

# Gilpin County Flag Design Competition

## Official Contest Rules

### 1. Purpose

Gilpin County invites residents, artists, students, and community members to participate in the design of an official county flag. The goal of the competition is to create a flag that reflects the history, heritage, natural environment, and community spirit of Gilpin County. This competition is also timely in that it corresponds to the Colorado 150, America 250 celebration this year.

The winning design may be adopted as the **official flag of Gilpin County** and used in county facilities, events, publications, and other official materials.

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### 2. Eligibility

The contest is open to individuals who meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Residents of Gilpin County
- Individuals who work in Gilpin County
- Students attending school in Gilpin County
- Individuals with a demonstrated connection to Gilpin County

Participants under the age of 18 must submit written permission from a parent or legal guardian.

Employees of Gilpin County and members of the selection committee may participate but may be excluded from final judging if necessary to avoid conflicts of interest.

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### 3. Submission Requirements

#### 3.1 Original Work

All designs must be the **original work of the participant** and may not include copyrighted material, trademarks, or previously published designs.

#### 3.2 Design Format

Submissions must include:

## Flag Design

- Digital file format (JPG, PNG, or PDF)
- Horizontal orientation
- Recommended flag ratio: **3:5**

## Design Description

- A written explanation of the design (100–250 words)
- Description of symbolism, colors, and elements used

## Participant Information

- Name
- Mailing address
- Email
- Connection to Gilpin County
- Parent/guardian permission if under 18

### 3.3 Number of Entries

Participants may submit **up to three (3) designs**.

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## 4. Design Guidelines

Participants are encouraged to follow established flag design principles:

- **Simplicity:** The design should be simple enough to be easily recognizable.
- **Meaningful Symbolism:** Elements should represent Gilpin County's heritage, geography, or community identity.
- **Limited Colors:** Use two to four colors that contrast clearly.
- **No Lettering or Seals:** Words, slogans, or complex seals should be avoided.
- **Distinctiveness:** The design should be unique and easily distinguishable.

Submissions that do not follow these guidelines may still be considered but may score lower during the evaluation process.

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## 5. Submission Process

Entries must be submitted by one of the following methods:

**Online Submission:**

Through the [official submission form](#) on the [Gilpin County website](#).

Please email [pubcomment@gilpincounty.org](mailto:pubcomment@gilpincounty.org) if you'd like to submit physically or via email rather than the form.

All entries must be received by **Sunday, May 3 at 11:59 p.m.**

Late submissions will not be accepted.

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**6. Review and Selection Process****Step 1 – Eligibility Screening**

County staff will review submissions to ensure they meet all contest requirements.

Incomplete or ineligible submissions may be disqualified.

**Step 2 – Selection Committee Review**

A review committee appointed by the county will evaluate eligible submissions based on:

- Creativity and originality
- Representation of Gilpin County
- Simplicity and clarity of design
- Adherence to flag design principles
- Overall visual impact

The committee will select **a group of finalist designs**.

**Step 3 – Public Voting**

Finalist designs will be shared publicly through:

- The county website
- Social media platforms: County Nextdoor, Facebook, Instagram
- Public display at county facilities: Community Center, Library, old Courthouse

Residents will be invited to provide feedback or participate in advisory voting.

**Step 4 – Final Selection**

The **Board of County Commissioners** will make the final determination and may:

- Select a winning design

- Request minor design modifications
- Decline to select a design if submissions do not meet expectations

The decision of the Board of County Commissioners is final.

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## **7. Prize and Recognition**

The winning designer will receive:

- Official recognition by the Board of County Commissioners
  - Public recognition in county communications
  - A commemorative certificate
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## **8. Intellectual Property and Use Rights**

By submitting a design, participants agree that:

- If selected as the winning design, ownership of the design will be transferred to Gilpin County.
- Gilpin County may reproduce, modify, display, and distribute the design for official purposes.
- The county may adapt the design for various formats including digital, print, signage, merchandise, and flags.

Designers will be credited for their work whenever practical.

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## **9. Disqualification**

Submissions may be disqualified if they:

- Include copyrighted or trademarked materials
  - Contain offensive or inappropriate imagery
  - Do not meet submission requirements
  - Are submitted after the deadline
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## **10. Contest Timeline**

The anticipated timeline for the competition is as follows:

- Contest Announcement: April 1, 2026
- Submission Deadline: May 3, 2026
- Finalist Review: May 4-5, 2026
- Public Voting Period: May 9-31, 2026
- Final Selection by Commissioners: June 9, 2026

Dates may be adjusted at the county's discretion.

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## **11. Contest Administration**

Gilpin County reserves the right to:

- Modify contest timelines
- Clarify or amend contest rules
- Decline to adopt a flag if no suitable design is identified

Participation in the contest constitutes acceptance of these rules.