

Child Models Your Little Super★Star



By Renee' Lauren

Renee' Lauren has worked as a modeling agent running the Philadelphia Office of Click Models for over 10 years.

It is my greatest pleasure working for and with top New York Modeling Agency Click Model Management. I thank Joey Grill and Francis Grill for giving me the opportunity of working with such an amazing agency and learning so much from their guidance.

For more information visit <http://clickmodel.com>

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Table of contents

Copyright & Disclaimer.....	3
Table of contents	4
Foreword	5
Child Models.....	6
Introduction	6
Child Models' Requirements	8
Some Important Points on Child Modeling.....	8
Teen Models.....	11
Juniors	11
How to submit photos	12

Foreword

Welcome, and thank you for purchasing **Child Models - Your Little Super*Star**.

We are glad you did, and trust you will find it valuable.

We have gathered up some of the best modeling professionals in the business and put all the years of experience together to bring this guide to you.

We hope that you will find the answers to your questions.

Thank you.

Renee' Lauren

<http://models-fashion-advice.com/>

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

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Child Models



Introduction

You have an adorable child and you want to have your child appear in ads, and magazines, so what do you do?

There are many very good children's agencies – Yes, our recommendation is for your child to work with an agency



The first step is to take some photos of your child to see:

- if they like being in front of the camera,
- what their temperament is in front of the camera, and
- if they can take simple direction from you.

If your child likes to have his or her picture taken and likes to move around with your direction, then you can call some of the child agencies.

When first going to the agency you do not have to have professional photos; a few snap shots will be fine.

- One full length shot.
- One smile head shot.
- Maybe a few more playful shots.
- Photos should be clear:
 - In focus
 - No other children in photos

If you are e-mailing or sending photos via post then you should include:

- Childs age / date of birth
- Height
- Up to date sizes
- Shoe size
- If there are any missing teeth
- If the child can read



The next step is to visit with the agencies you have contacted, or have contacted you back after your photo submission to them.

Some of the agencies you will visit with may charge a consultation fee, and the fee can be anywhere from \$25 to \$75 for the consultation. We don't recommend that you spend any more than these figures, unless you are getting something more for your money.

Some of the agencies will have a head sheet (or *head book* it's sometimes called) for child models, or a modeling web site - use your discretion if you will or will not have your child be in them. The agencies always have a fee for both. Sometimes it is the only way for clients to see your child.

There should be no other charges unless you are having your child take acting classes. Really use your discretion here.

Modeling agencies take a commission for modeling jobs that they get for your child, and this can be anywhere from 10% to 25% depending on the agency.

- Some agencies will let the child work with just snapshots.
- Some will want an 8"X10" professional photo of your child.

Much of the requirements for child modeling falls on the parent or parents as it is a must to go on castings or go see's for children - most clients want to see children in person as they change in appearance so quickly.

The parents or parent must be prepared for travel to and from castings, photo shoots, and bookings.

Child Models' Requirements

What agencies look for in child models.

Some agencies work with child models for catalogs and look for specific sizes - sample sizes:

- six months
- eighteen months
- twenty four months
- two and two T
- 5 and 6
- 8 -10
- 12 -14

as a guideline on sample sizes,

- Good personalities
- Children with a lot of expression
- Well behaved on set
- Children who are animated

We won't say children who are cute and adorable. We think all children are. So children must have that little extra sparkle, it can be in the eyes, in the smile; just something that is a little extra special.

Child must be able to project and move well in front of the camera.

And Have Fun!

Some Important Points on Child Modeling

Is there work for your child?

Yes, every small market has local department stores and children's shops; there is also a local commercial market.

Contact modeling and talent agencies in your area.

For the national work in the child modeling markets; TV, print, magazines you have to live within a good distance from the top markets.

- NY
- LA
- Chicago
- Denver
- Seattle
- Washington
- Atlanta
- Miami
- Texas
- NJ

Before you sign with a child agency, does your child need photos?

No, most agencies will accept recent clear snapshots.

But it is recommended that for having someone at the agency take a second look at your child to maybe have a few professional photos having had a professional photographer shoot with your child will also give your child the experience to work in front of the camera.

You can always practice with your child in front of the camera yourself and just shoot a few rolls of film to see if the child likes being in front of the camera, can take direction well, is not shy, has a variety of expressions.

There is a myth in the industry that if a modeling agency wants to represent you then you don't have to pay for any photos, they will pay for all shoots.

This one is basically not true. It is true that if you go to a top modeling agency and the agency knows that you have potential to be a working model then they will have a test arranged or have the fee come off models bookings.

You will at some point have to pay for photos. You must have photos to work in the modeling industry and update them often to show a new look or new style.

Parents must update agencies with new snapshots or professional photos whenever there is a change in their child. If your child has missing teeth, new haircut has outgrown sizes you must call the agency and let them know so they can update the child's chart.

There are certain things that you may have to pay for if the agency requires:

- If the agency has a head sheet book to promote talent.
- If the agency has a website.
- If the agency requires comp cards.

You do not ever pay an agency for photographs; they can refer you to photographers that they like to work with or like their work. But you pay the photography studio or photographer directly: you don't pay any fees to the agency.

Teen Models



Juniors

Teen models in the industry are known as juniors. The Junior Market is thriving as more and more teen specialty shops are opening in malls to fill the shopping demand for this age group.

Teenage Models Requirements:

- Teenage girls can be between the height of 5'9 to 5'10; some can be 5'7 to 5'8 depending on the girl - if they have a great look, with expressive eyes, great smile and bubbly personality.
- It is very important that a girl can move well in front of the camera and be very animated.
- A great way to learn movement is have a friend take photo's just having fun with the camera and learning how to be expressive with lots and lots of smiles.
- Teen girls must take direction well, be on time for photo shoots, castings and all appointments.
- Teenage girls can be between the ages of 13 and 21 and this is based on how mature the girl is at 13. Many girls work junior's after 21, it just depends on if she still has great energy, clear skin and looks like she can still be in school.
- Teenage Models must stay fit the size is between size 2 and 6. The size is based on the sample of the clothes.

- Junior clothes tend to be cut small.
- There is no weight requirement: it is just a matter of clothing falling correctly on the girl's body.
- Girls have to pay special attention to staying healthy for beautiful skin, hair, body.
- Girls should drink plenty of water and get plenty of sleep.

How to submit photos

Girls can mail in photos via post to New Faces Division of the modeling agencies.

You can submit photos via email - send two clear photographs, one should be a head shot with a smile, the other a body shot taken in a swimsuit or in shorts and tee shirt.

Please make sure photos are not blurry, and that no other girls or guys are in the photo.

Please only add a brief description of yourself. Include your height, age, size and if you have any modeling experience.

Teenage girls can go to an open call at a modeling agency - this is the favored way of models-fashion-advice to submit photographs as the booking agents and New Faces director can see the girl in person and get a feel for her personality.

Call the agencies and find out when they hold open calls and make an appointment to go to the agency.

When going to visit the agency bring one or both parents as there are legal contract issues a parent must sign if the model is accepted to sign with the agency.

Girls should go to the open call dressed in clothes that make them feel comfortable, nothing too tight and clingy or too loose and baggy.

Hair and makeup should be kept very natural.

Hair brushed back off the face and little to no makeup.

Please bring with you the above photographs and if you have any professional photo's take those with you also.

Please do not feel bad if the agency does not accept you right away there are lots of girls at open calls and who submit photos to the agency.

Many famous models were not signed on their first try or 2nd. They worked hard at learning the business and themselves and resubmitted photo's or tried other agencies.