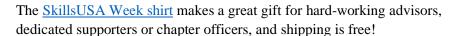


>>> Finalize Your SkillsUSA Week Plans

It's time to finalize your plans for SkillsUSA Week, Feb. 5-9! Whether you honor school staff with a thank-you breakfast, invite a partner to speak at a chapter meeting or make a presentation to a community group, members can grow their skills and demonstrate that SkillsUSA is an important factor in their personal and professional development. To get started, download the SkillsUSA Week Program Guide.

Advisors and chapter leaders can utilize the new SkillsUSA Week Activity Sets to bring greater member engagement. Have your SkillsUSA Week committee or chapter officers review the activities now and select a few to implement. Download the Activity Sets.





The <u>SkillsUSA Advocacy Site</u> offers two editable letter templates to promote your chapter to the media or write to elected officials. After SkillsUSA Week, <u>be sure to share your stories</u>, <u>photos or links</u>, and we may feature your chapter in the <u>SkillsUSA Champions digital magazine</u> or on social media.

State directors and chapter advisors can request a virtual national officer visit during SkillsUSA Week. National officers can join your students for 15 minutes to provide greetings or share SkillsUSA Framework stories. The deadline has been extended to complete the SkillsUSA Week Virtual National Officer Request Form to Feb. 1. National officers are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

>>> Honor Your Champion With a National Award: Nominations Still Open

If you would like to nominate someone for national recognition by SkillsUSA as an **Honorary Life**Member, Outstanding Career and Technical Educator or for the Hall of Champions award, please complete the online applications. Be sure to notify your nominee and provide all requested information. The deadline is Feb. 14. If you have questions, contact Laura Rauch.

>>> SkillsUSA Advisor and Student Feedback Needed

SkillsUSA is eager to hear advisor and student feedback to assess their needs and preferences. We have prepared a brief survey for advisors to assess your needs at the local level. Your opinions will be

instrumental in shaping the future initiatives of our organization and ensuring that we provide the best possible support for our members.

SkillsUSA has also prepared a <u>brief survey for your students</u>. Given the importance of representing the diverse perspectives of our members across different states, *we kindly request your assistance in distributing this survey to your student members if your local policies allow.* Student input will significantly contribute to our understanding of regional variations and enhance the overall effectiveness of our initiatives.

The surveys should take no more than 10 minutes to complete. Your support is highly valuable to us, and we sincerely thank you in advance for your collaboration. Responses will remain confidential, and the information collected will be used solely for the purpose of enhancing our organization's offerings. We appreciate your commitment to SkillsUSA and look forward to hearing your valuable feedback.

>>> Register Members by March 1 to Claim Big Benefits

The national SkillsUSA membership deadline is **March 1**. Student members must meet both state and national membership deadlines to be eligible for national competitions; serve as voting delegates; run for national office; or apply for national scholarships, awards and honors. Check out the <u>complete listing of state dues and deadlines</u> and learn how to join as a professional member and access your professional membership benefits in this <u>video tutorial</u>.

>>> Take Up the Challenge! NLSC Pin and T-shirt Design

SkillsUSA is offering the 2024 National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) Pin and T-shirt Design Challenge to all dues-paying student members. The winning designs will become the official T-shirt and pin design for the 2024 NLSC. Entries must be received by **March 1 at 12 a.m. ET**, and winners will be announced on March 8. Rules and submission links can be found on the SkillsUSA Website.

>>> Presidential Honors for Selfless Service

At the 2024 National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC), SkillsUSA will recognize advisors, students and registered alumni for their community service through the President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA). To qualify, SkillsUSA members must submit a record of their service hours. With SkillsUSA's focus on community service, you may have already met the requirements. For details on how to apply, <u>visit the website</u>. Applications must be received by **March 31**, for recognition at the 2024 NLSC.

>>> Create a Business Partner Pipeline with the Framework Integration Toolkit

The Framework Integration Toolkit has everything you need to ensure career readiness within your classroom, training program and chapter. Getting connected with business and industry partners is made easier with the Business Partner Outreach and Preparation Guide. The 24-page guide assists with business partner outreach and includes resources for preparation, student activities and exercises and evaluation for measuring student growth. Professional members can access the Toolkit in SkillsUSA Absorb.

>>> Spring SkillsUSA Professional Development Offerings

Take your SkillsUSA knowledge to the next level with SkillsUSA's Professional Development offerings. Sessions include new advisor training, the Chapter Excellence Program, how to apply for scholarships and more. Visit our <u>training webpage</u> and sign up now for the sessions that interest you. All sessions are free and open to any SkillsUSA advisor.

SkillsUSA College/Postsecondary Scholarships Open!

SkillsUSA members anticipating tuition expenses for the summer or fall 2024 academic terms can apply now for scholarships made available through SkillsUSA and generous industry partners. SkillsUSA uses the Kaleidoscope scholarship platform for a streamlined application experience. Scholarship applications require a letter of recommendation from a SkillsUSA advisor or another instructor, a resume and a brief essay. Scholarship recipients are notified by email and must submit an acceptance form. Funds for scholarship awards are remitted directly to the recipients' postsecondary institutions and applied to the student's account balance. These scholarships are competitive and applying for a scholarship does not guarantee your selection. To get started, visit the scholarships page on the website to see scholarship opportunities and award amounts. For questions, contact our Customer Care Team.

>>> Share Your Success with SkillsUSA

The <u>SkillsUSA Champions digital hub</u> provides members with new content frequently, from inspiring features to stories about the great work chapters and partners are doing. If your students need ideas for new chapter activities, the online magazine is a great resource for your officer team. To submit a story idea, send us the details through our <u>"Submit a Story"</u> link.

>>> Need Assistance with SkillsUSA?

Connect with the SkillsUSA Customer Care Team for expert guidance on launching a new chapter, registering members, building student engagement or growing your chapter. For help, call 844-875-4557 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. ET on Monday, Wednesday and Friday or 8 a.m.-7 p.m. ET on Tuesday and Thursday. You can also email at customercare@skillsusa.org. Additionally, we offer a 15-minute virtual training session on member registration; fill out this form to register. Count on us to support your chapter every step of the way!

>>> Address Change for the SkillsUSA National Office Reminder

Effective immediately, the National Headquarters of SkillsUSA has a new official mailing address. Please update your accounting records for any invoice payments, correspondence or other mail coming to SkillsUSA headquarters via USPS, FedEx or UPS.

Please note this address is for national office payments only; your state office mailing address will remain the same unless you are notified otherwise.

SkillsUSA 673 Potomac Station Dr. PMB #809 Leesburg, VA 20176 To ensure timely membership payments, we recommend using electronic payment by credit card and echeck. You can access the link to pay directly from each invoice you receive. Please reach out to SkillsUSA's Customer Care Team at 844-875-4557 or customercare@skillsusa.org if you need help or have further questions.

Download the W9 form with the new address.