



## **Supplied by the Contestant (Tool List)**

- Two copies of finalized rendering of the Pin design printed on 8-1/2" x 11" paper**  
One printout will be left behind for judging. Printout must show the design at 7" and 1-1/2" on that one sheet of paper.
- Easel for presentation**—This may be a floor easel or a table top easel.
- Supporting materials for the presentation and interview**
- Display**—This will be setup on a table in the hallway placing your designs on display prior to the contest. Displays will need to be set up on Thursday between 10 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Displays must be removed by the end of the day on Thursday.
- Resume**—Uploaded by March 18th

## **Clothing Requirement**

Students should wear the official SkillsUSA attire as listed in the Technical Standards.

## **Contest Timeline**

**Date:** Thursday, April 7

**Time:** 1:30 P.M.–Completion (*estimated time is 4:00 p.m.*)

### **Estimated Timeline:**

#### **THURSDAY**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 10:00–1:30 | Setup display of Pin design (2 displays per table, please) |
| 1:45–2:10  | Attendance; contest briefing; introduction of judges       |
| 2:10–?     | Contest begins; students wait in hallway commons area      |

## What to Expect During the Contest

**The Presentation component of the contest** is a 5–7 minute presentation that the student gives in front of the judges about their pin design. Students should follow the current year’s Technical Standards as to what their presentation should cover. The judges sit directly in front of the contestant and can see their laptop screen perfectly in the event the student wants to create an electronic presentation.

**The Display component of the contest** is a display to present your Pin design to the viewing public. The display could be considered props for the presentation. **THE DISPLAY WILL BE JUDGED!** See the Technical Standards for the judging criteria on the display. During the week-long national contest, the Pin designs are on display for the viewing public, therefore, it is required to have a display that shows off your work. The space is about 28”x28” and there is a height restriction. When the student is called to present, the display is dismantled and taken into the contest room. Afterwards, the student just leaves the contest with their display props. Students who compete early on may leave their display setup until they are ready to leave campus. All displays must be taken down at the end of the day Thursday.

Here is a link to access photos taken from the 2014 Nationals Pin design displays. <http://bit.ly/2ROrbla>

**Your opinion, please....** Before students are allowed to “officially” leave the contest area, they are asked to submit a survey about their experience during the State conference. The contestant is not technically finished until the survey has been taken and turned back into the contest officials. The contestant will then be released from the contest to leave.

## How the Contest Works

Students will set up their displays in the allocated location (due to space limitations, please allow for two displays per table, please). There is 30 minutes given to set up displays after the Opening Ceremony. All displays need to be set up for public viewing by 1:30 p.m. Students may also set up their display before OCC.

Students will report for the contest briefing room. The T-Shirt and Pin Design contests both are held in the same room for the contest briefing. Resumes will be collected with attendance taken. Students need to be in appropriate dress during the contest briefing. Numbers will be drawn to determine the order to present. A brief overview will be discussed on how the timers work, and the procedure of coming into the room and getting setup, etc. The judges will then be introduced. Students will have the opportunity to ask any questions at this point.

Students are released to wait in the hallway seating area, just outside the contest rooms. Contest coordinators will be sitting in chairs outside the doorways of both rooms. When judges signal they are ready, the coordinators will call the first presenters. The presenters enter the judging area into the appropriate room with everything they need to give their presentation. Students may bring any piece (or pieces) of their display into the presentation room. At the national contest, many easels used for the displays were actually used during the student presentation.

Meanwhile, students will wait in the hallway seating area. Once a student has given their presentation, they will be given the survey to fill out. The student can be officially released once that is completed and given to the contest coordinator. Students may take their display with them at that point, or if they finish early and want to walk around campus for a while, they may leave their display up until it’s time for them to board the bus. All displays must be picked up by 4 p.m.

## A few quick responses to common questions during the contest:

- Draw numbers to determine order to present.
- Resumes must be submitted online by March 18th.
- Once you present you can leave, as long as you have turned in your survey.
- **Displays ARE judged during your presentation for Pin Design!**
- Bring an extra copy of your design printout to leave behind for judging.
- Your printed copy of your pin design must include both the 7" and 1-1/2" renderings on that one sheet.

*See the complete list of commonly asked questions from previous contest years at the end of this document (pages 4-5).*

## General Info • Helpful Things You Need to Know

- ★ **Displays are judged.** At Nationals, they want the designs placed on display for the viewing public, therefore they require a display. Think of this as presentation props! This display is set up on the tables immediately after the contest briefing. When it is time for a student to present, they will carry the display into the judging area for their presentation. After the presentation, they can return the items back to the tables (or may pack and take with them). This is a presentation contest that has the majority of the points based primarily on the presentation but the display will carry some of the point values.
- ★ **Bring one extra printed 8.5"x11" copy of your design to leave behind for judging.** After a contestant presents to the judges, they will leave a printed copy of their pin design behind for the judges to use for final scoring. This will allow the student to leave the contest without waiting for judging to be final. The printed piece must include the design at 7" and at 1-1/2" on the one sheet of paper. At nationals, the printed piece is placed in a photo frame.
- ★ **A timer is available for contestants to start/stop.** A timer is available for the contestant to start when he/she is ready to begin and stop when finished with their presentation. This is how they handle the timer situation at nationals. If a student feels the timer causes nervousness, then the timer can be controlled by the judges.
- ★ **Presentations can include a digital display.** A digital display of the presentation is not required. The student needs to create whatever he/she is most comfortable presenting, whether that be with a Powerpoint slideshow, board(s) setup on an easel, etc.
- ★ **Pins do NOT need to be produced for the display/contest.** This is not required and this factor will not cause a student to win or lose the contest. The technical chair at nationals addressed this issue in the contest debriefing and stated that even though the printed/produced pin enhances the display for the public, it does not add/lose any value to the presentation. This is a presentation contest that has the majority of the points based primarily on the presentation. The fact whether or not a student has set up a display with or without a printed pin has no point value whatsoever. If you look at the Technical Standards, it provides the list of criteria the display is judged on and it does not include anything about a produced pin.

## Commonly Asked Questions from Previous Years

Q: *What time do we need to arrive on Thursday?*

A: Setup your display on Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Opening Ceremony is scheduled from 12:00–1:00 p.m., therefore, if you don't have time to set up your display when you arrive on campus, it's okay to set up after the Open Ceremony. All displays need to be set up by 1:30 p.m. so we can begin the contest briefing.

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Q: *Do we see the timer or how will we know when time is up during our presentation?*

A: A timer will be available for the student to start/stop. If the student feels the timer makes him/her uncomfortable or nervous, the timer can be operated by the judges.

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Q: *Who will go first; can I volunteer to go first?*

A: We have wooden bingo chips that students will draw numbers to determine the order to present.

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Q: *Can my advisor (or another representative from my school) come into the contest room during the contest to take my photograph?*

A: It is best that photographs be taken from outside the contest room. The room has large windows that an advisor can easily snap a picture from the hallway (no flash, please).

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Q: *What if I arrive to contest late?*

A: Sometimes there are circumstances out of your control, and that is understandable. For instance, one year at state there was a horrible car accident and the highway was shut down for about 30 minutes, thus causing a lot of students to be late for their skill contest on Friday morning. However, this contest is scheduled to begin 30 minutes after Opening Ceremony, therefore a student should have plenty of time to arrive at the contest area, dressed appropriately.

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Q: *Can I change into my SkillsUSA Official Dress after the contest briefing?*

A: No. You are expected to arrive to contest, dressed and ready to go—just as you would show up for a meeting/presentation in the real world of work—dressed and ready to go!

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Q: *Why do I need to bring an extra printed copy of my design?*

A: The extra printed 8.5"x11" copy is left behind for the judges to view after your presentation is completed. This allows you to pack up your belongings and leave the contest and they can then give your design a really good, closeup look and jot notes about your presentation on the design. This printed copy will not be returned to you.

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Q: *After I give my presentation, may I leave—am I done?*

A: Yes and No. After you have given your presentation and filled out the survey, you will be officially released from the contest.

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Q: *When do I need to tear down my display?*

A: Displays should be taken down on Thursday at the end of contest. If you present early, you may decide to leave your presentation on display while you walk around campus. Just be sure you return before leaving on your bus Thursday to tear it down and take it with you at the end of the day Thursday. Please leave your area neat and clean and dispose of any trash in appropriate bins.

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Q: *Where do I find the link to view the photos of displays from the 2014 National contest?*

A: Here is a link to access photos taken from the 2014 Nationals Pin design displays.  
<http://bit.ly/2ROrbla>