



# T-Shirt Design Contest

## Entry and Design Guidelines:

- Entries can be submitted to [Info@BlueRibbonFoundation.org](mailto:Info@BlueRibbonFoundation.org) or by mail to Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation, PO Box 57130, Des Moines, IA 50317.
- The entry deadline is May 1, 2026.
- The design must contain the words “Iowa State Fair” and represent an aspect of the Iowa State Fair, its facilities or traditions.
- The entry should be accompanied by your name and contact information including mailing address, phone number and email.
- The design may be drawn, printed or digital. Electronic submissions are preferred and files must be saved to 300 dpi and be high resolution in either .AI, .JPG, .PDF, .PNG or .PSD format. Please convert all text to outline. If your design is selected, you will be required to provide the original design in a high-resolution format that is compatible with Photoshop, Illustrator or other professional design program.
- Design dimensions should not exceed 14” x 17”.
- The color of the final shirt will be determined by the Foundation.
- Design must be able to be screen printed. A maximum of five ink colors. Preference given to fewer colors.
- Designs will be judged on the following:
  - Concept/originality
  - Striking and memorable
  - Visibility: eye-catching and visible from a reasonable distance
  - Complete: must be ready for print
  - Feasibility: must be easy to reproduce on a t-shirt
- Please note that the Foundation reserves the right to adjust the winning design.

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## Contest Rules:

- All entries must be original creations that have never been published and do not contain any profanity, trademarks, logos, restricted or copyrighted works of any other person or business.
- The winning design will remain the property of the Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation and will not be returned to you nor will you receive any compensation for said design other than the aforementioned prize package. The Foundation may use the winning design at any time after the contest. The winning contestant may display their design in a portfolio or personal collection, but may not sell or reproduce the design for any other purpose once submitted to the contest.
- By submitting an entry and including your name, address and contact information, you are acknowledging your acceptance and understanding of the complete contest rules including that the winning design is the property of the Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation.
- More than one entry can be submitted by an individual but they must be submitted as separate entries.
- A panel of judges selected by the Iowa State Fair and the Blue Ribbon Foundation will choose the top submissions which will be put to a public vote.
  - Voting begins on May 11 and closes on May 15, 2026. Finalists’ designs will be posted on the Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation’s website and Facebook page. Voting can be via Facebook “like” or website.
  - The winner will be notified by email at the close of the voting period.
- The Foundation reserves the right to end this contest at any time, effective on the date of the termination notice and is under no obligation to give advance notice of the termination.
- This contest is subject to all federal, state and local laws.
- Current Iowa State Fair or Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation full-time staff, board members or their immediate family members are not allowed to participate.
- At the sole discretion of the Foundation, disqualification, forfeiture and the selection of an alternate winner may result from any of the following:
  - Winner’s failure to respond to notification within seven (7) business days after its transmission;
  - The return of an email notification as undeliverable after three (3) attempts;
  - Winner’s failure to provide original design files; failure to submit a completely original design; or failure to execute and return a release form.