

2026/2027



2026 – 2027 Warrior of Morongo Division I and II Application Packet

Qualifications

Warrior of Morongo contestants must meet the following minimum requirements to be eligible:

- ❖ Division I must be at least 5 years of age, not more than 13 years before August 22, 2026.
- ❖ Division II must be at least 14 years of age, not more than 17 years before August 22, 2026.
- ❖ Must be an enrolled member of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- ❖ Maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA or submit a copy of your high school diploma/GED.
- ❖ All applicants must be unmarried/non-cohabiting and without child(ren) for entire reign.

Selection

Warrior of Morongo is based on a total point system. Contestants will be judged on the following criteria:

- ❖ Raffle Ticket Sales
 - Raffle ticket sales counting towards the contestants will end by 12:00PM on August 21, 2026.
 - Note: All cash from ticket sales must be turned in and unsold tickets returned to Cultural Heritage staff by 12:00pm on August 21st to remain eligible for the contest.
 - Contestants who do not return all unsold tickets by 12:00pm on August 21st will be disqualified.

Warriors of Morongo shall serve to represent the Morongo Band of Mission Indians as role models and goodwill ambassadors for the tribe and the community. While holding the title these lads must exemplify the qualities of humility, truth and respect for themselves and their people, just as past Warriors of Morongo have upheld over the years.

Warrior of Morongo will be Titled on Saturday, August 22nd, 2026 at the 21st Annual Morongo Band of Mission Indians Cultural Heritage Days Celebration. Please direct inquiries to Maria Lorenzo at 951-755-5139, mlorenzo@morongo-nsn.gov or the contact information below:

Cultural Heritage Days Celebration
ATTN: Warrior of Morongo Contest
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
12700 Pumarra Rd., Banning, CA 92220

Application Checklist

All applicants must have submitted a complete application by 5:00pm, Friday, August 7, 2026 to be considered a contestant. Applications can be dropped off at Tribal Administration, mailed or emailed to mlorenzo@morongo-nsn.gov. If applications are mailed, they must be postmarked on or before Friday, August 7, 2026.

1. Warrior of Morongo Application will consist of the following:
 - ◆ 2026-2027 Cultural Heritage Days Celebration Warrior of Morongo Application
 - ◆ Code of Conduct and General Guidelines Agreement
2. Birth Certificate & Tribal Enrollment Document
 - ◆ These will be used to verify contestant's age & tribal member status
3. Current school report card, if applicable, or a copy of your high school diploma/GED, 2.0 GPA
4. Provide a list of Morongo cultural and or government activities in which you have participated.
5. A current photograph: 5x7 portrait

~ All information will be kept confidential ~

All contestants will be judged according to the above categories, as well as their individual ticket sales. The contestant with the highest accumulated points in their respective division will be Titled Warrior of Morongo on Saturday, August 22nd, 2026 and will reign for one year.

2026/2027



2026- 2027 Cultural Heritage Days Celebration
Warrior of Morongo Application

Category (please check one): _____ Division I (5 – 13 years old)
_____ Division II (14 – 17 years old)

All Applicants Must Be Unmarried/Non-Cohabiting And Without Child(ren) For Entire Reign

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

Applicants for both divisions, please provide:

- Birth certificate & tribal enrollment document.
These will be used to verify contestant's age & tribal member status.
- Current school report card, if applicable, or a copy of your high school diploma/GED, 2.0 GPA
- Provide a list of Morongo cultural and or government activities in which you have participated.
- A current photograph.

-All information will be kept confidential-

IMPORTANT DATES

1. Applications can be downloaded online or picked up at Tribal Administration.
2. The deadline to turn in applications at Tribal Administration is 5:00pm, August 7, 2026.
All required materials listed above must be turned in with the application. If applications are mailed, they must be postmarked on or before August 7, 2026.
3. Raffle ticket sales counting towards contestants will end at **12:00p.m. on Friday, August 21, 2026**. All cash from ticket sales must be turned in and unsold tickets returned to Cultural Heritage staff by 12:00pm on August 21st to remain eligible for the contest. Contestants who do not turn in all unsold tickets will be disqualified.

Cultural Heritage Days Celebration
ATTN: Warrior of Morongo Contest
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
12700 Pumarra Rd., Banning CA 92220

**Telephone inquiries should be addressed
to Maria Lorenzo at (951)755-5139**

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

2026-2027 Warrior of Morongo Application
CODE OF CONDUCT & GENERAL GUIDELINES AGREEMENT

As a contestant and for the title of 2026-2027 Warrior of Morongo:

- ❖ You represent yourself, your family, your tribe(s) and communities.
- ❖ You must have a positive and respectful attitude about yourself, before during and after the pageant. You will be expected to respect, cooperate and participate with Warrior of Morongo Committee, judges, the general public, and anyone else you may come in contact with.

If recognized as 2026-2027 Warrior of Morongo:

- ❖ You must not conduct yourself in any way that would have an adverse effect on yourself, your family, your tribe(s), communities and the American Indian community at large.
- ❖ You will be expected to wear the medallion, bird shirt and carry the gourd rattle provided to you by the committee when participating in Grand Entry at the Thunder and Lightning Powwow, and other powwows, gatherings, events and conferences you attend in the future.
- ❖ You will represent the Morongo Band of Mission Indians and be a welcoming figure at the following events: Dragonfly Gala (August 8th), 2026 Thunder and Lightning Powwow (September 25-27), 2026 Open Ranch Rodeo (October 3rd), as well as other events that Tribal Council, the Cultural Heritage Days Committee or Cultural Heritage Department may request your attendance and participation.
 - Regularly attend Tribal Council and General Membership meetings.
 - Become involved in a tribal committee, cultural department has 3 committees (Cultural Day's, Powwow, and Rodeo) recommend assistance.
 - Learn to make your own gourd rattle.
 - Learn the seasons of traditional gatherings – food, medicine, dwellings, clothing, and hunting elements, (acorn, mesquite, pinon nuts, yerba santa, chia, willow, arrow weed, cotton wood, etc.).
 - Help with Cultural workshops, events (Cultural Day's, Powwow, and Rodeo), and traditional gatherings.
 - Learn an introduction monthly from your native language.
 - Assist with promoting Cahuilla/Serrano language to the community (social media, web page, power points).
 - Learn one element monthly in our traditional culture
 - Bird Song /Dance
 - Traditional games (history, songs, objects)
 - Cahuilla/Serrano Creation Story
 - Morongo's Irrigation system (stone ditch)
 - Significance of a Tribal Village Site (artifacts)
 - Morongo Round up's
 - Morongo Orchards
 - Morongo Canyons and their importance within (history).

- Basket Weaving/Hunting tools (history, usage, and begin/or make your own).
 - Gathering of Medicines (creosote) usage, gathering, preparation.
 - Native Gathering (acorns) usage, preparation, season
 - Pottery – gathering of clay, learn how to make a traditional item, and preparation (firing of pots/items).
 - Significance of White Sage / Tobacco (gathering, usage, and tradition)
- ❖ You must keep a consistent and professional line of communication with the Cultural Heritage Days Committee within the entirety of your reign.
 - ❖ ***Create a video of your choice on the aspects of what you have learned after each workshop, lesson, or experience. At the end of your term, you will be asked to present a PowerPoint of everything combined.***

I hereby agree and promise to abide by the above Code of Conduct/General Guidelines as a Contestant of the Warrior of Morongo Pageant and as a potential titleholder of the Warrior of Morongo.

I understand that I may be disqualified as a Contestant of the Warrior of Morongo Pageant if I deviate from the Conditions outlined above.

I understand that if I am titled 2026-2027 Warrior of Morongo, the Cultural Heritage Days Committee will hold me accountable to the expectations of the 2024-2026 Warrior of Morongo titleholder as outlined above.

I understand that if I am titled 2026-2027 Warrior of Morongo, the Cultural Heritage Days Committee reserves the right to ask me to relinquish my title for failure to meet to the expectations of 2026-2027 Warrior of Morongo titleholder as outlined above, or for any reason not stated in this document but the Cultural Heritage Days Committee see as applicable, and that I will immediately return my medallion, bird shirt and gourd rattle to the Cultural Heritage Days Committee in a cooperative and dignified manner.

I understand that if I am titled, this code of conduct and general guidelines agreement will still pertain to me, as 2026-2027 Warrior of Morongo.

I understand that photos and media taken of 2026-2027 Warrior of Morongo during my reign reflect on the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, its programs and my family, community, and myself, therefore I agree to conduct myself with respect, honor and composure while holding this title.

I acknowledge and agree to allow the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Cultural Heritage Days Committee and Cultural Heritage Department to use photographs, films, and social media for promotional materials.

Contestant Signature: _____ Date: _____

NOTE: Please make a copy for your personal records and return this agreement with original signature to:

Cultural Heritage Days Celebration
ATTN: Warrior of Morongo Contest
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
12700 Pumarra Rd., Banning, CA 92220