



The RBC® Black History Month Student Essay Competition

2018 SUMMARY

Every year Canadians are invited to participate in Black History Month festivities and events that honour the legacy of black Canadians, past and present.

RBC Royal Bank® takes this time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of black Canadians, who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse and prosperous nation we are today. During Black History Month, Canadians can gain insight into the experiences of black Canadians and the vital role this community has played throughout our shared history.

Essay Topic:

The hopes and dreams of black Canadians have helped to shape this country.

In 750 words or less, please tell us how black Canadians have helped to define Canada's diverse heritage and identity through their achievements and contributions to the broader society.

Submission Guidelines:

The essay ("Essay") must be no more than 750 words in length and must be in response to the following question:

- *How have black Canadians helped to define Canada's diverse heritage and identity through their achievements and contributions to the broader society?*

Submissions must be emailed to:

RBC Black History Month Student Essay Competition,
blackhistorymonth@rbc.com.

No mailed submissions will be accepted.

The top three winning essays, determined on the basis set forth in the judging criteria section, may be included in print or online in support of RBC Royal Bank activities related to Black History Month.

Eligibility:

The Competition is only open to grade 12 students who are legal residents of Canada, are applying to a Canadian post-secondary school and plan to attend in the 2018/2019 academic year.

Entries must be the original work of and written solely by the entrant. The Essay must be double-spaced, numbered and type-written and submitted as an MS Word file only. We will not accept PDF documents or essays created in Google Docs or any other file sharing service. Please see the official Competition Rules for further information on eligibility requirements.

Deadline:

Submissions must be emailed on or before Friday, December 1, 2017.

Judging Criteria:

The Essays will be judged on the following criteria:

- Topic selection
- Creativity (engaging storytelling, good use of nuance, etc.)
- Writing style (components of good, engaging writing, topic sentence, etc.)
- Organization and length
- Research and references
- Spelling and grammar

Prizes:

There will be a total of 30 scholarships awarded, including three grand prizes. Scholarship funds will be administered by the Toronto Foundation for Student Success. Each winner will have to show proof of acceptance to a Canadian post-secondary institution prior to receiving the scholarship funds.

- **First prize:** \$5,000 scholarship
- **Second prize:** \$2,500 scholarship
- **Third prize:** \$1,500 scholarship
- **27 Additional prizes:** \$500 scholarship each

Winners will be announced on February 8, 2018.



The RBC Black History Month Student Essay Competition Official Rules

The RBC Black History Month Student Essay Competition (the “Competition”) is coordinated by Royal Bank of Canada (“RBC Royal Bank”) and is designed to encourage students to learn about and celebrate the important achievements that black Canadians have had in our community. Students are asked to write and submit an essay (the “Essay”) in response to the following question:

■ **How have black Canadians helped to define Canada’s diverse heritage and identity through their achievements and contributions to the broader society?**

By submitting an Essay, all contestants agree to be bound by these official competition rules (the “Rules”).

1. How to Enter:

Eligible entrants must complete and submit an entry form with their Essay to blackhistorymonth@rbc.com. The Essay must be about the described topic, must contain no more than 750 words and must conform to the Essay format guidelines below in order to be eligible for the Competition. Limit of one (1) entry per student. Entrants making additional entries will be disqualified. All entries, entry forms and Essays become the property of RBC Royal Bank and will not be acknowledged or returned. By submitting an entry, you agree that RBC Royal Bank shall have the right (but not the obligation) to publish the Essay, or any part thereof, on its website or in other associated promotional and publishing materials.

2. Eligibility and Essay Format:

Open to legal residents of Canada who are attending high school at the start of the Competition Period, are applying to a Canadian post-secondary school for the 2018/2019 academic year and have reached the age of majority in their province or territory of residence on or before the start of the Competition Period; or to the extent they have not yet reached the age of majority by such time, such entries must include a completed and signed copy of the Essay Entry Parent/Legal Guardian Waiver Form (attached). Limit of one entry per person.

To be eligible, the Essay must be:

- (1) the original work of and written by the entrant as its sole creator/author,
- (2) double-spaced with numbered pages,
- (3) type-written, and
- (4) submitted as an MS Word file only. We will not accept PDF documents or essays created in Google Docs or any other file sharing service.

The Essay may be in English or in French and, if in French, translation will be provided by RBC Royal Bank for the judges if required.

Employees, representative or agents (and those with whom such persons are domiciled, whether related or not) of RBC Royal Bank, its affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising/promotional agencies, and any entity involved in the development, production, implementation, administration, judging or fulfillment of the Competition are not eligible to enter.

3. Judging Criteria:

The Essays will be judged on the following criteria:

- Topic selection
- Creativity (engaging storytelling, good use of nuance, etc.)
- Writing style (components of good, engaging writing, topic sentence, etc.)
- Organization and length
- Research and references
- Spelling and grammar

4. Competition Period:

The Competition opens at 12:01 pm EDT on Monday, October 9 and ends on Friday, December 1, 2017 at 8:00 pm EST (the “Competition Period”). In order to be eligible to win the prize, all entries must be emailed by Friday, December 1, 2017 at 8:00 pm EST.

5. Prizes:

On or about February 9, 2018 a panel of judges will select, based on the Judging Criteria above, one entry as the first place winner of the Competition; a second entry will be selected as the second place winner of the Competition; a third entry will be selected as the third place winner of the Competition; and an additional twenty-seven entries will be selected as additional winners of the Competition. All monetary amounts are in Canadian dollars.

First Place: Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) will be awarded to the student selected as the first place winner of the Competition.

Second Place: Two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) will be awarded to the student selected as the second place winner of the Competition.

Third Place: One thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) will be awarded to the student selected as the third place winner of the Competition.

Twenty-seven additional prizes of five hundred dollars (\$500) will be awarded to the fourth to thirtieth place winners of the Competition.

The Toronto Foundation for Student Success (TFSS) will be administering the cash bursaries on behalf of RBC Royal Bank. The Toronto Foundation for Student Success helps students in need. They help nourish students, addressing issues of poverty, hunger and poor nutrition and their effect on education. They continually search for new ways to help children overcome barriers to success in school. The TFSS will release the bursary once the student has confirmed their attendance at a post-secondary school in Canada.

The winner will be notified in writing by email or by phone shortly after the selection of the winner. If any grand prize is not claimed within 10 days after notification, such prize will be forfeited and awarded to an alternate winner. Any prize awarded hereunder is not transferable. No substitutions or exchanges (including for cash) of any prizes will be permitted. All prizes are awarded “AS IS” and WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, express or implied.

6. Winner’s Name:

To obtain the names of the winners after February 8, 2018, send an email to RBC Black History Month Student Essay Competition at blackhistorymonth@rbc.com.

7. Assignment/Waiver of Rights and Release:

As a condition of entering the Competition and accepting a prize, each entrant agrees that if he/she is selected as the winner:

- he/she will irrevocably assign to RBC Royal Bank all rights, including copyrights, that he/she may have to the Essay, to be used by RBC Royal Bank for any purpose it deems appropriate. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, RBC Royal Bank will be allowed full usage of the Essay, including for, but not limited to, promotional purposes, without further compensation;
- he/she will waive, in favour of RBC Royal Bank, any and all moral rights that he/she may have to the Essay;
- he/she will be required to sign an assignment and release waiver of these aforementioned rights prior to accepting the prize.

8. Use of Personal Information:

By entering this Competition, each entrant consents to RBC Royal Bank, its agents and/or representatives storing, sharing and using the personal information submitted with his/her entry only for the purpose of administering the Competition and in accordance with RBC Royal Bank’s privacy policy (available at www.rbc.com/privacysecurity/ca/our-privacy-policy.html). Any other consent that the entrant has given to RBC Royal Bank to receive commercial electronic messages that are currently in effect, and unrelated to this Competition, shall not be affected by the request for consent made pursuant to this Competition.

9. Miscellaneous:

The Competition will be governed, construed and interpreted in accordance with the federal, provincial and municipal laws and regulations applicable in Canada. By participating in the Competition, entrants agree to be bound by the Rules and by the decisions of the Competition judges, which are final and binding in all respects. RBC Royal Bank reserves the right to suspend or cancel the Competition or any entrant’s participation in the Competition at any time or should any cause beyond the control of RBC Royal Bank affect the administration, security or proper play of the Competition. Entrants who violate these Rules, tamper with the operation of the Competition or engage in any conduct that is detrimental to RBC Royal Bank, the Competition or another entrant (determined by RBC Royal Bank in its sole discretion) are subject to disqualification. BEFORE BEING DECLARED A CONFIRMED PRIZE WINNER, the selected entrant will be required to sign and return an affidavit of eligibility and publicity/liability release that must be returned within 15 days of notification attempt or the prize may be awarded to an alternate. RBC Royal Bank reserves the right to reject entry forms from persons whose eligibility is in question or who have been disqualified or are otherwise ineligible to enter the Competition. If you have any questions about these Rules, please send written questions to RBC Black History Month Essay Competition, RBC Royal Bank, 200 Bay St., South Tower, 19th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 2J5, Attention: Sponsorship Manager. RBC Royal Bank does not assume any responsibility for incorrect or inaccurate capture of entry information, technical malfunctions, human or technical error, printing errors, lost, delayed or garbled data or transmissions, omission, interruption, deletion, effect or failures of any telephone or computer line or network, computer equipment, software or any combination thereof. Entry materials/data that have been tampered with or altered are void. In the event of any discrepancy or inconsistency between the terms and conditions of these English Rules and disclosure or other statements contained in any Competition-related materials, including, but not limited to, the Entry Form, Summary, Website, French version of these Rules, and/or any point of sale, television, print or online advertising; the terms and conditions of these English Rules shall prevail, govern, and control to the fullest extent permitted by law.