

2026 Skills Canada Alberta – Qualifying Competition

Contest Description

QUALIFIER EVENT: Photography	LEVEL: Secondary
PROJECT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MARCH 6, 2026, BY 4:00PM Please note, late submissions sent after the date and time specified above will not be accepted.	PROJECT SUBMISSION LINK: HTTPS://SKILLSALBERTA.JOTFORM.COM/223474703904254
EVENT FORMAT: Once registered online, competitors will follow the contest description and submit their projects via the link to the above by the listed deadline. Questions regarding the contest description can be sent to MikeS@skillsalberta.com	QUALIFYING COMPETITION: In order to participate at the Provincial Skills Canada Competition a competitor must qualify through the Qualifying competition.
Please visit the following link for more information regarding “Qualifying Events”: https://skillsalberta.com/regions/province-wide/	

CONTEST INTRODUCTION

Competition Photography – Competitors will submit 1 photograph file online in digital format to the upload link that will be provided after registration commences. The submitted single photograph will have three panels/elements that contain distinct images and are thematically related. The theme of the competition is “The Bleu Hour”. The images may or may not contain people. **Images must be appropriate for display in a school setting.** The overall size of the photograph must be an 8-inch X 10-inch print (2400 pixel by 3000 pixel) with a resolution of 300 dpi; however, the three panels/elements and their orientation within the layout are left to competitor interpretation. The maximum file size that will be accepted is **13 MB in JPEG (jpg)** format. Please note, all digital files will be printed by Skills Canada Alberta once submitted digitally by the competitor and supplied to the judges for judging purposes.

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO BE TESTED

- Composition – eg: visual elements, style, balance and harmony, cropping
- Technical – eg: focus, exposure, contrast, use of light
- Impact – eg: overall impression of the photograph

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- 1 photograph with three panels/elements
- Each panel/element will be thematically related to the other two: theme of “The Bleu Hour”
- You are allowed to title the photograph (no descriptions, title only)
- If titled, the title must be located in the bottom right of the photograph and must not distract from the photography
- Competitors can shoot in any format they choose but must submit in a jpeg. The final photograph must be 3000 pixels on the long edge, and 300 dpi.

Students must submit their photograph by **March 6, 2026, by 4:00pm** via this link:

<https://skillsalberta.jotform.com/223474703904254>

Competition Specific Rules

The following Competition Specific rules along with SCA's overall Policies and Procedures provide specific details in competition areas that may vary from one another. Any additional contest rules will be reviewed during the Competitor Orientation.

Topic/Task	Contest Specific Rule
Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)	Competitors cannot use AI to develop/generate any of the submitted work for any aspects of the competition.

JUDGING CRITERIA

- Impact
- Effective Composition
- Techniques (E.G. Lighting, Posing) and quality
- Professional Presentation (E.G. Layout Flow, Retouching)

** The Judging and Evaluation Criteria for Photography is based upon the Professional Photographers of Canada (PPOC) criteria.

RELATED CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY STUDIES COURSES

Descriptions of all modules are located at the following website:

https://education.alberta.ca/media/160263/com_sum.pdf

COM1005: Visual Composition

COM1205: Photography – Introduction

COM1215: Photography – Exposure

COM1275: Photography – Digital Processing 1

COM2205: Photography – Composition

COM2215: Photography – Communication

COM2235: Photography – Lenses

COM3215: Photography – Photojournalism

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We recognize that participants will be competing individually in their own unique environments and therefore not all competition conditions can be monitored. However, we expect all competitors to compete fairly, respecting and abiding by the established rules in the true spirit of Skills Canada Alberta.

Skills Canada Alberta Regional and Provincial Rules and Regulations

[Regional and Provincial Rules and Regulations](#)

Skillz & Thrillz Podcast

Check out our podcast – Skillz & Thrillz: Alberta’s Trade & Tech Youth Podcast. Our talented alumni share tips and tricks on how to succeed in competitions and your career! Their insights can help you prepare for your Skills journey, and who knows, you might just be a future guest! <https://skillsalberta.com/student-resources/skillz-thrillz-albertas-trade-tech-youth-podcast/>

Competitor Registration

Registration for Qualifying events will open online on January 7, 2026 @ 3:30 PM. Please refer to this competitions event page for additional registration and competition information: <https://skillsalberta.com/competition/>

Competitor Selection

Once all submissions from competitors have been received, judges will evaluate each submission and determine the top competitors who will be advancing onto the provincial competition. Please note: The judge’s decisions are final and binding and cannot be contested through a formal grievance process.

Teachers will be notified if their competitors have earned a position at the Provincial Skills Canada Competition by March 20, 2026.

Questions?

Please contact Mike Sury MikeS@SkillsAlberta.com

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For a viewing of previous year’s work, please visit the following link:

Previous Project Theme: Game

<https://flickr.com/photos/153779643@N02/albums/72157677373947077>

Questions?

Please contact Mike Sury MikeS@SkillsAlberta.com if you have any questions regarding the Contest Description.

*Please note the project requirements may differ each year, the samples provided in the above link reflect the specific requirements of that particular year.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chris Thombs	One Step Beyond Photography & Video
Jamie Burns	W.P. Wagner High School
Lance Burns	Ross Sheppard High School