Contest or scholarship? A check before you enter

A one-page check for any 'win money for school' offer: who runs it, how winners are chosen, what you give up to enter, and the rules the Competition Bureau expects contests to state.

NAME _____ DATE _____

OFFER NAME _____ RUN BY _____

WHERE I FOUND IT _____ DEADLINE _____

CHECK THE OFFER

- [ ] The organisation is real and I can contact it
- [ ] Rules say how many prizes there are and roughly what they're worth
- [ ] Rules say whether winners are chosen at random or by skill
- [ ] I can read the rules without buying anything or handing over personal information first
- [ ] Selection uses my grades, need, essay or achievements (scholarship-like)
- [ ] No fee to apply

OFFERS I'M WEIGHING

Offer	Contest or scholarship?	What I give (data, purchase, time)	Decision

If an offer asks for a fee, a purchase or banking details to apply, stop and read our scam check card.

SOURCES (CHECKED 2026-11-27)

The Competition Bureau says businesses should clearly state how many prizes are available and their approximate market value.
https://www.canada.ca/en/competition-bureau/news/2026/02/promotional-contests-businesses-owe-consumers-honest-information.html (checked 2026-11-27)
It says you shouldn't have to visit a store, make a purchase or hand over personal information just to find out how a contest works.
https://www.canada.ca/en/competition-bureau/news/2026/02/promotional-contests-businesses-owe-consumers-honest-information.html (checked 2026-11-27)
It says contest rules should explain whether winners are chosen randomly or through a legitimate skill-based method.
https://www.canada.ca/en/competition-bureau/news/2026/02/promotional-contests-businesses-owe-consumers-honest-information.html (checked 2026-11-27)