

# 2026 ILLUMINATION AWARDS ENTRY FORM

## TITLE INFORMATION

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Title

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Author

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

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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 17, 2025** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 89 = \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL DEADLINE: DECEMBER 11, 2025** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 99 = \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Contact Person

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Email Address (for judging updates)

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Company / Publisher (for mailing purposes)

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Mailing Address (for mailing packets if awarded a medal)

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City, State, Postal Code, Country

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Telephone

## PAYMENT METHOD

- Check or Money Order in U.S. funds payable to Jenkins Group

*To enter online and pay by credit card, visit:  
[www.illuminationawards.com](http://www.illuminationawards.com)*

## HOW TO SEND

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

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

# 2026 ILLUMINATION AWARDS GUIDELINES

## WHO MAY ENTER

Authors, illustrators, publishers, and self-publishers around the world who write and publish 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.

The use of AI is discouraged and may factor into the judges' final decision.

## HOW TO ENTER

There are two ways to enter the awards:

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

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](mailto:info@illuminationawards.com) to your contacts.

## FEES & DEADLINES

You may submit a title in multiple categories, but an entry fee is required for each category entered.

### Entry Deadlines:

- **Early-Bird Deadline 1: July 16, 2025 - \$79 per entry**
- **Early-Bird Deadline 2: September 17, 2025 - \$89 per entry**
- **Final Deadline: December 11, 2025 - \$99 per entry**

All entries must be submitted online or postmarked by the final entry deadline of **December 11, 2025**. There is a ten-day grace period for books to arrive after the entry deadline, and judging begins on **January 8, 2026**.



# 2026 ILLUMINATION AWARDS GUIDELINES

## WHAT TO SEND

Submission requirements vary by category entered.

- **General Categories:** Choose the submission method that best showcases your work:
  - **Option 1** - Mail a Physical Copy: Send one copy of your title per category entered to the shipping address below. Be sure to print this page and include it with your book(s). If you are shipping your book(s) directly from a distributor, the printed page is not required. We will match your book to your entry in our system. Judges will only see the book itself, so please don't send any press kits, reviews, bookmarks, etc.
  - **Option 2** - Upload files (PDF only) after entry
- **eBook Categories:** Upload files (PDF only) after entry (physical will not be accepted).
- **Audiobook Categories:** Enter a gift code from your platform of choice after entry (audio files will not be accepted).
- **International Submissions:** We strongly recommend submitting an eBook over mailing a physical book to help avoid shipping delays and additional fees. All physical international shipments must be sent DDP (Delivered Duty Paid). Any package sent with duties or taxes due on delivery will be refused or returned to the sender.

### Mail submissions to:

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

If you have an issue with your upload, please email your PDF to [digital@illuminationawards.com](mailto:digital@illuminationawards.com) with your order number in the subject line.

All books submitted become the property of Jenkins Group and will be donated after each award cycle. eBook files will be deleted after judging and the announcement of results.

## JUDGING PROCESS & ANNOUNCEMENT

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 (gold, silver, and bronze) will be announced via email on **February 5, 2026** by 4 PM ET. Official results will go live on our website on **February 11, 2026** at 2 PM ET.

## MEDALIST PACKETS

Each medalist receives a medal, a personalized certificate, and 20 seals to get started. Additional award seals are available in rolls of 250 and 1,000. High-resolution versions of the seal artwork are also available for purchase for book covers and promotional materials.

## AWARDS 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

