

Geo-Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers Presents

Rules for the 12th Annual Geo-Shirt Design Competition

Geo-Congress 2026, Salt Lake City, UT, USA

I. Official Contest Rules

- **1. Objective:** The objective of the 2026 Geo-Shirt Design Contest is to design a t-shirt for students participating in the Geo-Challenge competitions at Geo-Congress 2026 in Salt Lake City, UT. For 2026, Geo-Challenge includes the Geo-Wall, Geo-Prediction, Geo-Poster, Geo-Video, and Geo-Shirt competitions. The final artwork for the t-shirt must be an *original work* and adhere to the requirements for file format outlined in the design procedures provided in Section II.
- **2. Eligibility:** A Geo-Shirt Design Contest team will consist of one student. The student must be enrolled during the Spring 2026 semester or quarter. Each student is allowed only one submission, and no more than five teams may compete from each school.
- **3. Submission:** Each Geo-Shirt Design Contest team will submit their entry directly, by email, to Erik Jensen (jensen.erik.w@gmail.com) by midnight Eastern Standard Time on Friday, January 9th, 2026. The email must include:
 - Screenshot of the design,
 - Name and email of the team member,
 - Name of the institution of the team, and
 - Name, address, and email of the team member's faculty advisor or team member's Graduate Student Organization's (GSO's) advisor.
 - Description of the design, not to exceed 150 words in length, as it relates to the theme and venue of the conference.

Changes to the team composition following the submission deadline will not be permitted. Submissions will be acknowledged within 72 hours. Late submissions will not be accepted.

The email exchange to obtain permission for any images, graphics, pictures, etc. that are not the team's original work as well as the completed artwork release form should also be emailed to Erik Jensen at the addresses provided above by the deadline. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from the Geo-Shirt Design competition.

- **4. Requirements**: The T-Shirt Design is open to the imagination of the student, but the statements listed below will be true for the winning entry:
 - The artwork is original or used with the written permission of the owner(s). See details below.
 - The design of the t-shirt is the original work of the student on the Geo-Shirt Design Contest team.
 - The design relates to the themes of Geo-Congress 2026 i.e., Geo Tools, Technologies, and Techniques in an Environment of Change.
 - There are no profanity or offensive symbols.
 - The design does not include logos, mascots, or color schemes of a particular school.
 - The GI logo and sponsor logos (anticipate 8-10 sponsor logos) are included on the shirt.

Original artwork is composed of graphics or imagery that were created by the student. If you plan to use an existing graphic or image, you need to obtain written permission from the owner or purchase the artwork. The permission form is appended to these rules.

Permission forms or purchase receipts should be sent to Erik Jensen (jensen.erik.w@gmail.com). Purchases will not be reimbursed. All permissions and purchases must be finalized by the submission deadline.

- **5. Judging**: Designs meeting the requirements outlined in Item 4 will be evaluated based on their creativity, visual appeal, and conveyed message. In addition, judges will also take into consideration the description of the design as it relates to the theme and venue of the conference. The winning entry will be selected by a panel of geotechnical engineers. All rule interpretations, adjudications, and additions will be the sole responsibility and at the sole discretion of Erik Jensen.
- **6. Award**: Only one entry will be selected as the winner of the competition. The member of the winning team will be awarded a travel stipend to partially offset the cost to attend the conference, assuming travel to Geo-Congress 2026 is approved by conference organizers, the student's institution, and Geo-Challenge officials. Reimbursement procedures will be provided to the winning team.
- **7. Responsibility at Conference**: The winning design team is expected to be present at the conference during the Geo-Challenge competitions and award ceremony. They will be responsible for distributing the Geo-Shirts to student participants in the competitions and at the conference. Responsibilities are subject to change if Geo-Congress 2026 is held virtually for any reason.

II. Design Requirements and Procedures:

- **1. Software and Design File Type:** Designs should be produced using a suitable graphic design software e.g., canva.com, and the digital images should be of high enough resolution to produce a good quality T-shirt graphic. The printers can work with most standard graphics file types, though .eps and .ai files are preferred. In the design submission, please provide a screenshot of the design in the body of the email.
- **2. Colors:** The images, words, or otherwise included as a part of the design itself should be in a single-color, and the design should be overlaid on a single-color T-shirt. A list of available T-shirt colors is provided below. Teams will be judged primarily on the design elements, although the color of the T-shirt can be incorporated into the overall design. If the exact color of the winning design is not available, the winning team will be asked to select an alternative from a list provided by the printers.



- **3. Design Size and Location:** Designs are encouraged to be on both the front and back of the T-shirt, but neither the front nor back design should exceed 14 inches by 14 inches in size.
- **4. Sponsors:** A final list of Geo-Challenge sponsors is not currently available, but teams should use the following logos from last year's Geo-Challenge sponsors as placeholders in their designs: Sponsor Logos. It is preferred that the sponsor logos be included on the back of the T-shirt.

III. Artwork Release for Use to Print T-Shirts for the 2026 Geo-Shirt Competition by the Geo-Institute of the American Society for Civil Engineers:

Use one form per owner. The permission form should be exchanged by email using the email address associated with the owner's organization, if applicable. Please forward the entire email exchange and

completed form to Erik Jensen (Jensen.erik.w@gmail.com). All permissions must be obtained and submitted prior to the GeoShirt competition deadlines.
1. This agreement refers to the following photograph(s), artwork, and/or image(s):
[append copy of graphic(s)]
2. I declare that I am the sole owner of the copyright in the photo, artwork, and/or image AND I hereby grant the Geo-Institute, and their contracted T-Shirt printer, royalty-free permission to print this artwork on T-shirts produced as part of the 2026 Geo-Shirt competition.
3. I also declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the photo, artwork, image and/or video does not infringe on the copyright or other proprietary rights of any third party.
Please print name and date:
Please Sign Here: