



Birddogging Photo and Video Tips

Capturing photos and recording video of interactions with candidates helps to achieve one of the key goals of the High 5 for Kids campaign, which is to get candidates on record about where they stand on vital kids' issues. Use these tips to help take strong photos and record great video that we can share.

Team up.

When possible, have one person asking the question and one person filming the interaction. Keep in mind that the person filming might want to back away from the person asking the question to get a better shot. For photo, try to have someone else take a picture of you while interacting with the candidate.

Be prepared.

Have your phone/camera ready to capture the moment – you don't know when the candidate will pick your teammate for a question and you don't want to miss the interaction.

Hold your phone on its side.

Hold your camera horizontally when filming video or capturing photos.

When possible, keep an eye on the background.

Try to film in a spot without many disruptions behind you, like offensive or distracting posters. If you brought SCAN branding, be sure to include it in the frame. Also, pay attention to lightening and make sure there aren't dark shadows. The light should be in front of you, not behind you!

Try to be as stable as possible.

It helps to prop your camera against something like a wall, a shelf or a desk. We encourage you to use a mobile device stand to help, if you are able. If you must hold the camera, hold it with both hands and squeeze your arms into your sides to help keep you stable.

Be quiet.

When you're filming on an iPhone or similar device, background noise is easily picked up. Try not to speak, hum or make any noise so that viewers can hear the question and response.

Don't be afraid to get close.

Don't be afraid to get as close as you can to the candidate/stage. This will make it easier to see and hear.

Don't be afraid to talk to the candidate.

Similarly, don't be afraid to approach the candidate and ask them for a quick video or photo. Either take a selfie video/photo or a group shot.

Do your best!

We know there can be a lot of obstacles to filming in the moment. It doesn't have to be perfect! Just do your best!

Where to send your photos and videos?

Once you've taken the photo or recorded your video, send a copy to your state manager so SCAN can share it!

[Example of a video interaction between a SCAN volunteer and presidential candidate recorded by Every Child Matters in Iowa.](#)

[Example of a photo with candidate.](#)