

Miss Minnesota

Dear Miss Minnesota & Miss Minnesota's Teens Contestants and Local Directors,

Touching base regarding the sound-alike music requirement.

This is another reminder that we are only allowing soundalike/non-original variations of music for talents this year at Miss Minnesota/Miss Minnesota's Teen. That means that any version of music that is downloaded from iTunes, YouTube, etc. is probably not allowable.

All talent requests to date have been approved, but that is with the assumption that a license will be obtained (as detailed below). The approval is only for the song title - it is not approval of any particular version or recording. If your titleholder is not able to get a license as detailed below, the talent piece must be changed.

Some quick bullet points to keep in mind:

- A SIGNED RELEASE (or other official license agreement in the form provided by the company) is required from the copyright owner or every artist that is part of making the music track.
- A purchase is not a license/release.
- You are unlikely to be able to reach the person who is performing on the iTunes or YouTube track, for example, to get them to sign a document and/or even get them to agree to give you a license to their music at all.
- If you're not sure if you can use a piece of music - ask yourself, will I be able to get this artist or the copyright owner to sign a document for me or send me a worldwide performance release?
- The ASCAP/BMI coverage is a different type of license and **IS NOT** what we need in order to perform to the music on stage. That gives only the right for us to PLAY IT, but not for any audio-visual material (e.g., your titleholder dancing to it) on our stage. Especially not in a livestream.

I understand how complicated this issue is, and I absolutely appreciate how challenging this may be for you. I've done my best to provide you with as much information as possible. The best piece of information that I've provided is the list of three websites from which to choose music - those are sites that I KNOW we will be able to get licenses from. If your titleholder is selecting a song from anywhere other than those sites, please understand that A LOT of attention

needs to be put into getting a license - and you need to start now!

So next steps... One of these steps must be taken (preferably ASAP) to obtain the necessary license:

- If your track is from www.talentwolfe.com: Email THIS DOCUMENT to Bill at Talentwolfe@aol.com and he will sign and return it to you.
- If your track is from <https://musicalcreations.com/>: Fill out THIS FORM and pay the \$20 license fee.
- If your track is from anywhere else, please email THIS DOCUMENT to the copyright owner to be signed.

If you are not able to complete any of the above steps, the music cannot be used at the State Competition.

If you have your license now, please send it over via email so we can review and we can take care of as much of this as possible, as early as possible.

I am happy to answer any questions you have - please do not wait until the last minute to start giving this attention. It may already be too late! I must also admit I am NOT an expert in this area, and doing best I can!

Thank you,
Kathy

PS - You might also find this explanation interesting or helpful: <https://talentwolfe.com/release-forms/>