



Take Care of Texas Kids Art Contest Contest Rules

CONTEST OVERVIEW

Texas elementary school students and students home-schooled in Texas who are in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to participate in the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) Take Care of Texas Kids Art Contest (Contest). Each entry will help spread the message that all Texans need to do their part to Take Care of Texas. Students' artwork must include the slogan **"Take Care of Texas. It's the only one we've got."** and portray positive ways Texans can help keep our air and water clean, conserve water and energy, and reduce waste.

One winning design will be selected from each of the TCEQ's 16 regional offices. Staff from each TCEQ regional office will select the winning entry from their region. From the 16 statewide winning entries, the overall grand prize winner will be selected by the TCEQ commissioners and executive office and representatives from the contest partner, Texas Chemical Council.

The student who designs the overall best artwork will be awarded a laptop. The winner will also be invited to Austin to be recognized by the TCEQ commissioners and a Texas Chemical Council representative during the 2020 Environmental Trade Fair and Conference banquet on May 13.

Students who create the remaining 15 winning designs will each win a tablet presented to them by the TCEQ regional director from that region. TCEQ staff, when possible, will work with the student's school to arrange the prize presentation.

All winning designs will be showcased in Take Care of Texas and TCEQ social media posts, newsletters, and media announcements, at the 2020 Environmental Trade Fair and Conference, and on the Take Care of Texas website. In addition, the overall best design will be published in the next edition of the [Take Care of Texas activity book](#) (publication number GI-380).

The teacher of the student who designs the overall best design will also be awarded a tablet.

The contest begins on January 6, 2020. All entries must be mailed to the TCEQ and postmarked on or before Friday, March 6, 2020. Winners will be announced on April 15, 2020, and prizes will be distributed by May 13, 2020. Contest rules and dates may be changed at the TCEQ's sole discretion.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be current residents of Texas, must be students in grades K-5 as of March 2020, and must comply with these Official Rules. Employees and their immediate families (spouses, parents, siblings, children, and each of the respective spouses or people living in the same household of each) of TCEQ or Texas Chemical Council are not eligible to participate.

CONTEST RULES

- Artwork must be postmarked on or before **Friday, March 6, 2020. Late entries will not be accepted.**
- Artwork must be original work created by a kindergarten through fifth grade student enrolled in a Texas elementary school or home-schooled in Texas.
- Each student may submit only one design.
- Artwork must include the slogan **"Take Care of Texas. It's the only one we've got."** and illustrate positive ways Texans can help keep our air and water clean, conserve water and energy, and reduce waste.
- Each student's parent or legal guardian must fill out and execute the [Contest Entry Form and Agreement](#).
- Entry must have a completed Contest Entry Form and Agreement attached to the back with tape or a clear glue stick. The student's name must be written on the back of the artwork; nothing except the entry form may be attached to the back. Entries that do not have the Contest Entry Form and Agreement attached will not be considered.

- Teachers may use the How Can You Take Care of Texas? poster (publication number GI-437) with activities printed on the back to introduce the contest and give students ideas. View, download, and order free copies at <TakeCareOfTexas.org/publications>.
- Students may get additional ideas by visiting the Take Care of Texas website at <TakeCareOfTexas.org/kids>.
- All submitted artwork is owned by the TCEQ. Winners and their parents or guardians agree to the use of the winners' names/likenesses to promote the Take Care of Texas program and future art contests. Entries will not be returned. See Contest Entry Form and Agreement for further details.
- No obligation or liability is assumed by the TCEQ in connection with the contest.

DESIGN RULES

- Artwork must be submitted on an 8.5" x 11" piece of paper (landscape format is recommended).
- Artwork must include the slogan **"Take Care of Texas. It's the only one we've got."** and illustrate positive ways Texans can help keep our air and water clean, conserve water and energy, and reduce waste.
- Collages, computer generated artwork, photography, or photocopies will not be accepted.
- Artwork must be two-dimensional, using any of the following: watercolor, acrylic or oil paints, colored pencil, colored markers, ink, charcoal, pastels, and crayons.
- Designs must not include company logos, product brands, or store names.
- Designs must not be framed or mounted.
- Designs must not be folded or damaged.
- Students may choose to sign their artwork; however, the winner's name will be printed next to his or her design if it wins, so signing is not necessary.

JUDGING

- Entries will be judged based on creativity/uniqueness, inclusion of the **"Take Care of Texas. It's the only one we've got."** slogan and message, interpretation of the theme, overall visual appeal, composition, and age appropriateness.
- Entries will be judged by TCEQ region staff and the TCEQ commissioners and executive office and Texas Chemical Council's staff.
- All judgments are final.

PRIZES

Sixteen winners will be selected:

- The student who designs the overall best artwork will be awarded a laptop. The winner will also be invited to Austin to be recognized by the TCEQ commissioners and a Texas Chemical Council representative during the 2020 Environmental Trade Fair and Conference banquet on May 13.
- The remaining 15 winning students will each receive a tablet presented to them by the TCEQ regional director from their region. TCEQ staff, when possible, will work with the student's school to arrange the presentation.
- All winning designs will be showcased in Take Care of Texas and TCEQ social media posts, newsletters, and media announcements, during the 2020 Environmental Trade Fair and Conference, and on the Take Care of Texas website. In addition, the overall best design will be published in the next edition of the Take Care of Texas activity book (publication number GI-380) <TakeCareOfTexas.org/publications>.
- The teacher of the student who designs the overall best design will also be awarded a tablet.

ARTWORK SUBMISSION

Participating teachers, coordinators, or parents must submit students' original designs (with Contest Entry Form and Agreement attached to the back) through the U.S. mail (not emailed) postmarked on or before **March 6, 2020** to:

**Take Care of Texas Kids Art Contest, MC 118
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087**

More information can be found at <TakeCareOfTexas.org/art-contest>.