

# Student Awards



Contest End Date: February 27, 2026

## OFFICIAL RULES: 2026 HMH 180 STUDENT AWARDS CONTEST; NO PURCHASE NECESSARY

- 1) Entries for the HMH Education Company (HMH®) 180 Student Awards Contest will be collected in one phase and judged based on nomination applications.

All submissions must be a nomination by a teacher, principal, or another relevant school/technology administrator, referred to as the 'Nominator.' Submissions will be collectively referred to as 'Entries.' Following review, a select group of top Nominees across all Read 180® Stages (A, B, and C) and Math 180® programs will be identified as finalists or winners. Nominators of selected Entries will be notified electronically. **To confirm eligibility, nominators must submit a completed guardian release form verifying that the Nominee has permission to receive recognition and/or any associated prizes within ten (10) business days of notification. If the required documentation is not received within this timeframe, the Nominee may be disqualified and an alternate selected at HMH's discretion.**

- 2) Contest Period. The Contest begins on February 2, 2026, at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time ("EST") and ends on February 27, 2026, at 11:59 pm EST (the "contest period"). The Contest Period is outlined in the chart below. Entries must meet the respective deadlines to qualify. We reserve the right to extend deadlines and other contest dates at our discretion.

Start Date ( 12:01 a.m. EST )	End Date ( 11:59 pm EST )	Approximate Notification Date
February 2, 2026	February 27, 2026	May 29, 2026

- 3) Eligibility. The Contest is open to students in Grades 3 through 12 in the United States who are Nominees using the HMH Ed™ platform, showing implementation growth while using the Read 180 and Math 180 dedicated programs throughout the United States and U.S. Virgin Islands. One or more nominations may be submitted per teacher, principal, or other school/technology administrator Nominator, as applicable. Each student may only be nominated for one program, either Read 180 or Math 180. They may not be nominated for multiple programs.

Employees and members of the same household of HMH Education Company, its parent, subsidiaries, brokers, distributors, dealers, retailers, affiliates, and its advertising, promotion, and production agencies, are not eligible to enter. The contest is void where prohibited by law.

- 4) Submission Requirements. The Nomination Form must be submitted digitally through [hmhco.com/180Awards](http://hmhco.com/180Awards) and include all required fields. Optional text boxes are available for nominators who wish to share additional details about the Nominee's outstanding dedication. This may include examples of sustained academic progress, consistent effort to improve achievement, or notable personal or classroom accomplishments related to literacy or math success.
- 5) Judging Process. All nominations will be evaluated through a blind judging process to ensure fairness and consistency. Judges will not have access to identifying information about the school, district, or region of the Nominee. The total number of winners may vary each year based on the volume and quality of submissions, and at HMH's discretion.

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- 6) Scoring of Entries. Judges will evaluate each Nomination Submission and assign a numerical score based on the quality of the nomination and the Nominee's demonstrated commitment to academic progress and achievement. Each Entry may receive a maximum of 25 points, with up to 5 points in each of the following categories (scored in quarters of a point):

0: The nomination doesn't mention this category. 1: Minimal evidence. 2: Some evidence. 3: Adequate demonstration. 4: Strong evidence. 5: Outstanding demonstration. Top-scoring nominations will be the winners.

- **Academic Achievement:** Evidence of the student's sustained academic progress, efforts to improve performance, and dedication to achieving their goals.
- **Effort and Engagement:** Assessment of the student's persistence, participation, and consistent application of skills, including usage of the Read 180 or Math 180 program (e.g., regular practice or engagement).
- **Personal Development:** Demonstrated growth in skills, initiative, or problem-solving that contributes to the student's overall learning experience.
- **Application of Learning:** How effectively the student applies program concepts in practice, including frequency and quality of program usage.
- **Alignment with 180 Awards Values and Goals:** The extent to which the student's accomplishments and the nomination submission reflect the values and objectives of the 180 Awards program.

7) Prizes.

- a. HMH will award one (1) prize for each Read 180 Stage [A, B, or C] and one (1) for Math 180 to each winner. Student recipients will receive one (1) clear tote bag and one (1) framed certificate (valued at \$50 or less) each. Prizes will be sent by mail to the school the student attends. Additionally, each nomination will receive an electronic certificate designed to support the educator in promoting academic achievement and organizing celebratory activities within their classroom.
- b. Prizes are non-transferable and non-assignable, and no cash alternative will be offered. Taxes on prizes, if any, are the responsibility of individual winners. Winners shall submit correct information to HMH for tax purposes, including, without limitation, name, address, and Social Security Number or Tax Identification Number. Prizes are subject to change at our discretion.

8) Nomination Form(s).

Nomination forms must be submitted online at [www.hmhco.com/180awards](http://www.hmhco.com/180awards). All submissions must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. EST on February 27, 2026. Winners will be notified by e-mail after May 29, 2026, date subject to change at HMH's discretion. The names of the 2026 HMH 180 Awards winners will be available in June of 2026 (via [www.hmhco.com/180awards](http://www.hmhco.com/180awards)). No names shall be listed online without the signed Guardian Approval Release Form.

- 9) HMH is not responsible for (i) lost, late, misdirected, damaged, or illegible Entries; or (ii) error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operations or transmission, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to or alterations of Entry materials, or for technical, network, telephone equipment, electronic, computer, hardware or software malfunctions of any kind, or inaccurate transmission of or failure to receive Entry information by HMH on account of technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet or at any website or any combination thereof; or (iii) any injury or damage to entrant's or any other person's computer related to or resulting from participating in the Contest.

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10) Ownership.

- a. All Entries, including supporting materials such as photos, and any copyrights therein, become the sole property of HMH and will not be returned. Submission of an Entry constitutes each Nominator's consent (including that of any videographer(s) and production staff) to irrevocably assign and transfer to HMH any and all rights, title, and interest in and to the Entry, including, without limitation, all copyrights.
- b. HMH shall have the irrevocable, worldwide right in perpetuity to reproduce, distribute, exhibit, publish, or otherwise use the Entry in any and all media. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of nomination content, quotes, or images for marketing and storytelling purposes on HMH's websites, social media channels, and promotional materials, without the need for additional permissions or approvals from the Nominator or their school or district.
- c. HMH affirms that any such use will reflect the Entry, Nominator, and their district in a positive and respectful manner. No assessment scores will be publicly shared. Aggregate or anonymized data (such as percentages or averages) may be referenced to highlight success stories, but specific student data points will never be disclosed. Submission of an Entry also grants HMH permission and rights in perpetuity to use the name, image, likeness, voice, and comments of anyone appearing in the Entry in advertising or promotional content.
- d. HMH is not responsible for any unauthorized third-party use of any Entry. Except where prohibited by law, Entry submission grants HMH the right in perpetuity to edit, adjust, modify, abridge, condense, and excerpt such Entry and/or comments in any way, in any and all media, without limitation and without compensation to the Nominator.

11) Media. By submitting a nomination and application, all Nominees and Nominators agree to abide by these terms and conditions, warrant and represent that all information submitted is truthful and accurate, and grant to HMH the right to edit, publish, promote, and otherwise use both the Nominee's and Nominator's names, information and materials provided, and likeness for purposes of advertising and/or promotion without further notice or compensation. **Award winners will be required to sign and return an affidavit of eligibility, confirmation of acceptance of these terms and conditions, and a liability/publicity release and/or any other release HMH deems necessary within ten (10) business days of notification attempt, or an alternate award winner may be selected.** The winner may also be required to attend and participate in media and/or public relations events (the "Media Events") designated by HMH and/or requested by various media outlets. Upon HMH's request, and subject to the winner's availability, each winner agrees to participate in such Media Events without any further compensation. HMH shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to choose the winners it wishes to participate in such Media Events. By accepting the prize, all winners, whether or not chosen to participate in such Media Events, agree to release HMH Education Company, and its affiliates, subsidiaries, distributors, and agencies, and hold each of them harmless, from any claims relating to their selection, non-selection, participation or non-participation in any Media Events.

12) Taxes on prizes, if any, are the sole responsibility of winners and other recipients of prizes in conjunction with the Contest. Subject to all applicable laws.

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### **Requirements Checklist**

☐ Signed Release Forms\* will be required, signed by:

- The Nominee's Guardian, confirming the Nominee has the approval to accept the Prizes should they be awarded
- The Nominee
- Anyone who appears (name, image, likeness, voice, or provides additional comments)

\* Nominators of selected Entries must submit the signed release forms within ten (10) business days of notification, or the Nominee may be disqualified and an alternate selected at HMH's discretion.

☐ Additional Submission Requirements

- All Entries must be the original work of the Nominee, may not have been previously published, may not have won previous awards, and must not infringe upon the copyrights, trademarks, rights of privacy, publicity, or other intellectual property or other rights of any person or entity;
- May not defame, misrepresent, or contain disparaging remarks about other people or companies;
- May not contain trademarks, logos, or trade dress (such as distinctive packaging or building exteriors/interiors) owned by others, advertise or promote any brand or product of any kind, without permission; the only permissible logos to include are those of Read 180 and Math 180;
- May not contain copyrighted materials owned by others (including music, photographs, sculptures, paintings, and other works of art or images published on or in websites, television, movies, or other media);
- May not contain materials embodying the names, likenesses, photographs, or other indicia identifying any person, living or dead, without written consent being submitted to HMH;
- Must communicate positive images and messaging;
- No submissions by those under 18 without a signed student participant release signed by a parent/guardian will be accepted.