



MISS CHAROLAIS USA GUIDELINES

Sponsored by American-International Junior Charolais Association
and Missouri Charolais Breeders Association

The "Miss Charolais USA" contest will be open to all female AIJCA members who are at least 16 years of age or older as of January 1 of the year of the contest. Applications must be postmarked no later than July 30th of the year of the contest. Winner of the contest will reign as Miss Charolais USA for one year. Any former Miss Charolais USA may not enter the contest.

Additional Guidelines:

1. Miss Charolais USA applicants must be paid members of the American-International Junior Charolais Association (AIJCA). She must be single, never married, and never have given birth.
2. Applicants will be judged by a three or five-member panel. At least one of the judge's panel must be a Missouri resident unless there is a Missouri candidate for Miss Charolais USA. At least one member of the judge's panel must be from outside the Charolais industry. No judge may be from the same state as any of the contestants.
3. Two (2) letters of recommendation from any of the following five (5) categories. The applicant should determine which two (2) persons would afford the best recommendation. Use only one (1) from each of the available categories.

Category 1)	Active Adult AICA Member
Category 2)	Teacher, School Principal/ Superintendent, College Advisor/Dean
Category 3)	4-H/FFA Leader, County Agent, Junior Breed Association Leader
Category 4)	Minister or Church Youth Advisor
Category 5)	Employer
4. Applications must include one 4 inch X 6 inch or 5 inch X 7 inch color photo of the contestant suitable for publishing in the *Charolais Journal*. Contestant photo will NOT be returned. It will become the official property of the Miss Charolais USA Program to be used for publicity and advertising.
5. Each candidate for Miss Charolais USA will be required to participate in the following judged categories:
 - completed application
 - 300-400 word personal story essay submitted with completed application
 - interview held at the American Royal
 - social gathering held at the American Royal
6. The scores shall be compiled by the Miss Charolais USA Committee and the winner will be announced at the AICA Gala held in conjunction with the American Royal.

7. Entry fee of \$150 per contestant payable to “**Miss Charolais USA Scholarship Program**”. Each individual is responsible for securing sponsorship from either a State Breed Association or an individual Charolais Breeder
8. All contestants must be accompanied by a parent or adult sponsor during the contest. All costs of the contest, including travel and lodging, are at the sole responsibility of the contestant for themselves and for their chaperone.
9. **Dress Code:** All contestants are required to wear clothing suitable of Miss Charolais USA at all times during the contest. Miss Charolais USA at all times shall wear boots, a skirt mid-calf length or longer, a nice blouse to match the skirt, official sash, and official crown. Sashes with contestant’s name and sponsor(s) will be provided for individuals competing each year and shall be worn at all public events of the contest.
Exceptions to the Dress Code: If Miss Charolais USA is exhibiting cattle she will be permitted to wear jeans if they are dark in color and pressed with a crease, a collared blouse, official sash and official crown when she is not in the show ring.
10. The winner of Miss Charolais USA will receive \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by the American-International Charolais Association (AICA), \$2,000 travel account co-sponsored by the AICA and Missouri Charolais Breeders Association (MCBA), official Miss Charolais USA crown, use of the traveling official Miss Charolais USA leather sash, personal Miss Charolais USA satin sash, and crown royalty pin. The first runner-up will receive a \$500 scholarship sponsored by the MCBA.
11. Miss Charolais USA will be required to attend the National Charolais Show, the National AIJCA Show & Conference, the American Royal in Kansas City, Mo., one National ROE Shows other than the American Royal and the location of the National show (either the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Col., the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky., or the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in Houston, Texas) and the Missouri Charolais Breeders Association Annual Membership Meeting during her year of service. Negating to fulfill these responsibilities could result in the loss of her scholarship award.
12. Miss Charolais USA and runner-up scholarships will be issued in one payment in the spring semester. Prior to the issuance of the scholarships, the recipients must submit the following two items to the Miss Charolais USA Committee Chairperson by **March 1**:
 - A. Proof of full-time enrollment and good standing from the college or university’s registrar’s office;
 - B. An **official** student academic transcript including the previous fall semesters grades and the current spring semesters classes enrolled in.The student is required to meet a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above based on a 4.0 point system. To obtain the scholarship, 12 completed semester hours or more must appear on the fall semester’s grade report and 12 semester hours or more must appear as being enrolled in for the spring semester.