

SkillsUSA Maryland
2026 State Championship
T-Shirt Design Contest Update (4/6/26)

NEW THIS YEAR! – FINAL SUBMISSION FILES MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN **MONDAY, APRIL 13th by 5PM** to this email king.carol18@gmail.com

SkillsUSA Technical Standards 2024-2026 guidelines must be followed.

Here are several additional guidelines that must be followed for the 2026 state competition:

AI is *NOT ALLOWED in any form*. This competition is based on traditional design principles and skills.

- Original Vector files or high resolution Raster files must be unflattened and a separate pdf version **MUST** be submitted to king.carol18@gmail.com — **again, no later than 5pm on April 13th.**
- *Designs without the **original** files and/or submitted after the deadline will be subject to point deductions.*
- *Vector software such as Illustrator, SketchUp, Inkscape are preferred as raster software such as Photoshop do not scale well.*
- *If using PS or other raster software, files must be sized as indicated in the competition guidelines and a minimum of 300dpi.*
- The **FULL** design process must be documented, including the hand-drawn design process and all revisions (see Technical Standards 2024-2026 for details).
- The design process – including resource images and research - must be shown in the binder presented to judges and during the judging presentation the day of the event.
- Printed T-shirt sample in desired colors is preferred, but not required, for presentation.

- Printing method for final t-shirt should be indicated as part of the presentation.
- Screen-print or direct-to-garment print preferred.
- Screen-printed designs **MUST** include the designated PMS colors

OPTIONS: If representing a screen-printed design, PMS colors must still be designated.

- You may create a t-shirt using a t-shirt transfer on t-shirt of the desired color
- Transfer print must be high quality, clean cut lines, and no wrinkling of transfer - quality and workmanship always count!
- If using a dark shirt, use the correct type of transfer material
- LARGE format mounted (18x24 inch) t-shirt mock-up with the design shown on the correctly colored t-shirt image in desired colors is an acceptable substitution if unable to have the t-shirt printed.
- For the MD competition, a regular 3-ring binder is acceptable.
- For notebook: omit your name, school or any identifying information except for your **CONTESTANT NUMBER during the presentation.**
- Your binders will be left with the judges during the scoring and deliberation period and returned to students at the conclusion of the judging event.
- If students are providing a digital visual presentation, they must supply their own laptop.
- We recommend having the files downloaded on a thumb drive and/or on the hard drive of the laptop to mitigate any internet security issues.
- One-page single sided resume must be hand-carried to contest room.