<u>Design Challenge - Patch - 2026</u>

Team Mission Patches for this year should represent the school, the team, and the student astronaut challenge competition. Do not include any copyrighted symbols or images. For examples of actual NASA mission patches, visit: https://www.nasa.gov/gallery/human-spaceflight-mission-patches/ and https://www.nasa.gov/johnson/HWHAP/mission-patches. Your final patch should not be AI generated, but you can utilize tools to help you brainstorm.

Mission patches should be submitted, via email, to danielle.miller03@gmail.com as a single page PDF that includes the patch and the narrative paragraph. The deadline for this challenge is 11:59pm, eastern time, TUESDAY JANUARY 20, 2026. Late patch designs will be accepted, but points will be deducted from the overall bonus point score if patches are submitted after the deadline.

Here are the official specifications for designing NASA Mission Patches:
1. The patch size is limited to 16 square inches of surface area (e.g.4" square).
2. No more than 8 solid Pantone Matching System (PMS) block colors.
3. No gradient colors or photography (e.g., bitmaps, .tiff, .tif, .jpeg, etc.).
4. Letters and names must be at least one quarter inch tall in a four inch patch.
5. There must be a one-sixteenth inch wide border around the outside of the patch.
6. No lines should be thinner than 1 point line weight at patch actual size, for stitching purposes. (A 1-point line is about 1 thread width.)

Your patch design should be featured and explained to the judges in your design challenge presentation. Points earned will be added to the overall design challenge score.

Team/School Representation	Does your patch represent your school and your team?				
5	4	3	2	1	0
Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	Missing
Patch design demonstrates significant effort and is fully representative of the school and team.	Patch design demonstrates effort and is representative of the school and team.	Patch design represents the school or team.	Minimal detail, needs improvement.	Minimal effort.	Incomplete or missing.
Astronaut Challenge Representation	Does your patch incorporate the events of the student astronaut challenge competition?				
5	4	3	2	1	0
Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	Missing
Patch design is thorough, demonstrates significant effort, and represents all of the events of the astronaut challenge.	Patch design is thorough, demonstrates effort, and represents some of the astronaut challenge.	Patch design represents some parts of the astronaut challenge.	Minimal detail, needs improvement.	Minimal effort.	Incomplete or missing.
Creativity, Originality	Judges will award points for creativity and originality.				
5	4	3	2	1	0
Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	Missing
Adheres to Design Guidelines					
5					0
YES					NO
Patch Narrative	5 sentences maximum - describing your patch, its design, symbols, colors, and meaning				
5	4	3	2	1	0
Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	Missing
Paragraph is thorough, informative, and demonstrates significant effort.	Description/answer is informative and well thought.	Description/Answer is present, but some details are missing/incorrect.	Minimal detail, needs improvement.	Minimal effort.	Incomplete or missing.

Overall Score _____