

# Delaware Technology Student Association



## TSA T-Shirt Design Challenge

**2026 TSA Design Prompt: "Unity through Community"**

**Delaware High School Only Competition**

*"Serving Technology Education Students" Sponsored by the Department of Education*

Updated – November 19, 2026

## TSA T-Shirt Design Challenge

**Design Challenge:** The purpose of this challenge is to design a t-shirt that is reflective of the Delaware TSA and the Design Prompt.

**Eligibility:** Entries are limited to one entry per student. Up to 3 entries per chapter.

**Levels of Competition:** MS and HS

### Contest Guidelines

Each complete entry must include the following elements:

1. The designer must specify the color of the shirt on which the artwork will be screened.
2. In addition to the t-shirt background color, the designer may use up to three (3) colors in his or her artwork.
3. Entries must be created in a design software package such as Illustrator, Photoshop, etc.
4. Artwork submission should be no larger than 8 x 10 inches.
5. All copyright laws **must** be followed in the creation of the design.
6. The design must include or reference the Delaware TSA Logo.
7. The design must include the text of the design prompt.
8. The design must include the year of the state conference.
9. Each entry must include a (1-2 page) self-evaluation as a part of the pdf.

**Submission:** The entry is to be submitted as a PDF. The working file in the format of PSD, AI, etc.) is to be made available upon request should the entry be selected for use by Delaware TSA in print or electronic media.

**Judging:** Late submissions will not be judged. All design materials must be saved as a PDF file and the working file (PSD, AI, etc.). All entries must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm on February 9th, 2026. All submitted designs will become the property of Delaware TSA and may be used in future print or electronic media.

***T-Shirt Design Challenge Entry Disclaimer:*** *All entries for the Delaware TSA T-Shirt Design Challenge will become the property of Delaware TSA. Delaware TSA may use the t-shirt design in any way necessary to facilitate and/or promote the organization. Delaware TSA has the right to select and use any of the contest entries as the state or national conference T-Shirt. The 1st place design may or may not be used for this purpose. Additionally, Delaware TSA may select, adjust or modify the final design before production at the discretion of Delaware TSA.*

## TSA T-Shirt Design Challenge Submission Instructions

**Title Page:** The first page of your portfolio should be a title page. This page must include:

1. The event title.
2. The TSA logo or an event-specific image (optional).
3. The conference state.
4. The conference year.
5. Student ID Number.
6. Advisor name and email.

**Self-Evaluation Guidelines:** Each self-evaluation should address the following elements:

1. **Design Inspiration:** Briefly explain the inspiration behind your design and how it connects to the Delaware TSA and the "Tune into Technology" prompt.
2. **Software Used:** Specify the design software used (e.g., Illustrator, Photoshop) and explain why it was chosen.
3. **Color Choices:** Describe the colors used, including the t-shirt background color and up to three additional colors, and how they enhance the design theme.
4. **Creativity and Challenges:** Reflect on your creativity, discuss any challenges encountered during the design process, and how they were overcome.
5. **Technical Details:** Evaluate the technical aspects of your design, including adherence to size requirements, resolution, and copyright laws.
6. **Final Reflection:** Conclude by discussing what you learned from the project and how it has influenced your design skills.

**Submission Instructions:**

The self-evaluation must be 1-2 pages long and included as part of the final PDF submission. Ensure the working file (e.g., PSD, AI) is available upon request. All materials must be submitted by 11:59 pm on February 9th, 2026

# TSA T-Shirt Design Challenge

Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter/School Number \_\_\_\_\_

TSA T-Shirt Design Challenge			
2014 OFFICIAL RATING FORM		HIGH SCHOOL	
Self-Evaluation (30 points)			
CRITERIA	Minimal performance 1-4 points	Adequate performance 5-8 points	Exemplary performance 9-10 points
Evaluators: Using minimal (1-4 points), adequate (5-8 points) or exemplary (9-10 points) performance levels as a guideline, record the scores earned for the event criteria in the column spaces to the far right. The X1 or X2 notation in the criteria column is a multiplier factor for determining the points earned. (Example: an "adequate" score of 7 for an X1 criterion = 7 points; an "adequate" score of 7 for an X2 criterion = 14 points.)			
<b>Inspiration for graphic design</b> (X1)	Little discussion of the inspiration for the graphic is included; illogical order of the design process is evident.	General overview of the design process is included, as is a basic description of the inspiration for the graphic.	An organized and logical overview of the entire design process, which details inspiration for the graphic design, is included.
<b>Design process</b> (X1)	Explanation does not fully discuss the technical development of the graphic; software packages used are not mentioned by name; frequent grammar and spelling errors are evident.	General overview of the technical development of the graphic (which mentions by name the primary software packages used in the design) is included; a few grammar and spelling errors may be evident.	Detailed and concise description of the technical development of the design (with discussion of all software packages used in the design) is included; proper grammar and spelling are evident.
<b>Relevance</b> (X2)	Brief and weak explanation of how the graphic design correlates to the theme is included, and/or the explanation is illogical.	The challenge is discussed in the explanation, and the correlation between the theme and the design is somewhat clear.	Explanation of relevance (i.e., how the final graphic design relates to the theme) is quite clear and complete.
<b>SUBTOTAL (40 points)</b>			
Design Artwork (70 points)			
CRITERIA	Minimal performance 1-4 points	Adequate performance 5-8 points	Exemplary performance 9-10 points

<b>First impression</b> (X1)	The design is unorganized, and/ or it is difficult to see; there is a poor choice of colors; the artwork is not suited for a t-shirt, and/ or it leaves an unfavorable impression.	The design has good points, but some details may distract from the overall quality; the design may be too large or too small for a t-shirt.	The design is eye-catching and an appropriate size for a t-shirt; attention to detail is obvious.
<b>Use of fonts/words in design</b> (X1)	Fonts/words are not readable, and/ or they are hard to read in the actual pin size; location or sizes are not appropriate for the design.	Fonts/words are mostly appropriate, but there is room for improvement; fewer fonts/words could have been used in the design.	Fonts/words, their size, and their location are clearly appropriate for the design in the actual t-shirt size.
<b>Graphic appropriateness</b> (X1)	Graphic has little correlation to the state TSA affiliate it is intended to relate to; design does not work well for the intended purpose.	Design generally works for its intended purpose, but it may be a little too big or too small in size; design correlates to the intended state TSA affiliate and theme	The design is a perfect size for the intended purpose; there is strong evidence for correlation of the design to the TSA affiliate and theme

<b>TSA T-Shirt Design Challenge (continued)</b>			
<b>Design Artwork (70 points)</b>			
CRITERIA	Minimal performance	Adequate performance	Exemplary performance
	1-4 points	5-8 points	9-10 points
<b>Dominance</b> (X1)	Eyes are drawn away from what should have been the focal point by some other component of the graphic.	An attempt is made to use a graphic component that will draw attention to the design's main idea, but the result is confusing.	The design's main components draw eyes to the appropriate location and/ or focal point of graphic.
<b>Incorporation of graphic design principles</b> (X2)	Design principles (alignment, consistency, contrast, unity, white space) are not incorporated adequately into the graphic, and/ or they are considered as an afterthought.	Graphic is missing one (1) or two (2) design principles (alignment, consistency, contrast, unity, white space), but the overall layout is aesthetically pleasing.	Graphic is aesthetically pleasing and all design principles are well incorporated into the design and layout.
<b>SUBTOTAL (60 points)</b>			
Rules violations (a deduction of 20% of the total possible points) must be initialed by the evaluator, coordinator and manager of the event. Record the deduction in the space to the far right. Indicate the rule violated: _____			
(To arrive at TOTAL score, add any subtotals and subtract rules violation points, as necessary. Check your math twice!) <b>TOTAL (100 points)</b>			

Score \_\_\_\_\_

Judging Comments
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Judging Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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