Terms and Conditions

Alien Ranking Card Design Contest

Contest Terms and Conditions

These Terms & Conditions ("Terms") apply to the Progress Learning Alien Ranking Card Student Design Contest ("Contest") and supplement the Contest HelpDoc. By submitting any student artwork, the teacher and school agree to these Terms.

- **Sponsor**
  - The Contest is sponsored by Progress Learning ("Sponsor").
- **Contest Period**
  - The Contest opens on December 1, 2026.
  - **Entries submitted by mail must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2027.** Entries submitted online must be uploaded no later than 11:59 p.m. local time on March 1, 2027.
  - Entries postmarked or uploaded after March 1, 2027 will not be considered.
  - Winners will be notified on or about March 18, 2027 and publicly announced on or about April 20, 2027.
  - Winning designs will be featured in the Progress Learning platform beginning with the 2027–28 school year.
- **Eligibility**
  - The Contest is open to students in grades K–8 who are enrolled in a public or charter school in the United States, or in any school with an active Progress Learning subscription.
  - Homeschool programs and submissions from individuals not affiliated with an eligible school are not eligible.
  - Entries must be submitted by a teacher or school staff member on behalf of the student(s).
  - Employees of Sponsor and members of their immediate families are not eligible.
  - No purchase is necessary to enter or win. The Contest is void where prohibited by law.
- **How to Enter**
  - Entry methods, the official design template, the submission cover sheet, and technical requirements are described in the **Contest HelpDoc**.
  - Entries may be submitted online through the Contest submission form or by mail to the address listed in the Contest HelpDoc.
  - Each student may submit up to two (2) entries.
  - Each entry must include the student's first name and last initial, grade level, school name, and the name of the alien. Use of the official design template is strongly encouraged. A short alien backstory is optional.
  - Each mailed package and each online submission must include a completed submission cover sheet.
  - Entries may be submitted in English or Spanish.
  - Late, incomplete, illegible, or non-compliant entries may be disqualified at Sponsor's sole discretion. If a winning entry does not include a legible alien name, Sponsor may assign one.
- **Content Requirements**
  - All entries must:
    - Be the student's own original artwork, created specifically for this Contest.
    - Be alien-themed.
    - Not be created using AI tools or generators.
    - Not include licensed or copyrighted characters (e.g., from movies, TV, games, books, or other media).

        - Be school-appropriate for grades K–8 and must not include:
            - Real people or realistic depictions of classmates or staff
            - Weapons, graphic violence, or gore
            - Nudity or sexualized content
            - Drugs, alcohol, smoking, or vaping
            - Hate symbols or discriminatory, harassing, or bullying content
            - Self-harm, suicide, or other unsafe behaviors
            - Political messages, campaign materials, or political advocacy
    - Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify any entry that, in its sole judgment, does not meet these requirements.
- **Teacher Representations & Parental Consent**
    - By submitting any student entry, the teacher/school represents and warrants that:
        - The artwork is the original work of the student named on the entry.
        - The school's policies allow participation in this Contest and the sharing of student work and information with Sponsor.
        - The student's parent or legal guardian has provided permission for:
            - The student to participate in the Contest; and
            - Sponsor to use the student's first name, last initial, grade level, and artwork as described in these Terms.
    - Teachers/schools agree to maintain records of any required parent/guardian permissions in accordance with school or district policy.
    - Each winning student's parent or legal guardian must sign and return a release form provided by Sponsor at winner notification, by the date stated in the notification. If the release is not returned by that date, Sponsor may select an alternate winner.
- **Ownership & License**
    - The student (and/or their parent/guardian) retains ownership of the copyright in the artwork.
    - By entering the Contest, the student (and their parent/guardian) and the submitting teacher/school grant Sponsor a perpetual, worldwide, royalty-free, non-exclusive license to:
        - Use, reproduce, modify, adapt, publish, display, distribute, and create derivative works from the artwork, in whole or in part, in any media now known or later developed; and
        - Use the student's first name, last initial, and grade level in connection with such uses.
    - This license includes use within the Progress Learning platform, on Sponsor's websites, in promotional and marketing materials, in printed materials and merchandise (including prize t-shirts and sticker sheets), and on Sponsor's social media channels, without additional compensation beyond any prize awarded.
    - Winning designs will be adapted by Sponsor into the Progress Learning visual style for use as ranking cards in the platform.
- **Use of Student Information**
    - The following information may be collected for contest administration: student first name and last initial, grade level, school name, district name, teacher name and contact information, the submitted artwork, and a return mailing address if artwork return is requested.
    - For winning students only, a t-shirt size and prize delivery information will be collected at winner notification.
    - Only winning students' first name, last initial, grade level, and artwork may be publicly displayed. Names of non-winning students will not be published.
    - Student information will be handled in accordance with applicable privacy and student data laws and Sponsor's agreements with schools and districts.
- **Selection of Winners**
    - Eligible entries will first be screened by Sponsor for eligibility, compliance with the Content Requirements, and suitability for use as a ranking card in the Progress Learning platform. A shortlist of finalists will then be rated by Sponsor staff.

- Up to twenty (20) winning entries will be selected based on staff ratings, and staff ratings will also determine the order of the winning designs within the ranking card set. Sponsor's decisions are final and binding.
- Sponsor reserves the right to limit the number of winning designs selected from any single classroom. Any such limit will be determined before staff rating begins.
- Sponsor may select an alternate winner if a winning entry is disqualified, a required release is not returned, or the teacher cannot be reached.
- Winners will be notified using the teacher/school contact information provided and may also be announced on Sponsor's website, platform, and social media.

- **Prizes**
  - **Each winning student** will have their alien design featured in the Progress Learning platform and will receive a custom t-shirt printed with their alien design and a printed certificate featuring their alien.
  - **Each classroom with a winning design** will receive twenty-five (25) sticker sheets featuring all twenty (20) new aliens. One set per classroom, regardless of the number of winning designs from that classroom.
  - **Each teacher with a winning design** will receive a $50 classroom gift card. Classroom gift cards are capped at $100 per teacher and per classroom, regardless of the number of winning designs from that classroom.
  - **Participation drawing:** classrooms that submit at least five (5) eligible entries and do not have a winning design will be entered into a random drawing for one (1) $100 classroom gift card. Each eligible classroom receives one entry. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible classrooms. The drawing will be held on or about May 15, 2027.
  - **Every participating classroom** will receive a set of alien sticker sheets.
  - Prizes will be shipped to the school address provided. Prizes are non-transferable and have no cash equivalent. All prizes are subject to school and district gift acceptance policies; where a district prohibits staff acceptance of gift cards, Sponsor will substitute classroom supplies of equal value shipped directly to the school.
- **Submissions and Returns**
  - Sponsor is not responsible for lost, late, misdirected, damaged, or incomplete entries.
  - Physical artwork will be returned at Sponsor's expense only if the teacher requests a return on the submission cover sheet or online form at the time of submission and provides a return mailing address. Requested returns will be shipped on or before May 15, 2027.
  - Physical artwork not requested for return will be securely recycled after August 1, 2027. Teachers/schools are encouraged to keep copies for their records.
  - Non-winning entries will be used only for contest administration and will not be publicly displayed, except as may be required by law or school/district agreements.
- **General Conditions**
  - Sponsor reserves the right to cancel, suspend, or modify the Contest, or any part of it, if any factor interferes with its security, fairness, or proper conduct.
  - Sponsor reserves the right to substitute a prize of equal or greater value if any advertised prize becomes unavailable, subject to school/district policies.
  - By participating, schools, teachers, and students (through their parents/guardians) agree to release and hold harmless Sponsor and its officers, employees, and agents from any claims arising out of participation in the Contest or acceptance or use of any prize, to the extent permitted by law.
  - These Terms are governed by the laws of the state in which Sponsor is headquartered, without regard to conflict-of-law rules.