

The Chickasaw Nation
Department of Community Services

Chickasaw Princess Program 2022-2023



Youth Services Division



The Chickasaw Nation
Bill Anoatubby, Governor

Chickasaw Princess Program

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title of Section	Page
1. Formal Relationship	3
2. Chickasaw Princess Official Appearances	3
3. Education	4
4. Substance Abuse	4
5. Image	4
6. Travel	4
7. Competition	5
8. Health	5
9. Politics	5
10. Infractions	5
11. Grievances	5
12. Surrender of Title	5

The following is an outline of the rules, responsibilities, and details of the procedures to be followed by the individuals serving as Chickasaw Princess, Chickasaw Junior Princess, and Little Miss Chickasaw during their one-year reign as the Chickasaw Princesses.

1. Formal Relationship:

Each Chickasaw Princess formally relates to the Chickasaw Princess program manager as the reigning princess, spokesperson, and ambassador of friendship and goodwill for the Chickasaw Nation. Each princess will serve as reigning royalty beginning upon selection at the Chickasaw Princess pageant and will relinquish their title one year later at the subsequent pageant.

2. Chickasaw Princess Official Appearances:

All activities and details of the relationship between the Chickasaw Nation and the princesses are handled by the Chickasaw Princess program manager. All approvals and exceptions will be arranged by the Chickasaw Princess program manager.

Requests for Chickasaw Princess appearances should be written invitations. However, requests to appear, participate, and/or perform at an event are not always in the form of a written invitation. The princesses will be notified by the Chickasaw Princess program manager regarding impromptu appearances, the appropriate dress for each situation, and what is expected for the event or presentation. If princesses are approached individually with requests to appear, participate, and/or perform, such requests should be referred to the Chickasaw Princess program manager.

Each princess **MUST** arrive on time to all scheduled events unless circumstances beyond their control occur. **Each princess is only allowed three unexcused absences from their duties as a princess.** An unexcused absence is defined as a failure to appear without notifying the Chickasaw Princess program manager at least 24 hours in advance of the event. Once the princess has been notified of an official appearance, it is the responsibility of the princess to communicate the status of their attendance to the Chickasaw Princess program manager. Non-compliance with these rules will result in (first) a verbal reprimand, (second) a meeting with the princess and their parent/legal guardian (if needed), and (third) suspension from attending event(s). The Chickasaw Princess program manager will track the attendance and tardiness of each princess. **Excessive absence, tardiness, or more than three unexcused absences could result in being asked to resign a title.**

Should circumstances beyond one's control occur and prevent a princess from arriving timely or from attending an event, the Chickasaw Princess program manager should be notified **immediately**.

3. Education:

Chickasaw Princesses must be attending school or college and be working toward a diploma or be a high school graduate. Academics will remain a top priority. A 2.0-grade average must be maintained, and the princess must be a student in good standing. If a post-secondary applicant is not pursuing higher education or specialized training, they must be employed full or part-time. The employment schedule should be somewhat flexible to accommodate participating in tribally-related and other events. Each princess will be provided with a calendar of events for each month during their reign. It is their responsibility to make sure that it is provided to school officials for purposes of obtaining an excused absence. However, the school decides whether an absence will be excused and, if not excused, a princess cannot miss school to attend an event.

The Chickasaw Princess program manager, with the parent/legal guardian's permission, will periodically check with each princess' respective school to monitor their status and grade eligibility. Should a princess become academically ineligible or be in poor standing due to tardiness, absenteeism, or other related issues, an academic suspension will occur.

4. Substance Abuse:

Absolutely no smoking, drinking, or use of illegal drugs by any of the princesses will be tolerated.

5. Image:

The princesses' appearance is critically important as they serve as role models and ambassadors of the Chickasaw Nation. Their lifestyle needs to be exemplary at all times, reflecting high moral values and ethical standards.

This applies to all participation in any medium that portrays either the princess or their likeness, inclusive of but not limited to, websites, online networking communities (i.e., YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter), videos, blogs, chat rooms, messenger chats, photographs, etc.

A princess must maintain an appropriate appearance throughout their entire reign and be prepared at any moment to present themselves as the titleholder. Clothing, accessories, hair, and make-up must always be tasteful and suitable to the situation.

6. Travel:

The Chickasaw Princess program manager accompanies the princesses to all events or activities as the official chaperone. Parent/legal guardian may accompany the princess but shall be responsible for their expenses if this should occur. All events incurring travel expenses will be subject to the approval of the Chickasaw Princess program manager. When traveling to an overnight event, the

Chickasaw Princess program manager is responsible for making sure each princess' expenses are handled. If attending an out-of-town event, transportation will be provided by the Chickasaw Princess program manager. If a princess decides to drive their vehicle or ride with their parent/legal guardian instead of the provided transportation, mileage **cannot** be claimed. Curfews on overnight travel will be set by the Chickasaw Princess program manager.

7. Competition:

A princess is not allowed to participate in any other pageant during their reign, nor are they permitted to judge any competition without prior approval from the Chickasaw Princess program manager.

8. Health:

If a princess, at any time during their reign, becomes incapable of representing the Chickasaw Nation due to a health concern, including but not limited to pregnancy, they will be expected to relinquish their title.

9. Politics:

A princess **WILL** refrain from any political involvement and/or activities during their reign.

10. Infractions:

Any infractions will be dealt with in a manner appropriate to the situation. It is the responsibility of a princess to represent themselves with the foresight and the knowledge that any violation of the terms of this policy handbook will result in consequences or actions deemed appropriate and necessary by the Chickasaw Princess program manager.

11. Grievances:

Any disagreement between the parties concerning any detail of the rules, obligations, or activities of a princess will be reviewed by the Chickasaw Princess program manager and processed through the Chickasaw Princess program manager's line of support. The decisions of the review will be discussed with the princess and, when appropriate, parent/legal guardian may be notified before any action is taken. Grievances must be in writing from either party.

12. Surrender of Title:

If for any reason a princess elects not to participate or is requested to step down, their title, silver crown, sash, and shawl shall be returned to the Chickasaw Nation. The successor will be determined based on the pageant contest results. The successor will complete the remainder of the princess' reign and will not be eligible to run for that same title in any subsequent years.