2027 TAPT SCHOOL BUS SAFETY POSTER CONTEST GUIDELINES

The Texas Association for Pupil Transportation (TAPT) enjoys the opportunity to conduct the Texas School Bus Safety Poster Contest and to take part each year in the National School Bus Safety Poster Contest sponsored by the National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT).

The purpose of this event is to promote school bus safety and offer opportunities for students to receive small scholarships and school board recognition for their creativity. The National Overall Winning poster will represent National School Bus Safety Week the following October.

Who May Enter the TAPT School Bus Safety Poster Contest:

- Texas students enrolled in a public, parochial, or private school
- Posters may not be drawn at home and must be supervised by a campus teacher.
- The Director of Transportation for the school district must be a current member of TAPT.

Divisions:

- Division #1 - Grades K-2
- Division #2 - Grades 3-5
- Division #3 - Grade 6-8
- Division #4 - Special Education (Grades K-12)
- Division #5 - CAD (Computer Aided Drawing). *Please Note: Division #5 - CAD entries are eligible for competition within those respective divisions but are not eligible to be the Overall Contest Winner.*

Poster Theme:
Every poster and slogan must harmonize with the current poster contest theme as presented by the National Association for Pupil Transportation. Napt.org/postercontest. **The 2027 theme:**

Safe Miles = Big Smiles

Contestants must illustrate the above theme only. Students may use creative lettering, capitalization, and punctuation while keeping the theme recognizable. Correct spelling is required.

Drawings must:

- Be original, **correct in safety concept** and the **exclusive work of the student** entering the contest in idea, design, and execution.
- All artwork should be positive in approach, demonstrating only proper school bus safety behaviors.
- At least a part of a yellow school bus must be present on the poster.
- Have the contact form provided in these guidelines posted to the back of the poster. Previous forms are not accepted due to the information that is needed to properly notify all parties.

The Contact Information page provided must be attached to the back of the poster.

Poster Specifications:

- The completed poster size must be 11" x 17" or 12" x 18".
- Posters may be illustrated on the vertical or horizontal axis.
- Original artwork designs should be submitted on quality tag, poster illustration board, or heavy paper. Construction paper may be used but winning entries must be mounted on a quality tag poster.
- Lamination is not permitted and will **disqualify the poster.**
- There is no limitation on the use and number of colors.
- There is no limitation on the type of media -- such as print, crayon, felt pen, etc. -- used on the poster design.
- Wood, plastic, glass, or metal should not be part of the poster.
- Collage materials should not be used.
- Glued on pieces will disqualify the poster.
- **The drawing may not identify the school, district or student name in any way and may be cause for disqualification.**
- **Winning Regional Contest Posters may not be posted (social media, websites) with identifiable information until the State Contest has been completed and winners announced.**
- **We appreciate your cooperation so that all students have an opportunity to win based on talent and not popularity.**
- **Posters that have been used for any promotional purposes may not be submitted.**
- **Must have information form posted to back of poster that is provided in this guideline.**

Lettering and Drawing:

- The poster design may incorporate freehand letters only.
- Stenciled, pre-printed, manufactured stick-on or press-on letters or tracings may not be used and will disqualify the poster.
- Lettering should be clearly legible, even if used as part of the poster design.
- Cut paper / stencils (freehand or pre-drawn stick-on stencils) are not permitted and will disqualify the poster.
- Poster designs may not incorporate any **copyrighted characters** (i.e., comic and/or television characters), photographs, and magazine or newspaper illustrations.
- Do not place any identifiable information such as name or school name on the front of the poster.
- Provide contact information only on the back. See form on last page of this guideline.
- An art instructor or art teacher should supervise all work.

Judging:

Criteria for the selection of award-winning posters are:

- Relationship of the poster design to the school bus safety practices. (Safety Impact)
- Originality of the poster and how the idea is expressed in the poster design. (Originality)
- Artwork and its execution. (Artistic Quality)
- Visual impact of the poster design. (Visual Impact)
- Theme illustrated exactly as required.
- No identifiable markings.
- TAPT and the Safety Poster Contest Committee have the right to disqualify any entry that does not comply with all contest requirements.

Important Dates:

November 2, 2026	Contest may begin.
February or March	Posters voted on at the Regional Chapter level (depending on date of meeting)
March 19, 2027, 11:59 pm	All Posters must be received in the TAPT Office. (Chapters may wish to consider mailing via FedEx.)
March 23-25, 2027	Active level member online voting for state level poster contest
April 2, 2027	Overall winner will be determined by the TAPT Executive Committee
Early April	TAPT will announce the winners and post the winning posters at tapt.com. TAPT will mail the first-place winning state level posters to NAPT for the National contest.
April 30, 2027	All posters must be received from each State at the NAPT Headquarters
Summer	NAPT will announce the national winners.
October 2027	The winning poster will represent National School Bus Safety Week

Check the NAPT Poster Contest Guidelines for prize information.

DISTRICT LEVEL:

Each school district will decide on the winning posters by Division.
Districts will submit their first-place winning posters for regional voting to the district transportation director to be taken to the local TAPT Chapter meeting – check for dates.

ALL POSTERS MUST HAVE THE COMPLETED FORM PROVIDED BELOW TAPED TO THE BACK OF THE POSTER IN ORDER TO BE NOTIFIED.

NOTE: Save your posters digitally –

We encourage schools/teachers to take photos of each poster before you submit them for your own records. Posters are not returned. The Winning posters will be posted to the TAPT.com website.

*All posters and related intellectual property become the property of TAPT and the National Association for Pupil Transportation upon receipt and **are not returned** to the artist, his/her parents / legal guardians, art instructor or art teacher, school, state or contest sponsor, or any other person(s) claiming a right, title, or other interest in the poster.*

REGIONAL CHAPTER DEADLINE:

Most chapters will vote by region either at the February or March meeting – depending on when the chapter meets and allowing enough time for the winning posters to be submitted to the state competition by **March 19, 2027.**

Poster voting should not be done at a regional conference.

If a chapter covers more than one Region the winning posters from each division for each region may be submitted for state competition.

Posters that have been used for any promotional purposes may not be submitted.

Chapters should plan to award a ribbon or other type recognition for poster submissions.

For more information, contact Marisa@tapt.com or Poster@tapt.com.
Please mail the posters flat, not rolled.

TAPT School Bus Safety Poster Contest
PO Box 488
Kemah, Texas 77565,

or if shipped or personally delivered to:
TAPT
3521 Bayshore Drive
Bacliff, Texas 77518

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Chapters may post their winning posters on the individual regional chapter websites **AFTER** the state contest winners have been **announced** so that no poster is identifiable to maintain fairness and consistency and that votes are based on talent and not popularity. ***Thanks for your cooperation!***

STATE LEVEL JUDGING:

TAPT ACTIVE level Members will **vote online March 23-25, 2027,** to select the state level winning posters.

The state level winning posters will be posted at www.tapt.com shortly after the online voting has been completed.

Prizes for winners will be awarded as follows and delivered to the Superintendent's Office.

- 1st Place Overall, Winner $ 500
- 1st Place Winners of remaining 3 divisions $ 250
- 2nd Place Winners of each 4 divisions $ 100
- 3rd Place Winners of each 4 divisions $ 50
- 1st Place Winner – CAD division $ 50

NATIONAL CONTEST:

The National School Bus Safety Poster Contest is sponsored each year by the National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT). 2026/27 NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY POSTER CONTEST

The 1st Place / Overall National School Bus Safety winning poster will be used to promote National School Bus Safety Week which is always the third week of October. Napt.org.

Texas Association for Pupil Transportation www.tapt.com

Revised 10-24-26

This current complete form MUST be secured to the back of the poster.

2027 Required Contact Information. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. This form must be securely attached to the BACK of the Poster.

Student Name:_____ Grade:_____

School Full Name:_____

School Mailing Address: _____

District Name:_____ Student Age: _____

Teacher Name:_____ Cell #:_____

Teacher email:_____

Transportation Director Name:_____

Transportation Director Email:_____

Superintendent Name:_____

District website:_____ Region ESC:_____

Poster Division:_____

Parent/Guardian Name:_____ Cell:_____

Student/Parent Address: _____
Print clearly.

District mailing address:_____

Date of District April or May Board Meeting for Recognition: _____

National Winner Information:
Please select prize payment preference:

☐ Mail prize money to the school address.

☐ Mail prize money to the student/parent address.

Thank you for participating and promoting school bus safety!