

# **Sangamon County Fair**

## **Rules for Talent Competition**

**(Professional entertainers are not eligible)**

1. You must live in Sangamon County or an adjoining county or attend school in Sangamon County to participate in the Talent Contest.
2. All acts must fill out an Official Entry Form and return it to: **Sangamon County Fair, P.O. Box 147, New Berlin, IL. 62670.** Deadline for entries is **June 6, 2026.** Deadline for either division may be extended if five entries have not been received.
3. There are two divisions. Contestants for the **Junior Division:** all contestants can be 14 years old or younger on the day of the contest June 13, 2026. **Senior Division:** All contestants cannot be over 21 years of age on the day of the contest June 13, 2026. Acts that include members both younger than the age of 15 and older than age 15 must participate in the Senior Division.
4. Entrants may participate in one act only.
5. There will be a \$5.00 entry fee for each act. All checks should be made payable to the **Sangamon County Fair** and be returned with the entry form. Forms without the entry fee will not be considered "Entered".
6. The competition will take place on **Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.** in the Senior Exhibit Building. All junior acts should check in by 11:30 a.m. All Senior acts should check in by 12:30 p.m.
7. Acts may last no longer than **four minutes** from the time the entertainment begins. **Any act longer than four minutes will be disqualified.**
8. You will be judged in the following way: Costume – 5 points, Audience Appeal – 5 points, Stage Presentation – 15 points, Ability – 25 points. Total points available 50.
9. Score sheets will not be available for review; however, there is a comments section on each judge's score sheet that can be shared after the contest. Judge's decision is final.
10. The size of the wood stage is 28 feet wide by 20 feet deep. Dressing rooms are available. Piano, sound system and microphones will be furnished. You will need to provide any other musical instrument or props.
11. **When using a recorded accompaniment, NO like talent is allowed on the recording. i.e. vocal, tap dancing, any like instrument, etc.**
12. The Sangamon County Fair Association is not responsible for any accidents or injuries that occur as result of participation in the contest.
13. First place Junior Division winners or Senior division winners from previous years who competed as a single are eligible to compete again in a group or if in a group can come back as a single.
14. The top 5 places in each division will receive trophies and cash awards are as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$75, 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$50, 4<sup>th</sup> place \$25 and 5<sup>th</sup> place \$15. Prizes will be awarded after each division of competition. First place winners in the **Junior and Senior** Divisions will advance to the Illinois Association of Agricultural Fairs State Talent Contest to be held in January, 2027. In the event that the winner cannot perform, the runner-up may be invited to appear.
15. Any questions contact nancy@sangcofair.com.