# 2026 Charlotte Pride Parade Rules & Regulations

The Charlotte Pride Parade is organized, operated, and produced by Charlotte Pride, Inc. Charlotte Pride and the City of Charlotte have a number of guidelines, rules, and regulations that all participants must follow. If you have any questions about the guidelines, rules, or regulations, please contact our parade team at **paradeteam@charlottepride.org**

**The following entry fee schedule has been established for the 2026 Charlotte Pride Parade for non-corporate participants:**

| Contingent Category | Cost |
|---|---|
| Nonprofit or Political Organization (100 people max per group) | |
| Walking Group (NO VEHICLE) | $200 |
| Walking Group (WITH CAR/TRUCK/VAN) | $275 |
| Motorcycle Group | $200 |
| Large Bus or Vehicle (Tractor Trailer) | $395 |
| Group with Float | $395 |
| Large Group of 100+<br>*Walking groups can include up to 100 people. Companies or organizations that will include walking groups of more than 100 people will need to contact Charlotte Pride about becoming a sponsor. Please reach out to Meredith Thompson at meredith@charlottepride.org for inquiries.* | --- |
| For-Profit Small/Medium Business Group (100 people max per group) | |
| Walking Group (NO VEHICLE) | $395 |
| Walking Group (WITH CAR/TRUCK/VAN) | $495 |
| Motorcycle Group | $400 |

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|---|---|
| Large Bus or Vehicle (Tractor Trailer) | $595 |
| Group with Float | $595 |
| Large Group of 100+<br><br>*Walking groups can include up to 100 people. Companies or organizations that will include walking groups of more than 100 people will need to contact Charlotte Pride about becoming a sponsor. Please reach out to Meredith Thompson at meredith@charlottepride.org for inquiries.* | --- |
| **Other Charges** | **Cost** |
| Returned Check Fee | $25 + any bank charges |
| Refund/Cancellation Processing Fee<br><br>*There are no refunds for any reason.* | N/A |
| Nonrefundable Application Fee | $50 |
| Late Fee (for applications received after May 31st) | $100 |

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

**Application Review:** All parade applications are subject to review by Charlotte Pride and are reviewed and processed on a first come, first served basis. If approved, the applicant will be notified of approval via email. Charlotte Pride reserves the right to restrict or deny any entry.

**Parade Monitors:** Each Entry must have monitors to serve as points of contact between the parade staff and your group. Monitors are to walk on each side of the vehicle, motorcycles, or float to ensure safety and alert the driver(s) of any potential problems. Failure to do so will result in the removal of your group from the parade.

| Number of Marchers | Number of Monitors Required |
|---|---|
| 2-30 marchers | 2 monitors |
| 31-60 marchers | 4 monitors |
| 61-80 marchers | 6 monitors |
| 81-100 marchers | 8 monitors |

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*Motorcycles are considered "people" in addition to their rider(s). For entries with vehicles, 2 monitors are required per axle (for trucks, cars, convertibles, floats, and other similar motorized vehicles).*

**Follow All Parade Staff Instructions:** Failure to follow instructions and directions from the parade staff will subject your party to removal/dismissal and you will be prohibited from participation in future Charlotte Pride Parades.

**Distribution of Items:** Under no circumstances can anything be thrown from vehicles or floats. Parade groups wishing to distribute gifts, merchandise, literature, or other items along the parade route must have adequate personnel to hand the items to spectators individually and must have written permission of Charlotte Pride.

**Insurance:** All vehicles must have appropriate insurance coverage. Charlotte Pride and the City of Charlotte are not responsible for any accidents or injuries that are due to motor vehicles, motorcycles, or floats. Proof of insurance and a valid driver's license for all vehicle drivers must be presented to Parade Staff upon check–in.

**No Third-Party Sponsorships:** Each Entry affirms that only the organization/group named in the Parade Application will be the organization/group participating on the day of the Parade. Each Entry affirms that it is not sponsored by or will not display any sponsors' or advertisers' logos, advertisements, trademarks, products, or promotional materials without prior written approval of Charlotte Pride.

**Signs/Banners/Logos:** Each Entry affirms that only the organization/group named in the Parade Application Form will be the organization/group participating on the day of the parade and no other organization or entity be promoted on a banner/sign/logo without written permission from Charlotte Pride.

**Vehicles/Floats/Motorcycles:**

- Floats cannot exceed 13 feet in height or 16 feet in width
    - Maximum length of the unit, including towing vehicle cannot exceed 55 feet
- Drivers of motorcycles/cars/vehicles/floats in the parade must maintain forward motion unless instructed otherwise by parade officials
- No articles of any kind may be thrown from any vehicle or other parade entry, walking or not
- No one may enter or exit the float once the float is in motion on the parade route
- Trailers must be towed by an accompanying vehicle & have a turning radius of not less than 90º
- A fire extinguisher must be on board each float/vehicle
- All sound systems must be self-powered and must meet city codes for amplification standards
- Names of the sponsoring business or organization should appear on the float for judging

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- Each organization must provide applicable proof of insurance for each float/vehicle entered
- All motorcycle riders must wear a helmet

*Failure to comply with these standards will result in the disqualification of the float and removal from the Parade.*

**Animal Units:** Charlotte Pride asks that you do not include any animals, including dogs on leashes, in our parade. Service dogs, however, are welcome.

**Solicitation of Money/Donations Along the Parade Route:** Parade participants are prohibited from solicitation of any money/donations along the parade route.

**Parade Line Up & Order:** We make every effort to accommodate parade location requests. However, for logistical and other reasons, this is not always possible. Requests for specific placement in the parade lineup will be considered, but we CANNOT guarantee fulfillment of such requests. Parade placement is at the sole discretion of Charlotte Pride.

**City Ordinances & Laws:** The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, who will be present and managing security, traffic, and crowd control along the Parade route, are responsible for enforcing all applicable state laws and local ordinances during all Charlotte Pride events. Such statutes may include, but are not limited to public decency, alcohol, controlled substances, public safety, and standard vehicle insurance requirements. No alcoholic beverages and/or consumption is permitted along the Parade route by Parade Entries, participants, or spectators.

**Release and Indemnity:** All entries must sign a release and indemnity statement agreeing to indemnify Charlotte Pride and its directors, employees, and/or volunteers and hold them harmless with respect to all action or incidents arising out of the participant's involvement with/in the Charlotte Pride Parade, Festival, or other related activities.

**Disclaimer:** Charlotte Pride, Inc. reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to remove any and all individuals, groups, vehicles, floats, motorcycles, or participants of any kind from entering or continuing along the parade route for any reason, including but not limited to, safety, perceived condition, failure to comply with parade staff instructions, any action(s) that may cause a delay in the parade, and/or any violation of the rules and regulations set out in this document.

**Mandatory Parade Orientation Meeting:** To participate in our 2026 Charlotte Pride Parade, you must attend our parade meeting that will give you an in-depth look at all procedures, rules, and regulations, as well as an overview of the parade and what to expect OR you may complete an online orientation and quiz to prove your awareness of policies and procedures. At this meeting, we will present the final lineup. It is required for you to have at least one member of your parade contingent present at one of our meetings or complete the training prior to the parade. Failure to do so will result in

removal from the parade line-up. Our **2026 Parade Orientation Meeting** is scheduled **July 25, 2026**, at the Charlotte Pride offices (1900 The Plaza, Charlotte, NC 28205) from **3-5 pm**.

**Safety/Weather Guidelines and Precaution:** We reserve the right to change any components of the Charlotte Pride Parade as necessary to follow any updates from local or federal authorities.

**Refunds:** There are **no refunds**.