

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 way.

Award Sponsors

This award is sponsored by the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) supported by the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Alberta Education, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS), Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) and Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA).

Award Parameters

Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards is 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

Awards Categories

- Three regions: North, Central and South
- Awards in each region (12 awards in total):
 - 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, Elders or a member of the education community.

Nominations will provide detailed examples related to why the student is being nominated and how they exemplify the attitudes, characteristics and actions outlined in the “Award Parameters” section of this form. Nominations will also provide detailed examples of how the student has demonstrated commitment to their culture and community. Some examples from previous recipients include: assisting in community functions; celebrations and ceremonies; volunteering in the community or school; chopping and hauling wood; traditional dancing; learning or speaking their traditional language; and, teaching others about their culture.

Nomination packages must include:

- A completed nomination form (attached).
- A detailed letter of nomination (maximum of three pages, please do not include photos).
- One additional letter of support specifically related to the student being nominated (maximum of three pages, please do not include photos).

Selection of award recipients will be made by the Awards Committee, comprised of the ASBA Indigenous Advisory Circle members and one member from each partner organization: the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS); Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA); and, the Alberta Teachers’ Association (ATA).

We remain committed to honouring and celebrating award recipients in the safest way possible. A special celebration is being planned to take place in Edmonton in May 2021, with the understanding that this may change to an online or virtual celebration, dependent on COVID-19 public health safety measures.

Nomination submission and deadline

Nominations must be received by 4:30 p.m. Monday, February 1, 2021. Nomination packages may be submitted by email to Layla Dumont at ldumont@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





2021 Nomination Form

Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards

Submission deadline is 4:30 p.m. Monday, February 1, 2021

NOMINEE'S FULL NAME

SCHOOL NAME

SCHOOL ADDRESS

NOMINEE'S ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

POSTAL CODE

PHONE NUMBER

ALTERNATE PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

GRADE

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO CONTACT THE NOMINEE AND THEIR FAMILY?

THE NOMINEE SELF-IDENTIFIES AS:

FIRST NATIONS

MÉTIS

INUIT

PLEASE SPECIFY THE NOMINEE'S NATION/BAND/COMMUNITY

PLEASE SPECIFY THE NOMINEE'S TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE FOR THEIR AWARD CERTIFICATE

NOMINATOR'S FULL NAME

NOMINATOR'S TITLE/POSITION/ROLE IN THE EDUCATION COMMUNITY

NOMINATOR'S SCHOOL OR ORGANIZATION

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

Submission Checklist

- Completed nomination form
- Letter of nomination (double-spaced, signed, max three pages, no photos)
- Letter of support (double-spaced, signed, max three page, no photos)

Email completed packages to Layla Dumont at ldumont@asba.ab.ca or submit by regular mail to:

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

