flower at the crowning ceremony.
- Should Miss Alden be unable to complete her duties, the title, prizes and privileges will be exchanged with the first runner-up.

5) Judging Schedule of Events

- Judging of the 2026 Miss Alden Contestants will be on Thursday, **June 11th, 2026 from 5:00pm to 7pm** at the Alden Public Library.
- Dress Attire for the judging should be professional business dress (interview attire).
- An email with your interview time will be sent to you.

6) Ceremonies

- The 2026 Miss Alden will be crowned based on Alden Day Celebration Schedules scheduled for Friday, **June 19th, 2026**.
- Contestants will wear **CONSERVATIVE FORMAL ATTIRE** at the Alden City Park and meet on the east side of the Alden City Park prior to coronation.
- Contestants are required to have an escort for this ceremony.
- Each contestant will have to answer a "final question" in front of the community and the panel of judges at the park during the crowning ceremonies for the last 10 points required for judging.

7) Participation in Alden Days - all contestants

- All Miss Alden Contestants are required to participate in the Alden Day activities including the Miss Alden Coronation during the opening ceremonies and events, Alden Day Parade, and to sign-up to volunteer during Alden Days for at least two hours. **You will need to secure a convertible and driver for transportation in this parade.**
- Candy and/or other items will be provided for this parade.

8) Participation in Alden Community - Miss Alden

- a) The contestant selected for Miss Alden will need to volunteer for at least four events or organizations located in Alden throughout the year.
- b) Must notify a member of the Miss Alden Committee of the selected event/organizations. Examples may include the food pantry, library, fire department, churches, schools, etc.

9) Participation in River Bend Rally Parade - Miss Alden

- a) Miss Alden will need to be available for the River Bend Rally Parade on or around **July 4th, 2026**. The schedule is pending with Iowa Falls Chamber Main Street.
- b) Candy and/or other items will be provided for this parade.
- c) **You will need to secure a convertible and driver for transportation in this parade.**

10) Participation in Hardin County Fair Queen Contest - Miss Alden (Optional)

- a) Miss Alden **IS** encouraged to participate in the 2026 Hardin County Fair Queen Contest which may include additional duties such as the parade, volunteering at the fair, etc. You **DO NOT** have to be a town representative to compete in the Hardin County Fair Contest starting this year and a spot will not be automatically reserved for Miss Alden.
- b) Application to participate in the Hardin County Fair Queen Contest are accepted June 1, 2026 through July 1, 2026. Must email hardincofairqueencontest@gmail.com to obtain application and for more information about the Hardin County Fair Queen Contest.
- c) Judging for the Hardin County Fair Queen Contest will take place in **July 2026** during the Hardin County Fair.
- d) Items and/or candy will be provided to you to throw out during the parade for this as well.
- e) **You will need to secure a convertible and driver for transportation in this parade.**

11) Important Dates:

- a) May 29, 2026 - Application Due
- b) June 1, 2026 – First day Hardin County Fair Queen applications will be accepted
- c) June 11, 2026 - Judging at the Alden Library (interview time will be emailed to you).
- d) June 19, 2026 - Crowning of Miss Alden at Park
- e) June 20, 2026 - Parade and volunteering for Alden Days Activities
- f) July 1, 2026 – Last day to turn in Hardin County Fair Queen application
- g) July 2026 - Riverbend Rally Parade
- h) July 2026 – Optional Hardin County Fair Queen Contest (Fair Parade, Coronation Ceremonies, and volunteer opportunities).
- i) August 2026 – Iowa State Fair (if contestant is crowned Miss Hardin County)

Volunteer Activities:

Achievements (Honors or Awards):

What are your hobbies?

The information on the Miss Alden Contest application will be used by the judges as part of their decision-making process to determine who will become "Miss Alden". Questions for the Miss Alden interview may come from this application form. It is assumed by the judges that all parts of this application are true. Any falsification of this form will be grounds for permanent disqualification from this or any future Iowa County Queen Contests.

I (candidate) hereby declare that any statements or other information provided in this Miss Alden application represents the absolute truth. I understand that any piece of false information disclosed in the application will disqualify me from this and all future Hardin County Queen Contests.

Candidate's Signature _____ Date

PARENT/GUARDIAN: I authorize my daughter to participate in the Miss Alden Contest.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date:

Please email or mail your application by May 29th, 2025 (must be postmarked no later than May 29th, 2026) .

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Alden Public Library

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