

# LIGHTNING SAFETY AWARENESS CONTEST RULES

## Competition Rules

### 2025 Caribbean Lightning Safety Awareness Contest

#### 1. Eligibility:

- a. Open to school-aged children in the English-speaking Caribbean.
- b. Two categories:
  - i. Younger Children (Ages 6-11): Focus on "**How to Stay Safe Before and During a Lightning Storm.**"
  - ii. Older Children (Ages 12-18): Focus on "**How to Provide First Aid for Lightning Strike Victims.**"
- c. Only schools are eligible to submit entries. Individual submissions are not permitted to encourage broader participation within schools.
- d. Each school may submit only one entry per category.
- e. A teacher/supervisor must be designated for each submission.

#### 2. Parental/Guardian Consent:

- a. Schools must confirm, in writing, that parental or guardian consent has been obtained for all students appearing in the video submissions. Schools to retain documentation of parental consent. Template attached to these rules in **Annex 1**.
- b. The consent letter should confirm that parents/guardians are aware of the intended use of the video, including promotional purposes and social media exposure.
- c. Consent documentation must be retained by schools for one (1) year after the end of the competition for auditing purposes.

#### 3. Mentorship:

- a. Schools are encouraged to reach out to their National Disaster Management Office and/or National Meteorological Service to obtain any support needed.

#### 4. Video Content Requirements:

- a. Videos should be a maximum of **2** minutes long. Shorter, more impactful video submissions of 30-50 seconds are encouraged.
- b. Videos must be submitted in a resolution of at least 720p, with a maximum file size of 100 MB.
- c. Content should adhere to the respective category's theme.
- d. Videos must be original and created solely for this competition.
- e. Music, images, and other media included in the video must either be original or have the necessary usage rights. Proof of rights must be available upon request.
- f. Schools are encouraged to include closed captions to enhance video accessibility.
- g. Submissions should be in English or include English subtitles if any other language is used.
- h. Videos must not contain offensive, inappropriate, or copyrighted content.

#### 5. Submission Process:

- a. Submissions must be made through the designated online portal.
- b. Schools must upload videos in one of the following formats: MP4, MOV, or AVI.
- c. Videos should be named using the following format: [School Name][Category][Submission Date].
- d. Schools must retain a backup copy of the submission to ensure accessibility in case of technical difficulties. In the event of technical difficulties during submission, notify the organizers through the portal or via email.
- e. Submission deadline: ~~25 April 2025~~ **30 May 2025 [Deadline Extended]**
- f. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

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- g. A letter confirming the receipt of parental consent from the school must accompany the video submissions.
  - i. This letter must be signed and stamped by the school's Principal or an equivalent or higher authority.
  - ii. It must include the names of all children shown in the video.
- 6. **Judging Criteria:** Submissions will be evaluated based on:
  - a. Creativity and originality (25 points):
    - i. Innovative approach to the topic and unique presentation style.
  - b. Accuracy and clarity of information (25 points):
    - i. Clear presentation of correct safety and first aid measures (15 points).
    - ii. Clear and easy-to-understand explanations that resonate with the age group (10 points).
  - c. Engagement and presentation skills (20 points):
    - i. Effective communication and visual appeal.
  - d. Inclusiveness (20 points): Schools encouraged to submit group projects
    - i. Demonstration of collaborative efforts involving diverse student participation (e.g., gender balance, students with disabilities, and inclusive representation within the school) (15 points).
    - ii. Inclusion of cultural elements or local experiences that reflect the Caribbean identity (10 points).
  - e. Adherence to submission guidelines (10 points):
    - i. Compliance with the length, theme, and content rules.
- 7. **Judging Panel Transparency:**
  - a. The judging panel will include representatives from the Caribbean Meteorological Organization, World Meteorological Organization, private sector sponsors, and relevant educational and disaster management bodies.
- 8. **Permissions and Rights:**
  - a. By submitting a video, the school grants the organizers permission to use the video for promotional and educational purposes, including social media, public awareness campaigns, and television broadcasts.
  - b. Participants agree to have their school name and supervisor publicly recognized.
  - c. Schools may reuse their video submissions for internal educational purposes or local events.
- 9. **Disqualification:**
  - a. Videos that fail to comply with any of the competition rules may be disqualified.
  - b. Any entry found to contain plagiarized material will be automatically disqualified.
  - c. Schools may submit an appeal within three days of notification of disqualification. Appeals will be reviewed by the competition committee.
- 10. **Awards and Recognition:** in June 2025, in advance of Lightning Safety Week
  - a. Winners will be announced ~~during the Lightning Safety Awareness Competition Award Ceremony on 7 May 2025 in Jamaica.~~
  - b. Regional winners will receive:
    - i. Weather Stations and cash awards for the top three submissions in each category.
    - ii. Feature in the regional Lightning Safety Awareness Week media campaign.
- 11. **Questions?**
  - a. For more information, please submit queries to [handerson@cmo.org.tt](mailto:handerson@cmo.org.tt)

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## Annex 1

Please complete this form and submit it to your school.

<b>Initiative:</b>	<b>CARIBBEAN LIGHTNING SAFETY AWARENESS CONTEST</b>
<p><b>Description:</b> Through a collaboration with regional and international partners such as the World Meteorological Organization, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Caribbean Meteorological Organization, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency, Caribbean Examinations Council, National Meteorological and Hydrometeorological Services, National Disaster Risk Management Offices, and others, efforts are being made to engage young people and by extension, the communities they live in.</p> <p>As part of this initiative, young people across the Caribbean region may participate in the preparation and submission of video content through their schools. <b><u>Parents/Guardians of participants shown in video submissions must provide consent by signing this form.</u></b></p> <p>Video submissions may be included in communication materials and published on the partners' websites. To protect privacy, participants should refrain from sharing their names and ages.</p> <p>Videos will only be used for their intended purpose as outlined in this initiative, and consent can be withdrawn at any time if participants no longer wish for their video to be used.</p>	
<b>Name of Child:</b>	
<b>Country:</b>	
<b>Age of Child:</b>	
<p>By submitting this form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I confirm that I consent to my child appearing/participating in a pre-recorded video for this initiative.</li><li>• I agree that the named partners may use the videos received for the purposes set out in the initiative's description and rules.</li><li>• I have spoken to my child about the initiative and I grant permission for the release of the video on their behalf.</li><li>• I allow my child's school name and country to be displayed, along with their video.</li></ul>	
<b>Parent/Guardian Name:</b>	
<b>Relationship to Child:</b>	
<b>Parent/Guardian Contact Info.:</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	

This form shall be retained by the participating school for at least one (1) year.