

2026 BAHAMAS PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT OF THE YEAR Official Application Form

Looking for the BEST & BRIGHTEST Primary School Students

The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation is pleased to announce that its annual nationwide search is currently being conducted for the best primary school students. This prestigious competition that was established in 1997 will recognize young, talented grade 6 students from throughout The Bahamas for their high scholastic and extra-curricular achievements in the 2026 Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program.

Important Information

Application forms will be considered incomplete and subject to rejection, if any sections of the application requirements are missing.

An independent Distinguished Panel of Judges will review application packages received and determine the overall winner and finalists. **THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES IS FINAL.**

Nominees will be judged on the following criteria: contribution to school life, academic achievement, extra-curricular achievement, community involvement and overall presentation of the portfolio submitted. **(Academic achievement alone does not guarantee placement in the Awards program.)**

Nominees will be competing for scholarships and prizes. All scholarships must be used for Bahamian secondary education purposes only.

The contest is opened to any 6th Grade Student regardless of colour, creed, nationality or religious affiliation from any accredited private, public or independent primary school in The Bahamas. **The school must be registered with the National Accreditation and Equivalency Council (NAECOB).**

EACH SCHOOL CAN NOMINATE ONLY ONE (1) STUDENT. STUDENT MUST BE NOMINATED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE SCHOOL.

The deadline for submission of completed application packages for the 2026 Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year will be Friday, February 6th, 2026 at 4:00pm EST. The Foundation will not be responsible for application packages which are late, lost, illegible, damaged, or incorrectly addressed. **All packages submitted will become the property of The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation and WILL NOT BE RETURNED.**

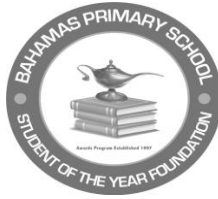
The 2026 Application Requirements

- (a) A completed application form
- (b) **A 500 word essay** on the topic: **If I Were Prime Minister for One Day: Three Changes I Would Make** *Students can share their vision for improving the country or opportunities for young people.*

The essay must be legibly handwritten in black or blue ink.

Essays must be the student's original work and must not infringe upon any material protected by copyright laws.

- (c) An essay which was submitted and graded as a part of the applicant's school requirement **must be** attached to the application package. **(5th or 6th grade only)**
- (d) Copies of official report cards **(covering 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th grades only) with minimum CGPA 3.00**
- (e) **Two (2) high quality headshot colour 4 x 6 photographs** (These photos are for the newspapers, website and souvenir awards booklet.) Photos will not be returned. **(Student attire: school uniform) Photos must be labelled with the nominee's name and school on the back of them.**
- (f) Newspaper clippings / copies of awards & certificates **(covering 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th grades only)**
- (g) Three (3) letters of recommendation:
 - (1) School Principal / Vice-Principal (The letter from the Principal / Vice-Principal officially nominates the student for this award. **Please note that any application missing this letter will automatically be disqualified;**
 - (2) Classroom teacher / civic or community leader / former teacher;
 - (3) Religious leader / extra-curricular coach (ie. Sports or Dance).
- (h) **Nominee must have documented proof of length of participation in each organization listed on the application form;**
- (i) The above items should be neatly attached to a portfolio or folder. **If your portfolio that is bonded, the original application form and essays must be enclosed.**
- (j) The portfolio / folder is limited to a maximum of 50 leaflet pages **(using both sides will be considered 1 page)** and **should not be larger than 12 x 12 and weight NO MORE than 10 lbs.** The nominee is requested to adhere to these requirements. **(The student portfolio can be withdrawn or points deducted for portfolio / folder not following the guidelines outlined.)**
- (k) **300 – 350 word statement** “As The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program marks 30 years of excellence, being chosen as the 2026 Student of the Year is both an honour and a responsibility. How would you use this platform to promote positive change within your school, church, or community?”
- (l) Assessment Fee of \$50.00



**2026 BAHAMAS PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT OF THE YEAR
Official Application Form**

Please legibly write or type all information requested. Application packages will be rated on appearance, verifiability of information, clarity, and evidence of achievements. **Application packages missing any required items or arriving after the February 6th, 2026 deadline would be disqualified.**

DATE: _____
(Office use only)

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Student Name: _____

Postal Address: _____ Island: _____

Home Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Father's Name: _____

Telephone Contact: _____ Cell _____ hm.

Email Address: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Telephone Contact: _____ Cell _____ hm.

Email Address: _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Primary School: _____ Grade: _____

Postal Address: _____ Island: _____

Grade Point Average: _____

Grade Six Teacher: _____

AWARDS & HONOURS

Awards, Certificates & Honours:

List all campus / sporting organizations (include office(s) held): **(Please provide proof of the length of participation in each organization listed)**

List all civic / community / religious organizations (include office(s) held): **(Please provide proof of the length of participation in each organization listed)**

**ESSAY MUST BE WRITTEN IN THE STUDENT'S HANDWRITING.
YOU MAY COPY THIS PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE**

[illegible]

**GUIDELINES – APPLICATION IS CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE
WITHOUT THE PARENT / GUARDIAN INITIALS BELOW**

The applicant's parent or guardian **must initial** each of the **Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Application Form Guidelines** listed below:

1. Nominees will be competing for scholarships and prizes. All scholarships must be used for **Bahamian secondary or high school educational purposes only**, which include tuition and examination fees, books, and educational equipment (limited to computers only). **Initials:** _____

2. The scholarship must be used **within two (2) years** from the date of the award. A final extension request of **one (1) year** may be considered. **Initials:** _____

3. All award packages submitted become the property of **The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation** and **will not be returned**. **Initials:** _____

4. The information in this package is accurate and represents the true efforts and achievements of the nominee. **Initials:** _____

5. Parents and nominees acknowledge that **each candidate** is equally qualified to be a nominee in the Awards Program and will be reviewed based on **individual merit**. **Initials:** _____

6. Parents and nominees accept that all packages will be reviewed by an **independent Distinguished Panel of Judges** to determine the overall winner and finalists. **The decision of the judges is final**. **Initials:** _____

7. By entering this Awards Program, parents and nominees agree to be bound by these rules and consent to the use of the nominee's name and likeness in any **public relations or promotional activities** of the Foundation. **Initials:** _____

8. Please note that this year, portfolios must adhere to the following guidelines: **No mechanical apparatus; No three-dimensional projects; Weight restriction: 10 lbs; No pop-ups or pull-outs; Maximum: 50 pages (using both sides of a sheet counts as one page)**.

Initials: _____

SIGNATURES

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal/Vice-Principal Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Please note that the above signatures are required for the form to be complete. The signatures verifies that they are aware of the requirements for the award.)

**2026 – BAHAMAS PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT OF THE YEAR
APPLICATION CHECKLIST – PLEASE ENSURE EACH BOX IS TICKED**

- A A completed application form: ☐
- B **A 500 Word Essay: "If I Were Prime Minister for One Day: Three Changes I Would Make** *Students can share their vision for improving the country or opportunities for young people.* ☐

 This essay should reflect the student's **personal ideas and writing**, and must be **original work**, written **clearly and legibly in blue or black ink**.
- C An Essay written and graded as a part of a classroom requirement for the nominee from Grade 5 or Grade 6: ☐
- D Copies of official transcripts for Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6; **with a minimum CGPA 3.00** ☐
- E Two (2) high quality headshot photographs. School uniform: ☐
 Please ensure that the nominee's name and school is on the photo.
- F Three (3) letters of reference written on behalf of the nominee (**one must be that of the school's Principal or Vice Principal**): ☐
- G Documented proof of length of participation in each organization listed on the application form: **(This could be in the form of letters or membership certificate / enrollment certificate.)** ☐
- H Newspaper or magazine clippings or Certificates of Achievements: ☐
- I Parent / Guardian Initials on page 6: ☐
- J Signature of the Nominee, Parent and Principal or Vice-Principal on page 6: ☐
- K Application package in a folder or portfolio no larger than 12 x 12: ☐
 (Points will be deducted for portfolio / folder that are larger than 12 x 12 – Please ensure that you have adhered to the 2026 Portfolio Guidelines listed on the last page of the application.
- L **300 – 350 Word Statement** **"As The Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program marks 30 years of excellence, being chosen as the 2026 Student of the Year is both an honour and a responsibility. How would you use this platform to promote positive change within your school, church, or community?"** ☐

 This statement should reflect the student's **personal ideas and writing**, and must be **original work**, written **clearly and legibly in blue or black ink**.
- M Assessment Fee of \$50.00 ☐

 NOTE: Family Island Nominees MUST include 2026 Travel Form with Application Form

ALL APPLICATION PACKAGES MUST BE HAND DELIVERED OR SENT VIA COURIER TO ANY OF THE ADDRESSES BELOW ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6th, 2026 – 4:00pm, EST

Hand Delivery or Courier:

Dr. Ricardo P. Deveaux
President & CEO
Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation
c/o P. O. Box N-8059
Nassau, Bahamas
242-477-7869 - cell



Dr. Cindy Dorsett
Senior Vice-President of Operations
Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation
c/o Poinciana Medical Center
Poinciana Drive next to Wilmac Pharmacy
242-322-8206

Mr. Vaughn L. Culmer
Director Emeritus
Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Foundation
c/o Vaughn L. Culmer & Assoc.
#7 Rosetta Street
242-356-0159

NOTE: GUIDELINES FOR THE 2026 PORTFOLIOS

Please be advised that for the **2026 Awards Program**, all portfolios must adhere to the following guidelines:

- **No mechanical apparatus**
- **No three-dimensional projects**
- **Weight restriction:** Maximum of **10 lbs**
- **No pop-ups or pull-outs** (There should be no envelopes or inserts requiring judges to open or remove documents within the main portfolio)

Schools submitting packages from **Grand Bahama and the Family Islands** are encouraged to allow sufficient time for delivery to ensure arrival **before the submission deadline**.

Parents are also reminded to **keep a personal copy** of their child's essays for their records.