# Guidelines For Holding A Chapter Youth Ambassador Contest

### Chapter Contest Requirements

Schedule a contest date between September and December, or in conjunction with your Credit Union Day celebration or Christmas festivities.

Appoint a Chapter Contest Coordinator to oversee the contest. This person will handle the details, serve as liaison with the Association, and is responsible for working with the chapter contestant up to the State Finals.

Complete and return the official Chapter Participation Form to the Pennsylvania Credit Union Association. The form must be on file with the Association before a chapter can qualify for the State Finals.

A Send a written announcement of the contest with plenty of advance notice to all credit unions in the chapter so each has an opportunity to participate. A copy of the contest notice must be sent to the State Contest Coordinator at the Association.

Allocate funds to send the chapter contestant to the State Finals. These expenses include transportation to and from the Annual Convention site, hotel accommodations, parking, meals, and miscellaneous expenses.

After the chapter contest, submit the following items to the Association no later than December 31:

- ✓ A print-quality color head-and-shoulders photo of the chapter winner. (Digital photos must be submitted in 300 dpi jpeg format.)
- ✓ A properly signed Photo Release Form.

  Note: If the contestant is under 18 years of age, the form must be signed by a parent or guardian.
- ✓ A completed Candidate Biography Form.

Failure to provide these materials by December 31 could result in disqualification of the chapter's contestant.

#### CU CONTESTANT REQUIREMENTS

Only one contestant from each credit union may participate in the Chapter contest. The contestant must belong to a credit union that is a member of the Pennsylvania Credit Union Association. The credit union's main office must be located within the chapter hosting the contest.

Each contestant must be at least 17 and no more than 25 years of age as of December 31 of the year in which the chapter contest is held.

All participants in the State Finals, including the First and Second Alternates, may not compete during the immediate following year. After skipping one year, participants in the State Finals may compete again, after repeating the process of being sponsored by a credit union and chapter.

## Judging

Judging will be based on the following criteria: (a) credit union knowledge, 35 percent; (b) ability to communicate, 35 percent; (c) personality, 20 percent; and (d) professional appearance, 10 percent.

Judges for the chapter contest may be vendors, local business professionals, teachers, etc. Credit union members or officials within the chapter are not eligible to serve as judges. Association staff members also may not judge contests.

At the credit union level, it is not necessary to hold a formal competition, unless there are multiple candidates.

#### THE STATE-LEVEL CONTEST

The winner of the chapter contest will automatically become eligible to participate in the State Finals during the Pennsylvania Credit Union Association's Annual Convention. The State winner will reign for one year as Credit Union Youth Ambassador and will receive a cash award of \$1,000. The First Alternate will receive \$750 and the Second Alternate will receive \$500.



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