

Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest – FAQs for 2026

General Questions

What is the status of the Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest?

Zaner-Bloser is pausing the Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest for the 2025–26 school year. We will not be accepting or evaluating entries or awarding prizes at the regional or national level.

What does a pause mean?

A pause means Zaner-Bloser will not be running the Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest this year. Zaner-Bloser will not accept or evaluate entries or award prizes at the regional or national level for the 2025–2026 contest year.

When will you announce news about next year’s contest?

We are currently exploring options for the Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest going forward. We hope to have more information about the future of the contest available in Fall 2026. Please check our contest website for updates. zaner-bloser.com/hwcontest

Will there be an official announcement about the future of the contest?

We hope to have more information about the future of the contest available in Fall 2026. Please check our contest website for updates. zaner-bloser.com/hwcontest

We haven’t spent our voucher from a previous win—is it still valid?

Vouchers for the 2025 contest are valid through December 31, 2025. Please contact your Zaner-Bloser Account Manager with any questions about outstanding vouchers.

Support for School-Level Contests

Can we still host a school-level contest?

Please do! We know that many schools incorporate contest preparation into daily handwriting instruction and practice. If you would like to continue to host your school-level contest, we will post contest entry forms and grade-level winner certificates for download on the School-Level Support tab on the contest website: zaner-bloser.com/hwcontest

What support are you providing for school-level contests?

You can find entry forms and school-level certificates for download. Winner certificates are editable PDFs, so you can customize for your winners digitally or after printing.

- Grades K–2 entry form
- Grades 3–4 entry form
- Grades 5–6 entry form
- Nicholas Maxim category entry form
- Participation certificate
- NEW! School grade-level winner certificate
- NEW! Nicholas Maxim winner certificate

- What is the grade-level winner certificate?
This new downloadable certificate can be customized by grade level and student name to recognize your school winners in each participating grade.
- What is the Nicholas Maxim winner certificate?
This new downloadable certificate can be customized for either cursive or manuscript and by student name to recognize your Nicholas Maxim entry winners.
- Will Zaner-Bloser provide prizes for school winners?
Zaner-Bloser will not provide awards for school-level contest winners. We will also not be accepting entries for judging or awarding prizes at the regional, grand national champion, or Nicholas Maxim level.
- Will you still mail entry forms to previous participants this fall?
We will not mail entry packs this year. Entry forms for school-level contests will be available for download on our website beginning in October 2025.

Additional Questions?

Please direct send your queries to handwritingcontest@zaner-bloser.com