

2026 ILLUMINATION AWARDS ENTRY FORM

TITLE INFORMATION

Title

Author

Publisher Name (as you'd like it to appear in results listing and publicity)

Category(s) Entered

(You may list multiple categories, but don't forget to pay the fee and send one book for each category)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUBMIT ONE COPY OF BOOK FOR EACH CATEGORY ENTERED! (This is a postmark deadline.)

EARLY-BIRD DEADLINE 1: JULY 15, 2025 _____ @ \$ 79 = _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

EARLY-BIRD DEADLINE 2: SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 _____ @ \$ 89 = _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

FINAL DEADLINE: JANUARY 8, 2026 _____ @ \$ 99 = _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Person

Email Address (for judging updates)

Company / Publisher (for mailing purposes)

Mailing Address (for mailing packets if awarded a medal)

City, State, Postal Code, Country

Telephone

PAYMENT METHOD

Check or Money Order in U.S. funds

*To enter online and pay by credit card, visit:
www.illuminationawards.com*

HOW TO SEND

Ship books with entry fee(s) and entry form(s) to:

Illumination Awards
1129 Woodmere Ave, Suite B
Traverse City, MI 49686

2026 ILLUMINATION AWARDS GUIDELINES

WHO MAY ENTER

Authors, illustrators, publishers, and self-publishers of Christian books written in English may enter.

ELIGIBILITY

Books published with a copyright date between **2024-2026** are eligible. Any book published since 2000 is eligible for Enduring Light categories.

While the contest is for published books, an ISBN is not required. Galley copies may be submitted if finished copies are not yet available. eBooks are eligible in our Digital Media category and can also be entered in regular subject categories, where they will be judged alongside print books.

HOW TO ENTER

There are two ways to enter the awards:

1. **Online:** Enter and pay by credit card at illuminationawards.com/enter.
2. **By Mail:** Print and fill out the entry form, then send it with your payment by check.

SUBMISSION & FEES

You may submit a title in multiple categories, but an entry fee is required for each category entered. Please send one copy of the title for each category. Mail submissions to:

Illumination Awards

Jenkins Group
1129 Woodmere Ave - Suite B
Traverse City, MI 49686

Entry Deadlines:

- **Early-Bird Deadline 1: July 15, 2025 - \$79 per entry**
- **Early-Bird Deadline 2: September 16, 2025 - \$89 per entry**
- **Final Deadline: January 8, 2026 - \$99 per entry**

Once you submit your entry, we'll confirm it via email and keep you updated with judging progress and results announcements. So, be sure to provide a valid email address and add info@illuminationawards.com to your contacts.



2026 ILLUMINATION AWARDS GUIDELINES

WHAT TO SEND

Include your online registration receipt or completed entry form and check (in U.S. funds) with your books, unless they are shipped directly from a distributor.

Submission Requirements:

- Submit **one** copy of the title per category entered
- **eBook** files (PDF only please) can be uploaded after entry or sent as a gift from your distributor to info@illuminationawards.com with your order number in the subject line.
- **Audiobooks** must be entered as a gift from your platform of choice (please do not send files). Entries and gifts can be sent to info@illuminationawards.com with your order number in the subject line.

All books submitted become the property of Jenkins Group and will eventually be donated to local libraries or charities. eBook files will be deleted after judging and announcement of results. Judges will only see the book itself, so please don't send any press kits, reviews, bookmarks, etc.

DEADLINE

All entries must be submitted online or postmarked by the final entry deadline of **January 8, 2026**. A ten-day grace period allows books to arrive at our office by **January 22, 2026**, which is the start of judging.

JUDGING PROCESS

Judging will be based on content, design, and production quality, with emphasis on innovation and creative ways of expressing a Christian worldview. Our judging panel includes experts from the fields of education, clergy, bookselling, etc. Three to five medalists per category will be announced around **February 19, 2026**.

AWARDS & PRESENTATION

Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded in each category. Each winning book receives a medal, a personalized certificate, and 20 sample seals. Additional award seals are available for medalists in rolls of 250 and 1,000. High-resolution versions of the medalist artwork are also available for purchase for book covers and promotional materials.

AWARD CEREMONY

All medalists are invited to join the awards ceremony that will be held virtually on **March 12, 2026**.



2026 ILLUMINATION AWARDS CATEGORIES

GENERAL CATEGORIES

1. Bible Study
2. Christian Living
3. Devotional
4. Theology
5. Ministry/Mission
6. Catholic
7. Family/Parenting
8. Education
9. Spirituality
10. Illness/Death/Dying
11. Self-Help
12. Biography/Memoir- Inspiration
13. Biography/Memoir- Personal Struggle
14. Holiday
15. Children's Picture Book
16. Juvenile/Young Adult Fiction
17. General Fiction
18. Romance Fiction
19. Mystery/Thriller
20. Keepsake/Gift/Specialty Bible
21. Poetry
22. Digital Media (eBook, Audiobook)

ENDURING LIGHT CATEGORIES

- L1. Christian Thought
- L2. Devotional
- L3. Inspirational
- L4. Christian Fiction
- L5. Christian Children's Book

