



Illinois Association For Pupil Transportation Poster Contest Student Guidelines

**2025-2026 POSTER THEME:
"SAFE RIDES, EVERYDAY HEROES!"**

NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK OCTOBER 20-24, 2025

1. **WHO MAY ENTER?** Any student enrolled must be in a public, parochial or private school.

Division 1 - Grades K-2
Division 2 - Grades 3-5

Division 3 - Grades 6-8
Division 4 - Special Service Students

2. **DEADLINE?**

April 17, 2026 is the deadline for STATE competition.

May 15, 2026 is the deadline for NATIONAL competition.

Completed Poster must be 12" X 18" only.

3. **HOW TO ENTER?**

Use a National School Bus Safety Poster Contest entry blank form, or a reasonable facsimile, with information TYPED OR PRINTED clearly and signed by the teacher. Securely glue it on the back of the poster.

Designs may be on 12" X 18" construction paper but should be glued on quality poster illustration board, size 12" X 18".

4. ORIGINALITY?

POSTER THEME MUST BE ORIGINAL AND CORRECT IN SAFETY CONCEPT.

Drawings must be original, correct in safety concept and the exclusive work of the student entering the contest in idea, design, and execution. Instructor should supervise all work created. Completion of art should be done and mailed in by April 17, 2026. Poster slogan must harmonize with the theme:

"Safe Rides, Everyday Heroes"

Contestants must illustrate above theme only.

Illustrations should be positive in approach and demonstrate only proper school bus safety behavior.

Illustrations must also accurately portray Illinois law, rules and regulations regarding pupil transportation.

Part of a yellow school bus must be in the poster. Cross arm and stop sign must be in correct position. Stop light colors must be in the correct order.

Bus must be on the correct side of the road, not the middle. Bus must not be in or across the crosswalk. Bus driver must have a seat belt.

5. LETTERING?

Only freehand drawn letters may be used in the poster design.

Stenciled, pre-printed, manufactured stick-on or press-on letters or tracings may NOT be used. Lettering should be clearly legible, even if used as part of the poster design.

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; however, wood, plastic, glass or metal must not be part of the poster.

Collage materials should not be used. Poster designs may not incorporate any copyrighted characters (i.e., comic and/or television characters), photographs, and magazine or newspaper illustrations.

6. MAIL STATE CONTESTANT ENTRIES TO:

I.A.P.T. Poster Contest
c/o Angela Langley
P.O. Box 190
Robinson, IL 62454-0190

Please complete and attach this form to the back of each poster in accordance with poster specifications noted in the contest rules. The below information is important and needed. Posters may be disqualified at the national level if the above label is not used for poster submission!

POSTER LABEL
LABEL FOR ENTRY - PRINT CLEARLY

Student Name _____

Grade _____ **Age** _____

School _____

Teacher's Name _____

Teacher's Email _____

School Phone Number _____

School Address

City _____

State _____ **Zip** _____

Student's Home Address

City _____

State _____ **Zip** _____

- Division #1** - Grades K-2
- Division #2** - Grades 3-5
- Division #3** - Grades 6-8
- Division #4** - Special Education (Grades K - 12)
- Division #5** - CAD (Computer Aided Drawing)
- Division #6** - International Entries

Do not place this information on the front of the poster.

Display on the back only!

All fields must be completed!

Please select prize payment preference which will be used for winning posters:

If my poster is selected as a winning poster, the prize check can be mailed to:

Prize money mailed to home address

Prize money mailed to school address