



PIN DESIGN CONTEST



Design a custom pin that represents the spirit, mission, or identity of Idaho DECA!

Your design could be turned into a real enamel pin!

Deadline

Sign up by

Aug. 7, 2026



Out-of-town entries

Mail to Idaho DECA by

Aug. 21, 2026

No late entries accepted.

All others

Drop off at CTE office

Aug. 28, by 5 p.m.

to pay and get your fair entry ticket

Requirements



- Theme:** Should reflect Idaho DECA
- Size:** Final design must be scalable to approx. 1.25–1.5 inches
- Colors:** Max 6 solid colors (no gradients)
- Line Work:** Bold, clean lines; all text should be legible at small scale
- Format:** Fair submissions must be printed on 8.5 x11 paper and mounted to a black foam core board that is 9.5 x 12
- Submission must be in one of these formats:** high-resolution PNG, JPG, or PDF
- Optional:** Include ideas for glitter, movement, or unique features
- Email** a pdf version of the graphic to gina.lyman@cte.idaho.gov by **Aug. 21**.

Rules

- Only one entry per person
- Work must be original
- All designs become the property of Idaho DECA for promotional use

Must include

- Your full name and contact info
- A title for your design
- Short explanation (50–100 words) of the symbolism or meaning
- Clear printed version of your design (hand-drawn or digital)

POINTS



CRITERIA	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
Creativity and originality	Unique, imaginative concept that stands out and feels fresh.	Creative idea with some original touches.	Somewhat derivative; lacks originality.	Uninspired or copied design.
Visual appeal	Eye-catching, well-composed, and aesthetically pleasing.	Looks good with minor design inconsistencies.	Appealing but feels unbalanced or visually cluttered.	Visually unappealing or messy.
Concept and meaning	Clear theme or message that resonates or tells a story.	Thematic idea is mostly clear and meaningful.	Theme is weak or ambiguous.	No clear theme, story, or concept.
Design for production	Practical for pin production (size, line thickness, color separation, etc.).	Mostly suitable for production with minor adjustments needed.	Some production issues (e.g. too detailed, poor contrast).	Not feasible to manufacture as a pin.
Use of color	Excellent palette, great contrast, and harmony.	Good color choices, a few areas could be improved.	Acceptable colors, but not very cohesive or appealing	Poor or clashing color choices.
Line work and clarity	Crisp, clean lines; easy to interpret even at small scale.	Mostly clean, minor clarity issues.	Lines are rough or lose detail at pin size.	Messy or unclear lines.
Original execution	Shows effort, skill, and attention to detail in digital or hand-drawn execution.	Good execution with some polish.	Average effort or skill; could use refinement.	Sloppy, rushed, or low-effort execution.
Wow factor	Truly memorable; would make people want to wear or collect it.	Interesting and likable.	Mild impact; doesn't leave much impression.	Forgettable or confusing.



Judging criteria

CATEGORY	POINTS
Creativity and originality	10
Visual appeal	10
Concept and meaning	10
Design for production	10
Use of color	10
Line work and clarity	10
Original execution	10
Wow factor	10
Total	80



Prizes and recognition

- Winning design may be produced as an enamel pin
- Potential placement at the Western Idaho State Fair
- Recognition at DECA State Leadership Conference