



2025 ARIZONA COLLEEN ENTRY INFORMATION

1. Submit the following no later than 11:59 PM, **Saturday, February 16 2025** via [online application](#) (**Items not submitted by the deadline are subject to a point deduction**)
 - a) Application and
 - b) 6 to 9 contestant photos to be utilized in our printed program (see page 4)
 - c) Pay \$30 application fee

- 2) Mandatory Contestant Activities:
 - a) Preliminary Interviews will take **LIVE** at the Irish Cultural Center on February 21, 2025. **This is mandatory for all contestants. Time is TBD but will be in late afternoon/evening.**
 - b) Each contestant is encouraged to sell **7 in-person tickets** to sell to the Colleen Program to be held Saturday, February 22, 2025 at the Irish Cultural Center, 1106 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004.
 - c) Prepare a raffle basket for the selection worth at least \$50.
 - d) Bring an item for the Miss Congeniality basket valued at \$10.
 - e) Attend the Arizona Colleen Program, Saturday, February 22, 2025, Call-time TBD. **This is mandatory for all contestants.**
 - f) Volunteer for a minimum of four (4) hours at the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Faire on March 14-16, 2025 (at your discretion)
 - g) Ride in the St. Patrick's Day Parade with the other contestants

- 3) Prepare – practice and stay within time limits
 - a) Introduction 30-60 seconds.
 - i) Be prepared to speak about your Irish heritage.
 - b) Prepare talent presentation – **two minutes maximum** (there is no leeway here)
 - c) Private and group interview
 - i) Review your completed Questionnaire – Judges will pose questions based upon its content.

- 4) Helpful Hints
 - a) Documents available at www.azcolleen.org.
 - i) Be sure to include your last name in the title of each and every document and photo you submit. (“Questionnaire O’Brien,” “Application O’Brien,” “Head Shot O’Brien,” “Photo 5 O’Brien”)
 - b) Ensure Passport is current through at least 2025.
 - c) Follow the Arizona Colleen program’s social media profiles for events, info, and more.
 - d) INTERVIEWS ARE BUSINESS CASUAL DRESS. No jeans, flip flops, etc. Dress to impress and like you are interviewing for the job you want!**
 - e) SELECTION NIGHT IS FORMAL DRESS. Prom dresses, formal gowns, etc are expected. No cocktail dresses/short dresses.**

- 5) WINNER Arizona Colleen Activities & Responsibilities
- a) **Be extremely available one week before & after St. Patrick's Day for impromptu titleholder appearances.**
 - b) *Mandatory* – Tour Ireland in an official capacity with Arizona Sister Cities and Arizona-Irish partners. Dates TBD with selected winner and Sister Cities members. Due to current travel considerations, tour date is TBD.
 - c) *Mandatory* – Select at least one charity to fundraise and volunteer for over the course of reign.
 - d) *Mandatory* - Attend the following events:
 - i) St. Patrick's Day Parade and Faire - March 15 (TV appearances required)
 - ii) AZ Renaissance Festival - March 16
 - iii) AZ Rattlers Game - March 30
 - iv) ICC Tea - April 27
 - v) AZ Irish Night at the Diamondbacks - September TBD
 - vi) ICC Gala - November 8
 - vii) Chandler Sister City Tea - Nov 15
 - viii) International trip to Ireland (2 weeks summer or fall 2025)
 - ix) Little Miss Shamrock/Irish Lass Selection - January 2026
 - x) ICC Women's Conference - February 2026
 - e) Attend at least **one** Irish community event **per month** of reign. Availability of events to attend will be taken into consideration.
 - f) Attend St. Patrick's Day Parade & Faire meetings when requested or invited, approximately 1-3 meetings during year of reign.
 - g) Write thank you notes to sponsors and volunteers within 6 weeks of the program and/or receipt of a donation or service.
 - h) **MANDATORY: Post WEEKLY (minimum) on social media and attend at least ONE event/outing per month.**
 - i) Attend coaching meetings/mentoring in preparation for attendance at Arizona Irish events.

Arizona Colleen Prize Package

- Honored representative for the Arizona Irish Community and valuable experience as a role model and spokesperson
- Travel arrangements for once in a lifetime trip to Ireland
- \$2,000 scholarship
- Coaching for all media related events and personal development
- Claddagh ring and jewelry
- Sash and crown

ARIZONA COLLEEN PROGRAM

The Arizona Colleen Program exists to inspire young women to become leaders with character, confidence, and the public speaking abilities to represent the Arizona Irish Community both locally and internationally. Through our organization's events and active involvement in the Irish community, we provide opportunities for the next generation of Irish young women to take pride in their Irish heritage and share that pride with everyone they meet, ultimately becoming service-oriented spokespersons and role models.

2025 ARIZONA COLLEEN SCORING

The following weights are placed on the phases of competition:

PRELIMINARIES	
Questionnaire	5%
Private Interview with Judges - Prelims	35%
<u>Group Interview with Judges - Prelims</u>	<u>20%</u>
PRELIMINARY TOTAL	60%
SELECTION NIGHT	
On-Stage Speaking #1 (Introduction)	5%
On-Stage Speaking #2 (Emcee Interview)	30%
<u>Talent</u>	<u>5%</u>
SELECTION NIGHT TOTAL	40%
TOTAL SCORING	100%

Meeting deadlines, submissions as requested (titled, software, appropriate photos, number of items), and meeting limits of timed categories (minimums and not exceeding) are all essential components throughout the competition. **Failure to meet deadlines will result in a point deduction.**

Winner receives the title of 2025 Arizona Colleen.

Contestants should come prepared for each scoring category, whether in the preliminary rounds or the final evening.

PRINTED PROGRAM PHOTOS

It is important to follow the directions for submitting these photos electronically. The photos will be embedded into a design program to print as one document. Please submit all photos via email, Dropbox with the link on the application. Failure to submit photos on time means that the Arizona Colleen committee will stalk your social media and pick ones for you.

Submit 6-9 high-resolution (.jpg or .png preferred) photos that depict your personality and interests (try not to have many others in the picture unless they do not distract from you). Samples include close-ups, action shots, demonstration of talent, unique locations or situations (e.g., reflecting travel, in theatre costume, sports attire), just be sure YOU are the focus of the photos. Please refrain from sending darkly lit photos or selfies.

ON-STAGE INTRODUCTION

Prepare a 30 to 60-second introduction, which includes your name, city of residence, education, profession and/or career goals, some interests/hobbies, something memorable/interesting for audience and judges, and an aspect of your Irish heritage (something interesting that you will not be sharing later). Do NOT explain Irish ancestry because this will be asked during the On-Stage Interview. Additional info requested from you may be required.

Provide highlights about yourself. Refrain from stating a list; rather share part of who you are. It is helpful to practice in front of a mirror and stay within your time limit. Remember: you are not permitted to have any notes on stage.

TALENT NOTES

Song selection is reserved on a first come, first served basis. Only one version of each song will be performed, regardless of the medium (e.g., vocal solo, dance, or instrumental); this includes background music. We encourage you to submit your song choice as early as possible.

- You can perform more than one type of talent on stage within the allotted time limits, as desired (e.g., play the flute and then dance; or monologue or poem and then sing).
- You will have time for a costume change prior to talent, if desired.
- You must be the focus of any on-stage presentation. You must obtain advance approval in the event you require a partner for your talent segment (i.e., such as a partner for dance, cheer leading, animal training demonstration).
- We recommend you bring a back-up CD or DVD; we are not responsible for glitches or malfunctions.
- If talent includes a video presentation, prepare a brief introduction to say before video begins. Remember to keep introduction and video within the allotted time.

- Please submit any music or video by February 19, 2025.

Have fun with this portion! You are not being judged on your technique but rather your creativity and ability to showcase yourself in a unique way.

HOST ORGANIZATION

The Arizona Colleen Program is presented by The Phoenix St. Patrick's Day Parade and Faire Committee. It is served by a volunteer Board of Directors since its incorporation in 1983.

HISTORY

The Arizona Colleen Program began in 1983 as the Arizona Colleen Pageant, a heritage pageant. It is open to single women of Irish ancestry ages 18 through 28 years old. Every year the Arizona Colleen is chosen, and she reigns over the Phoenix St. Patrick's Day Parade and Faire. Along with the crown and the title "Arizona Colleen" the winner is also awarded scholarships and a trip to Ireland.

The Arizona Colleen Program is:

Saturday, February 22, 2025

5:00p.m.

(Doors open at 5:00p.m. with Cash bar)

Irish Cultural Center
1106 N Central Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85004

\$75, Dinner, Dessert & Show (pre-sale only)

(tickets online at www.azcolleen.org)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC