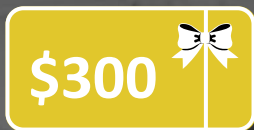
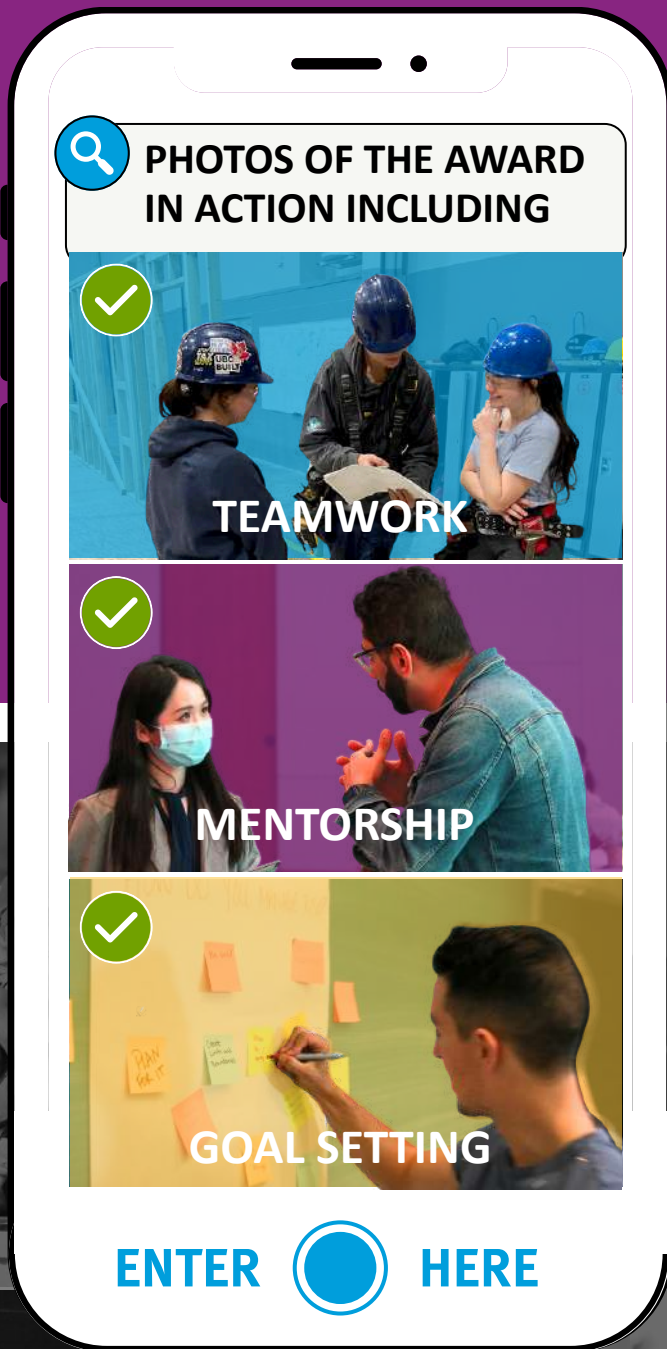


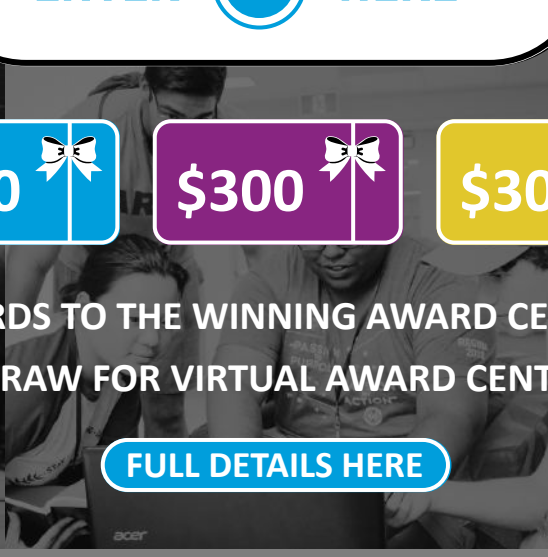
AWARD IN ACTION PHOTO CONTEST

JULY 16 - OCT 7, 2025



GIFT CARDS TO THE WINNING AWARD CENTRES
+ \$100 GIFT CARD DRAW FOR VIRTUAL AWARD CENTRE PARTICIPANTS

[FULL DETAILS HERE](#)



Leader Toolkit for the Award in Action

Photo Contest

Overview & Key Dates

Award Leaders, adult volunteers, or staff delivering the Award with an active agreement with Award Canada. Click [here](#) for full contest rules.

- Launch: June 18, 2025
- Deadline: October 7, 2025
- Public Voting: October 20–26, 2025 (Award Awareness Week)
- Winners Announced: November 4–8, 2025

[Submit Here](#)

Quick Links:

[Why Participate](#)
[How to Support Participants](#)
[Photo Themes & Tips](#)
[Judging Criteria](#)
[Submission Details](#)
[Recognition & Prizes](#)
[Privacy & Consent](#)
[Eligibility Checklist](#)
[General FAQ](#)

Why Participate

This contest is more than just taking pictures. It's about:

- Celebrating growth and everyday moments of achievement.
- Sharing your story as an Award Centre and helping others see the impact of the Award.
- Building community by connecting participants across Canada.
- Amplifying your work by featuring finalist photos during our national Award Awareness Week!

How to Support Participants

- Promote the contest within your Centre (use this [Participant Photo Contest Guide](#))
- Encourage participants to capture and share meaningful moments
- Help review photos for appropriateness and consent
- Submit entries on behalf of your Award Centre

Photo Themes & Tips

Each entry should align with one theme:

- Teamwork in Action e.g group solving a problem, participants preparing for a project or activity, collaborative volunteer work
- Mentorship in Action e.g. teacher or coach checking-in, peer-to-peer support, a planning discussion
- Goal Setting & Reflection in Action e.g. a participant journaling or sharing a goal, youth tracking their progress, a quiet moment after an activity

Quick Tips for Great Photos:

- Capture action: Choose moments where something is happening e.g. learning, collaborating, problem-solving.
- Use natural light: Whenever possible, take photos outside or near windows.
- Think about framing: Focus on the subject and eliminate distractions.
- Consider composition: Use the rule of thirds to highlight your subject and create a focal point.
- Tell a story: Choose a theme and capture a moment that shows emotion, action, or connection.

Judging Criteria

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Connection to Theme	30%
Visual Impact & Storytelling	30%
Composition & Technical Quality	20%
Public Vote (via social media)	20%

A diverse range of Award Centres will be prioritized in final selection.

Submission Details

- Deadline: October 7, 2025
- Submit online: <https://form.jotform.com/251486217958267>
 - You may submit up to 5 photos per form (submit another form if needed).
- Consent: Must be obtained for all recognizable individuals (including parent/guardian consent for minors).
- Format: JPG or PNG, original and unedited, 1–25MB

Recognition & Prizes

- Finalists will be featured on our social media and website during Award Awareness Week.
- Winners in each category will receive a \$300 CAD gift card of their choice (subject to availability) for their Award Centre (one per category).
- Virtual Award Centre participants will also be entered into a random draw for a \$100 prize.

Privacy & Consent

Before submitting, you must have consent from anyone recognizable in the photo or blur faces if consent isn't available. This includes youth and adults.

Consent Forms: [Download here](#)

Award Leaders can keep consent forms on file, they do not need to be submitted unless requested.

Privacy & Consent FAQ

Will youth names appear with the photos?

No. To protect privacy, we only publish the Award Centre's name and, if requested, the photographer's credit. Personal identifiers like youth names or other details will not appear.

Will all submitted photos be used publicly?

Yes, potentially. All eligible submissions may be used by Award Canada in future online or print materials for promotion, reporting, or storytelling. However, we will never include personal details, preserving your privacy in line with our [Privacy Policy](#).

How do we ensure proper consent for youth in photos?

Anyone clearly recognizable must have given permission:

- Under 18: A parent/guardian must sign consent.
- Adults: Verbal or written consent is required. Leaders must confirm consent is on file before submission. Consent forms are available here.

Do parents need to sign again if a photo wins?

No. Once a photo is submitted with proper consent, no additional authorization is required later, even if it becomes a finalist or winner.

What privacy safeguards are in place?

We take privacy seriously:

- No names, ages, or personal info will appear with photos.
- No identifiable locations or logos (e.g., school logos) unless they're part of a community shot.
- Photos that include private details must be blurred or cropped before use.

How does this align with Award Canada's Privacy Policy?

Our practices comply fully with our [Privacy Policy](#), ensuring:

- Data used only for contest purposes (contest admin, promotion, reporting)
- No sharing or selling of personal data
- Secure storage and limited access
- Transparency in how entries and consent are managed

Find full contest details [here](#) and contact support@dukeofed.org if you have any other questions.

Leader Eligibility Checklist: Is This Photo Ready to Submit?

Use this guide to quickly determine if a participant's photo is contest-ready.

Photo is eligible if:

- Submitted by an Award Leader or VAC staff member (not directly by the youth).
- It clearly fits one theme:
 - Teamwork in Action
 - Mentorship in Action
 - Goal Setting & Reflection in Action
- Photo is original, you have rights to share it and it is not a past contest winner.
- Photo is unedited (no filters, graphics, borders, or heavy tonal edits).
- Any recognizable individuals have given consent, including parent/guardian if under 18.
- Is in .jpg or .png format, and between 1–25 MB.
- Has a clear, short description explaining how it connects to the theme.
- Does not contain inappropriate, personal, unsafe, or branded content.

General FAQ: SUBMISSIONS:

Who can submit?

Only adult Award Leaders/coordinators from licensed Award Centres/Operating partners with Award Canada. Participants must go through you to submit their photos.

Can I submit a photo taken in the past?

Yes, past photos are welcome! You can submit a past photo if it's original work that you have the rights to share, and it hasn't been officially published (e.g. in a magazine, publication, or professional campaign) or won another contest. Make sure it also meets all consent and eligibility requirements.

Can I submit more than one photo?

There is no limit on the amount of photos each Award Centre can submit. Each photo must be unique and fit a single category. You can submit up to 5 photos per form, if you have more, feel free to complete an additional form.

What if a youth wants to participate but doesn't have a photo yet?

Encourage them to capture a meaningful moment during an Award activity in the coming weeks.

Can we stage the photo?

Yes, staged photos are allowed, but candid, in-the-moment shots are preferred. We're looking for images that feel authentic and show the Award in action, even if the moment is intentionally captured.

General FAQ: PRIZES

Can my Award Centre win more than one prize?

Yes, it's possible for a single centre to win in more than one category. However, the judging panel will prioritize showcasing a diverse range of Award Centres from across Canada.

What is the prize, and how does it work?

Each winning Centre receives a \$300 gift card, which can be chosen by the Award Coordinator (subject to availability from major retailers). The card can be used however your Award Centre sees fit for example you can support programming, reward/celebrate participants, or cover Award-related costs.

General FAQ: PHOTO ELIGIBILITY

Do I have to upload consent forms?

No, just confirm you have them on file. Be prepared to provide them if requested.

What happens if my photo doesn't qualify?

If your photo doesn't meet the contest requirements (e.g., missing consent, inappropriate content, wrong format), we'll send you an email to let you know. You're welcome to submit another eligible entry.

Can edited photos be submitted?

No, please don't apply filters, graphics, or edits. Blurring faces (if consent isn't available) is the only exception.

Questions?

Reach out to support@dukeofed.org. We're happy to support you.

We're so excited to see the Award in action across Canada, thank you for helping us celebrate your participants' journeys!

How to Participate Guide:

1 Snap a Pic

Capture a real Award moment that fits one of these themes:



Teamwork in Action e.g. group volunteering, cooking together, planning a route



Mentorship in Action e.g. peer check-ins, a coach offering guidance



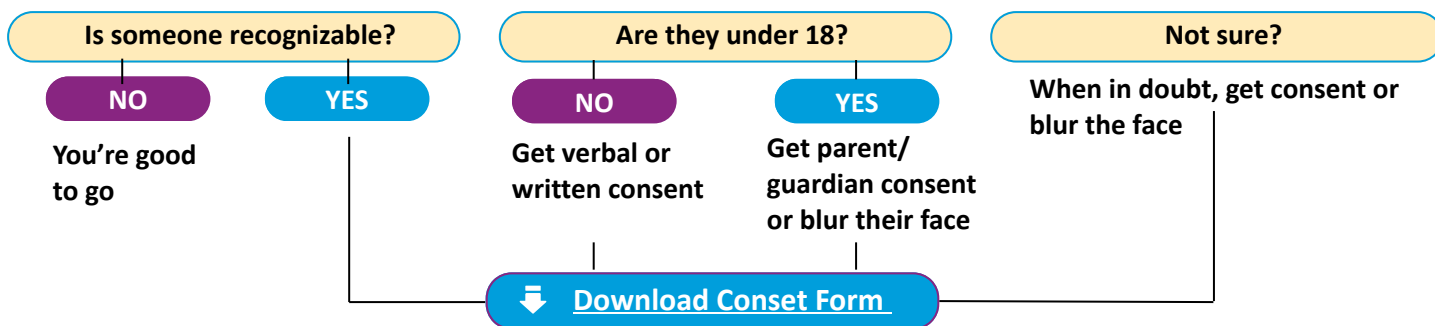
Goal Setting & Reflection e.g. journaling, tracking progress, quiet thinking after an activity

Quick Tips for Great Photos

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- Think about framing: Focus on the subject and eliminate distractions.
- Consider composition: Use the [rule of thirds](#) to highlight your subject and create a focal point.
- Tell a story: Choose a theme and capture a moment that shows emotion, action, or connection.

2 Get Permission

Make sure anyone who's clearly visible in your photo has given the OK to be included. Not sure? Use the consent checklist below.



3 Send It In

Ask your Award Leader to submit it for you!

Don't Forget!

- Your Award Leader must submit the photo for you
- Include a signed consent form if others are recognizable
- No filters, logos, personal info or inappropriate content
- See official [Photo Contest Rules](#) for full details

Need Help?

Contact your Award Leader or reach out to support@dukeofed.org

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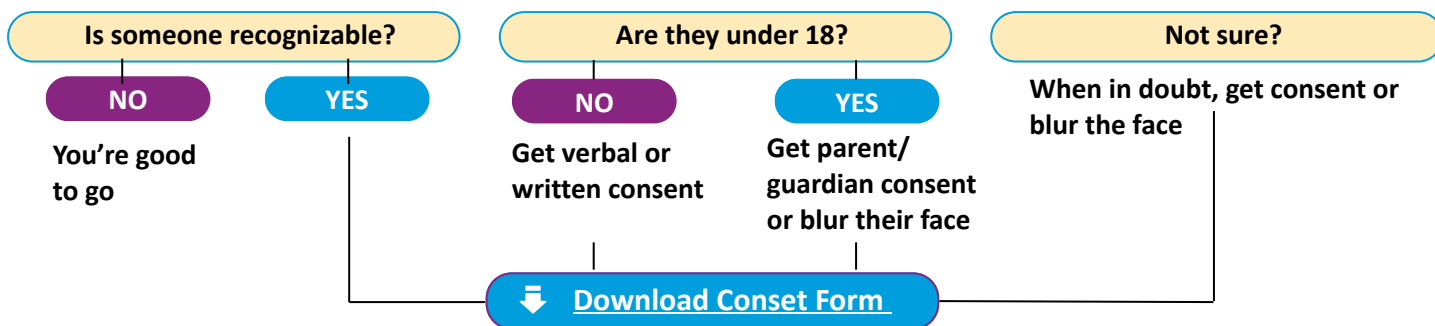
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