

Title 2: Agriculture and Commerce  
Part 401: Rules of the Mississippi Fair Commission

Subpart 1: Organization of the Fair Commission

Purpose of this Subpart

100 In accordance with Section 25-43-2.104 of the Mississippi Administrative Procedures Law, this subpart describes the Fair Commission's duties and responsibilities, the organization of the Board, and its methods of operation.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

Purpose of the Mississippi Fair Commission

101 The legislature created the Fair Commission in section 69-5-1 of the *Mississippi Code Annotated* in order to promote agricultural and industrial development and to encourage farmers to grow better livestock and agricultural products.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

Mississippi Fair Commission Composition

102 The Fair Commission is composed of seven members. Section 69-5-1 of the *Mississippi Code Annotated* provides that the governor appoint the members as follows:

1. the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce;
2. the director of the Mississippi Extension Service;
3. the president of the Mississippi Livestock Association;
4. the director of Mississippi Vocational Education;
5. a representative of Mississippi Association of Fairs;
6. a representative of the Department of Economic and Community Development and;
7. a representative of the City of Jackson.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

Chairman

103 The Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce serves as chairman of the Fair Commission pursuant to law.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

Powers of the Fair Commission

104 The law provides in section 69-5-3 of the *Mississippi Code Annotated* that the Fair Commission shall have charge of designated state lands and buildings and authority to

conduct an agricultural and industrial exposition annually and other events on those lands to promote Mississippi agriculture and industry. The Fair Commission is authorized to set rules governing the distribution of state monies for premiums and awards and may accept money or funds donated for that purpose.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

#### Executive Director

105 The Executive Director is an officer of the executive branch of state government appointed by the Fair Commission.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

#### Delegation of Authority

106 The Executive Director is authorized by the Fair Commission to act for the Commission on a daily basis.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

#### Contacting the Fair Commission

107 The Fair Commission may be contacted in person, by U.S. Mail, Courier mail, e-mail, telephone, and telefacsimile. The Fair Commission maintains and provides interactive services on the Internet at [www.mdac.state.ms.us](http://www.mdac.state.ms.us).

1. Location. The Fair Commission's offices are located in Jackson at the following locations:
  - a. 1207 Mississippi Street; Jackson, MS 39202. This is the location of the Mississippi State Fairgrounds.
  - b. 121 North Jefferson Street; Jackson, MS 39201. This is the office of the chairman.
2. The mailing address for the Fair Commission is: P.O. Box 892; Jackson, MS 39205.
3. The Fair Commission's telephone and facsimile numbers are:
  - a. Fairgrounds: 601-961-4000, Chairman: 601-359-1100
  - b. FAX: 60-354-6545

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

Title 2:Agriculture and Commerce  
Part 2: Rules of the Mississippi Fair Commission

Subpart 2-Administrative Rules  
Chapter 01-Public Records Request Procedure

- 100 RESERVED
- 101 RESERVED
- 102 RESERVED
- 103 RESERVED
- 104 RESERVED
- 105 RESERVED
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- 107 RESERVED
- 108 RESERVED
- 109 RESERVED
- 110 RESERVED
- 111 RESERVED

(Amended June 13, 2021.)

Part 2: Rules of the Mississippi Fair Commission  
Subpart 2-Administrative Rules  
Chapter 02- Procedure for Oral Proceedings on Rule-Making

- 100 RESERVED
- 101 RESERVED
- 102 RESERVED
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- 105 RESERVED
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- 107 RESERVED
- 108 RESERVED
- 109 RESERVED
- 110 RESERVED
- 111 RESERVED
- 112 RESERVED

(Amended June 13, 2021.)

Part 2: Rules of the Mississippi Fair Commission  
Subpart 2-Administrative Rules  
Chapter 03-Procedure For Issuing Declaratory Opinion

- 100 RESERVED
- 102 RESERVED
- 103 RESERVED

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112 RESERVED  
113 RESERVED  
(Amended June 13, 2021.)

## Part 401: Rules of the Mississippi Fair Commission

### Subpart 2-Administrative Rules Chapter 04-General Rules

#### Solicitors and Peddlers

100.01 When the State Fair is in progress, no person or organization may solicit money, votes or signatures, sell or distribute merchandise, including written materials, or engage in a protest, demonstration or political speech on the Fairgrounds, except from a booth or display area on the Fairgrounds assigned to him by the Commission. Such booths shall be assigned by the Commission on a “first come-first served” basis, with a rental charge based on the size and location of the booth. Such activities must be conducted within the confines of the assigned booth. This provision and §100.02 below do not apply to food or beverage sales.

(Adopted February 8, 2008.)

100.02 When the State Fair is not in progress, no person or organization may solicit money, votes or signatures, sell or distribute merchandise, including written materials, or engage in a protest, demonstration or political speech until after he has registered with the Commission. Such person or organization may not conduct these activities in a building leased to a tenant or in the livestock barns. Such activities must be conducted at least 100 ft. from the building, or perimeter of the outdoor area, where the event is being held. No more than three persons may engage in such activities on behalf of the subject organization, political candidate or ideology being advocated.

(Adopted February 8, 2008.)

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

#### Signs

101 A sign, display or poster may be erected by a person or organization authorized by the Commission to be an exhibitor, vendor or building tenant on the Fairgrounds at his

designated space or building during the subject event. Any person participating in a protest, demonstration or political speech on the Fairgrounds may carry a sign, display or poster no larger than nine sq. ft. in area in his hands or on his body during such activity. The Commission may operate its electronic sign at the High Street entrance to the Fairgrounds. Otherwise, no signs, displays or posters shall be allowed on the Fairgrounds. (Adopted February 8, 2008.)

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

### Ejection from State Fairgrounds

102 Any person coming onto the State Fairgrounds in Jackson, Mississippi who engages in any conduct that poses a clear and present danger to the public health, safety or welfare, including but not limited to, fighting, intoxication (alcohol or drugs), use of profanity, acts of terrorism, discharge of weapons or disorderly or threatening conduct, may be immediately ejected from the Fairgrounds by the Mississippi Fair Commission's ("Commission's") duly authorized agents or designees for the duration of the event at which the conduct occurred, or for a period of ten (10) days if no event was in progress.

The ejected person shall then have thirty (30) days to request an informal administrative review before the Executive Secretary of the Commission, who shall act as a reviewing officer. At this informal administrative review, subpoena power shall not be available, witnesses shall not be sworn or be subject to cross examination and no record shall be made of the proceedings. The reviewing officer's decision shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the parties by certified mail. If the accused does not request a hearing within thirty (30) days, then he is deemed to have waived his right to a review.

If any party is aggrieved by the decision of the reviewing officer, he shall have thirty (30) days after his receipt of the reviewing officer's decision to appeal to the Commission for a full evidentiary hearing before the Commission or its designee. Witnesses shall be sworn and be subject to cross examination. A written record shall be made of the proceedings. The decision of the Commission shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the parties by certified mail.

If either party is aggrieved by the decision of the Commission, he shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the Commission's order to appeal to the circuit court of the First Judicial District of Hinds County. Any appeal to circuit court shall be made in accordance with existing state laws and regulations governing such appeals.

(Adopted December 20, 2014.)

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

### Mississippi Fairgrounds Food and Beverage / Bag Policy

- 103.01 Due to contracts with concessionaires and vendors, no food or beverage may be brought into the Mississippi Coliseum, Trade Mart, or Kirk Fordice Equine Center from an independent source.
- 103.02 All bags and persons are subject to search. Many show promoters might have more stringent guidelines such as metal detectors, wand, or a stricter bag size policy, so please refer to the policy of the show you are attending for additional information.
- (1) Except as stated below, the maximum bag size is 12 x 12 x 6. If your bag is larger than these dimensions, please leave it at home or in your car.
  - (2) Medically necessary bags and diaper bags when caring for a child may exceed the maximum dimensions, but are subject to search.
- 103.03 Items may be returned to your vehicle prior to entry, or may be forfeited. Forfeited items become the property of the Mississippi Fair Commission (MFC) and will not be returned to the individual or show producer. MFC will not store or hold any item for any reason.
- 103.04 There shall be no consumption of alcohol on Fairgrounds property by minors or as otherwise prohibited by law. Proper identification showing legal age is required and may be checked before all alcohol purchases regardless of age. All drinks except unopened water or soda bottles have to be discarded upon exit from the Coliseum, Trade Mart, and Equine Center.
- 103.05 Exiting and re-entering the building with the same ticket is generally prohibited. Guests who wish to return a prohibited item to their vehicle or need to exit and re-enter due to personal or medical emergency must exit out of a ticketed entrance. The ticket for the event must be produced and then scanned out or approved for exit.
- 103.06 Other prohibited items include:
- (1) animals (with the exception of service animals as provided in the *American with Disabilities Act* or support animals as specified in the “Mississippi Support Animal Act”)
  - (2) banners
  - (3) fireworks
  - (4) glitter
  - (5) laser pointers
  - (6) helium balloons
  - (7) marketing / soliciting / vending items
  - (8) other items deemed unacceptable by the Show Promoter. Again, check the show promoter’s policy for additional limitations.

(Adopted April 20, 2019.)

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.

## Vendor Booths

104 A three-person committee will review applications for prospective and returning vendors associated with the Mississippi State Fair and the Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo. The committee will include the Fair Manager, Assistant Fair Manager, and Purchasing Chief for the Mississippi Fair Commission. The committee may approve or deny any application.

Vendors must:

- Submit an application prior to July 1 of each year.
- Provide photos showing the proposed booth.
- Provide a list or description of products being offered. The Mississippi Fair Commission seeks to provide a wide assortment and variety of products.
- Provide general liability insurance in an amount to be determined by the Mississippi Fair Commission.
- Products and/or product advertising may not conflict with any existing contracts or agreements of the Mississippi Fair Commission, the Mississippi State Fair or the Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo.
- Adhere to all rules, regulations and policies of the Mississippi Fair Commission, including but not limited to: payment schedules, electrical fees, trash removal fees, delivery guidelines, signage guidelines, decorating guidelines, employee guidelines, safety guidelines, health department guidelines, and requirements of the Mississippi Department of Revenue and the State Fire Marshall.

Booth space will or will not be granted by the Committee based upon a number of factors, including but not limited to:

- Space availability. Space is limited and, historically, new openings are rarely available;
- The Mississippi Fair Commission's history with a vendor;
- Public comments or complaints about previous vendors;
- Reputation of vendor with other fairs and events;
- Honesty and integrity of items represented when compared to items actually sold. Signage must not be misleading and should clearly and accurately depict description of products offered for sale.
- Vendor booth products should be consistent with the Mississippi State Fair's family-friendly atmosphere; and
- Avoiding the placement of too many booths offering the same product.

(Adopted August 29, 2019.)

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-5-3.