



RULES & GUIDELINES

Rules & Guidelines

1. The Barbados Tourism Youth Congress is open to all public and private secondary school students ages 14 to 17 years.
2. Participants should not have passed his/her seventeenth (17th) birthday by **September 30, 2025**.
3. All schools are invited to select one (1) student to participate in the competition. Schools should also appoint one (1) other student to serve as an alternate participant in the event of any illness by the primary participant on Competition Day.
4. Entries **MUST** be submitted by the school of the participants.
5. Parents and/or guardians are required to read the rules of the competition, complete and sign a permission slip to accompany their child/ward entry form for the Tourism Youth Congress 2025.
6. All completed entry forms with completed and signed permission slips must be forwarded via email to **youth@visitbarbados.org**.
7. Students are also asked to submit a 30 second video sharing **“Why do I want to become the Junior Minister of Tourism 2025?”**. Participants can share their files via Dropbox or WeTransfer by the **deadline date of Friday, May 16th, 2025 to youth@visitbarbados.org**.
8. The Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI) will not consider any entry form that is not accompanied by a permission slip signed by a parent or guardian.



First Stage

9. PANEL INTERVIEW, ISLAND TOUR & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

- a. Each participant will be required to present themselves to the panel of judges for a five (5) minute interview. Each student will briefly share why they should be chosen as the **Junior Minister of Tourism 2025** and how they will use the title as JM to increase awareness about tourism among young people in Barbados that will take **#tourismforward**.
- b. Date, time and place for the interviews will be announced at the orientation session.
- c. The island tour will include video interviews with each of the participants and a quiz challenge issued at the end of the tour.
- d. Each participant is required to be in attendance for both events as points scored will be added to their overall mark at the end of the competition.



Second Stage

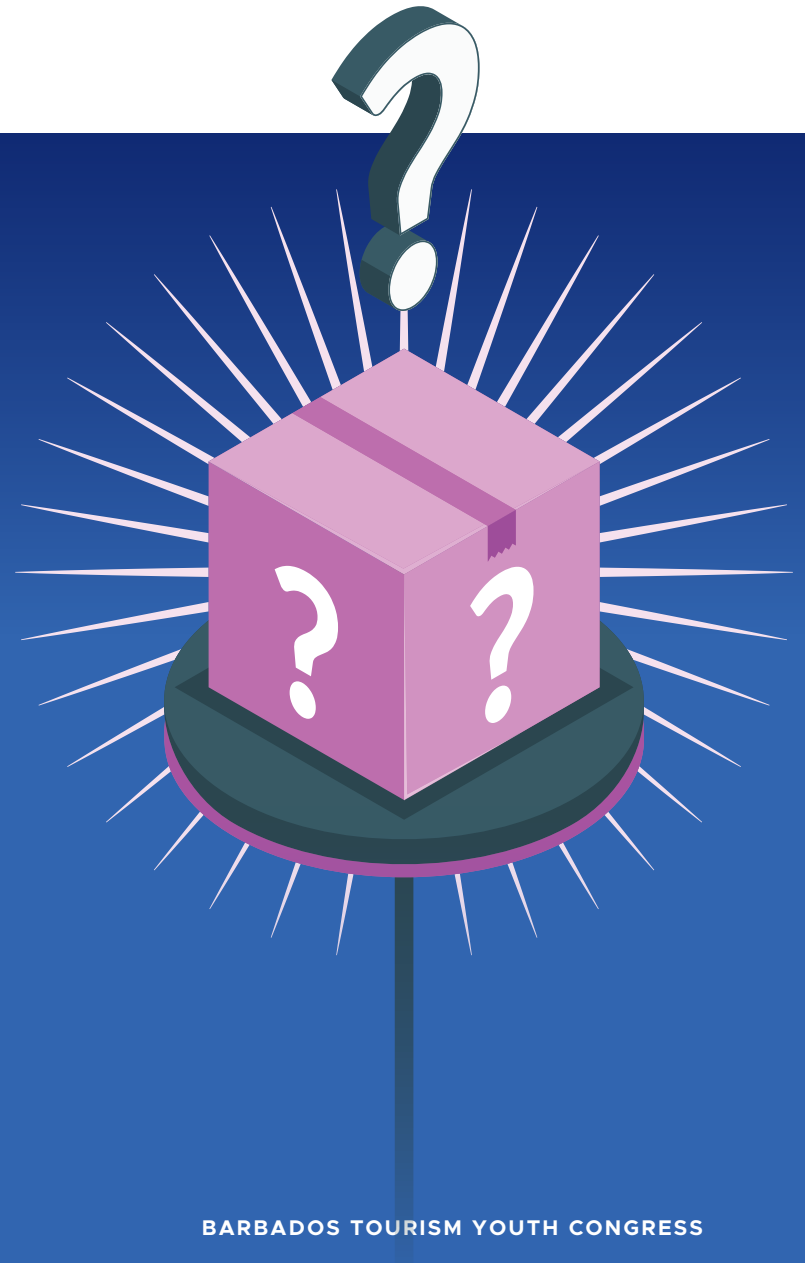


10. **The Second Stage** of the competition will take the form of a simulated Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO) Board of Directors meeting chaired by **Ms. Hailee Harding, Junior Minister of Tourism 2024**. Students will be invited to present their views/suggestions or ideas from a seated position on **one** of the following topics:

- **The New S's of Caribbean Tourism**
- **Leveraging Heritage Tourism for Development**
- **Connecting the Caribbean with Sustainable Transport**
- **Digital Transformation in Tourism**

Third Stage

11. **The Third Stage** of the competition is the “**Mystery Tourism Topic**” segment. Participants are required to answer the question selected based on their general knowledge about Barbados and its tourism product offerings.
12. Participants will select their topic number from a basket and will be given one (1) minute to write their responses and one (1) minute to respond. The Chairperson will determine the order in which participants will present their responses.
13. Participants are encouraged to use several approaches in the research and preparation of their topics. Participants are encouraged to equip themselves with the knowledge of Barbados as a tourism destination and its product offerings by perusing websites or social media pages of local and regional tourism organisations.
14. Participants are also encouraged to view previous videos of Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO) Regional Tourism Youth Congress via www.youtube.com to gain an understanding of the approaches to the local and regional competitions.





15. **Audio Visual**

- a. Students are required to use audiovisual aids to enhance/reinforce their ideas being put forward for the prepared topic. The audio-visual aid must be designed, developed and produced by the student. It cannot take the place of the spoken presentation/delivery but instead must complement and enrich the presentation and must be within the allotted three (3) minutes.
- b. Audio-visual aids will be limited to:

Video recordings – students will conceptualize, script, record, and produce a 30-second informative video using any digital tools; OR
- c. Computer-generated media, like PowerPoint 2007 to 2010 - students should ensure that all font is clearly visible (between sizes 25 – 30 font is preferred) and that all sound clips, if utilized, are working properly.

Videos should preferably be submitted in one of the following video formats:

- Windows Media Video (wmv)
- AVI Video (avi)
- QuickTime Movie (mov)

- d. Participants can share their files via Dropbox or WeTransfer by June 27, 2025 to youth@visitbarbados.org
 - e. Participants will be seated when making their presentations. Students have the option of taking responsibility for the running of the audio-visual aid or receiving assistance from their teacher.
16. An overview of the topics should be thoroughly read by all participants and their teachers/coaches.
 17. Participants are expected to put forward their own views on the various topics to be discussed. This is not a debating competition; it is a discussion among the young people of Barbados which generates practical ideas that can be implemented at the national level.
 18. Participants are prohibited from expressing their political views during their presentations. If this is done, participants will be penalised by the judges.
 19. Participants must come prepared on the day of the competition to share their views with their peers.



Judging

20. For 2025, judging will take place in three stages: panel interview, island tour and quiz challenge, and the final competition.
21. Participants will be awarded points for their panel interviews and the challenge issued at the end of the island tour. These points will be accumulated and added to their overall score at the final stage of the competition.
22. For the Final Stage, participants will be judged on the following:

Prepared Topic:

- Knowledge of subject area;
- Level of preparedness;
- Relevant content;
- Presentation skills;
- Their ability to speak knowledgeably, effectively and confidently on the impromptu topic; and
- Appropriate use of audio-visual aids

Mystery Question:

23. The judging panel will comprise of representatives drawn from the tourism stakeholders. **The judging panel's decision is final.**
24. Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. will retain the services of an auditing firm to govern the tabulation of scores for the 2025 Competition.

Timing Rules

25. **The timing rules** are as follows:

- Two timers are appointed by the Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. or other authorised agency. One is provided with a stopwatch and the other with a signalling device that displays green, amber and red colours.
- The signalling device will be in full view of each participant on the day of the competition.
- Timing will begin with the participant's first definite verbal or non-verbal communication. This usually will be the first word uttered by the participant.
- At the end of each speech, there will be one (1) minute of silence to allow the judges to record their marks.

FIRST STAGE

- The green light will be displayed at 2 minutes and will remain displayed for 30 seconds.
- The amber light will be displayed at 2 minutes 30 seconds and will remain displayed for 30 seconds.
- The red light will appear at 3 minutes and will remain on until the speaker has concluded his or her speech.

SECOND STAGE

- The amber light will appear at 50 seconds and will remain displayed for 10 seconds.
- The red light will appear at 1 minute and will remain on until the speaker has concluded his or her speech.
- Each response must be no longer than one (1) minute 15 seconds.



26. Any visually impaired participant is permitted to request and will be granted a form of warning signal of his or her own choosing. Acceptable warning signs would include, but not limited to: a buzzer, a bell, or the appointed timer announcing the times at 2 minutes, 2 minutes 30 seconds and 3 minutes.
27. If any special device and/or specific instructions for such signal is/are required, the contestant must provide same.
28. In the event of a technical failure of the signal or timing equipment, a speaker is allowed 30 seconds extra over-time before being disqualified.
29. A participant will be disqualified if his or her speech is over the stipulated time frame.
30. The time limit for each individual speech is three (3) minutes with an extended 30 seconds to wrap-up the response. (See Timing Rules at #25).
31. The judges and the timekeepers shall not be related to the participants.
32. Students and teachers/coaches are required to attend the Orientation Session (to be announced in subsequent correspondence) which allows participants an opportunity to enhance their knowledge of the sector, an overview of the expectations for the competition (competition rules, activities timing, room layout etc.)
33. Participants will be disqualified for being absent from the orientation session for failure to notify the coordinator in advance of the reason for absence. In case of an emergency, the coordinator should be notified as soon as possible.

Venue

34. The Youth Congress will take place on **Wednesday, July 2nd, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Wyndham Grand Barbados Sam Lord's Castle All Inclusive Resort, Long Bay, St. Philip.** Participants are required to arrive one (1) hour before the start of the competition.
35. All participants are expected to wear their respective school uniform on the day of the competition. School blazers, black or navy-blue business jackets and/or waist coats are allowed to be worn.



Prizes

36. All participants will receive a certificate and a token for participating in the 2025 Barbados Tourism Youth Congress.
37. The second runner up will receive BDS \$300.00, an industry prize and a one (1) month summer internship within the industry.
38. The first runner up will receive BDS \$400.00, an industry prize and a one (1) month summer internship within the industry.
39. The winning student will receive a laptop, a BDS \$500.00 Gift Certificate, a staycation, one (1) month summer internship within the industry.
40. The winning student will be awarded a cash scholarship of BDS \$3,000.00 towards their pursuit of tourism/tourism related studies at a local, regional and internationally recognised institution. The student must provide clear evidence of his/her intention to pursue studies in tourism or foreign languages from the recognised institution. (Valid for three (3) years)
41. The BTMI will also award a prize to the school of the **Junior Minister of Tourism 2025** and his or her teacher/coach. The winning school will also receive a banner with photo of the winning student for display on the school compound and a cash prize/donation of BDS\$1,000.
42. The winner of the competition and runners-up will receive a weekly stipend of BDS \$250.00 for the duration of the internship.
43. If the winner of the competition and runners-up have not reached the age of 16 years at the time of the internship, they will be provided with alternative arrangements which will give them an insight into the tourism industry.
44. The winner of the competition and runners-up will be required to forward their résumés to the BTMI (4) weeks following the end of the competition.

Junior Minister of Tourism 2025



HAILEE HARDING
JUNIOR MINISTER OF TOURISM 2024
STUDENT OF GRAYDON SEALY SECONDARY SCHOOL

JUNIOR MINISTER OF TOURISM 2025

45. The winner of the competition will be accorded the title **“Junior Minister of Tourism 2025”** as part of his or her prize. The title will be held for one (1) year or until a new Junior Minister is selected in the following year.
46. The **“Junior Minister of Tourism 2025”** is required to participate in suitable tourism related activities organised by the Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI).
47. He or she is also required to represent Barbados at the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO) Regional Tourism Youth Congress in **October 2025**. All expenses of the **Junior Minister of Tourism 2025** at the host hotel will be covered by the Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI). These expenses include as required the cost of one (1) return airline ticket, accommodation, meals and per diems.
48. The Junior Minister of Tourism 2025 will be accompanied by a chaperone who is an officer of the Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI). The Officer will be the contact person and co-ordinator for all activities during their tenure. Provisions will be made for a teacher from the winning school to accompany the Junior Minister of Tourism as part of the delegation.



49. The **Junior Minister of Tourism 2025** and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) will be required to sign a contract within two weeks after the date of the final competition. This contract will consist of basic terms and conditions during his or her tenure.
50. The **Junior Minister of Tourism 2025** will be issued with branded oxford and polo shirts to be worn at events or functions organised by the Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI) or other authorised agency and/or its stakeholders.

51. Should the **Junior Minister of Tourism** fail to satisfy the Terms and Conditions under the Contract stated at Rule 49, he or she will forfeit the title of **Junior Minister of Tourism 2025**.
52. The Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI) reserves the right to appoint the first runner up as the **Junior Minister of Tourism 2025**. Such appointment will be communicated in writing to the individual and his or her parents/guardians by the Chief Executive Officer or her designate of the Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI).
53. Parents or legal guardians of the **Junior Minister of Tourism 2025** who wish to attend the 2025 CTO Tourism Youth Congress are required to communicate their wishes to the Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI) no later than **July 10th, 2025**.
54. The Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI) reserves the right to use the winning students' names, speeches and photographs for promotional purposes. All participating students and parents are required to complete the authorisation form.



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