

Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards



The *Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards* are intended to recognize First Nations, Métis and Inuit students who model strength and commitment in the pursuit of their personal education path and embrace their own gifts, strengths and potential while celebrating the ways of their people.

Further, the *Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards* provide the opportunity to celebrate the unique qualities of students who inspire their peers, teachers, education leaders and community members while respecting the agency of other students to do the same in their own ways.

Formerly known as “Indigenous Shining Student Award”, the program has been enhanced and expanded and continues to be supported through the collaboration of education partners in Alberta. This important re-imagining of the award has been inspired by the ASBA Indigenous Advisory Circle whose leadership, advice and guidance has been invaluable in creating this exciting new awards program.

Award Sponsors

Sponsored by the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) in collaboration with the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS), Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA), Alberta Teachers’ Association (ATA) and funded this year through grant dollars from Alberta Education

Award Parameters

Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards will be presented annually to students selected by the Awards Committee. The Committee will consider First Nations, Métis or Inuit student nominees who attend a school in Alberta, either operated by an ASBA member school board or a First Nations school, who have been nominated by members of their education community based on their exemplary leadership, honour, courage and commitment to their own education path. Celebrated attitudes, actions and characteristics of nominees include the following:

- Perseverance in the pursuit of goals and dreams, in school and beyond
- Maintaining strength, self-care and a healthy attitude as they pursue their personal path to education and fulfillment
- Embracing their cultural identity and promoting the strength, beauty and value of their culture and community
- Modelling leadership through a cultural lens that inspires their peers to pursue their own dreams and goals
- Respecting and honouring the autonomy, empowerment and agency of others to self-determine
- Improvement in work ethic, attitude, attendance and interaction with others
- Honesty and honour demonstrated in the student’s daily encounters with fellow school community members
- Kindness towards others

Eligibility

Nominees will be First Nations, Métis or Inuit students enrolled in and regularly attending a school that is operated by an ASBA member school board or First Nation Education Authority.

Awards Categories

Student Awards:

- 3 regions (North: ASBA Zone 1, Central: ASBA Zones 2/3/4, South: ASBA Zones 5/6)
- 4 awards in each region (total of 12 awards)
 - K-3
 - Grade 4-6
 - Grade 7-9
 - Grade 10-12

Guidelines for Submissions and Selection

Students may be nominated by other students, teachers, principals, superintendents, education directors, trustees, school staff or a member of the education community.

Nominations will provide details related to why the student is being nominated and how he/she exemplifies the attitudes, characteristics and actions outlined in the “Award Parameters” section of this form.

Nomination packages must include:

- A completed nomination form (attached)
- A letter of nomination outlining why the nominator has chosen this student to be recognized
- One additional letter of support for the nomination

Selection of award recipients will be made by the Awards Committee which is comprised of the ASBA Indigenous Advisory Circle members and one member from each of the partner organizations.

Selections will be made and announced by April 30, 2018. Selected recipients of the *Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards* will be honoured at a special ceremony to be revealed at the time that the award recipients are announced.

Nomination submission and deadline

Nomination must be received by 4:30 p.m. on March 23, 2018.

Nomination packages may be submitted by email to Charlene Bearhead at cbearhead@asba.ab.ca or by regular mail to:

ASBA
c/o Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards
1200, 9925 – 109 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5K 2J8





2018 Nomination Form

Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards

Submission deadline is 4:30 p.m. March 23, 2018

Nominee's Full Name

School Name

School Location

Nominee's Address

City/Town

Postal Code

Phone Number

Alternate Phone Number

Email Address

Grade

The nominee self-identifies as:

First Nations

Métis

Inuit

Nominator's Full Name

Nominator's title/position/role in the education community

Nominator's Address

City/Town

Postal Code

Phone Number

Alternative Phone Number

Email Address

Submission Checklist

- Completed nomination form
- Letter of nomination (double-spaced, signed)
- Letter of support (double-spaced, signed)

Email completed packages to Charlene Bearhead at cbearhead@asba.ab.ca or submit by regular mail to:

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