



FRIDAY FLASH

»» SkillsUSA Engage Registration Now Open for Teachers and Advisors

SkillsUSA instructors and advisors can now register for SkillsUSA Engage, a professional development conference that assists them in elevating their teaching skills to new levels. This will be a fast-paced, hands-on learning experience to jumpstart planning for next school year. Sara Plozoy, a veteran Engage attendee, says, “Engage gives you the student hat to wear,” elevating your lesson plans and chapter activities to be more engaging and intentional.



Engage will be held June 18-20 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, just prior to the National Leadership & Skills Conference. For more information and to register for Engage, [go here](#). For questions, contact [Michelle Martinez](#).

»» 2022 NTHS Scholarship Winners

The winners of the National Technical Honor Society Scholarships provided through SkillsUSA are: **Kathryn Reynolds**, George Ranch High School, Richmond, Texas (advisor: Claudia Urbina); **Seth Freiburger**, Scott Technical Regional Center, Monett, Mo. (advisor: Anessa Garner); **Emily Webb**, Dekalb County Technology Center, Rainsville, Ala. (advisor: Tessa Brown); and **William Kruk**, The Center for Advanced Technology at Monohasen, Schenectady, N.Y. (advisor: Darryl Nunn). Congratulations to these SkillsUSA champions!

»» Share Your Signing Day with the Nation

Chapters across the nation will celebrate SkillsUSA National Signing Day on May 5 by highlighting the value of the skilled trades while recognizing career and technical students for their dedication to career readiness and a career in the skilled trades. Hundreds of SkillsUSA schools in 32 states and territories are expected to participate in the 2022 event. Year by year, SkillsUSA National Signing Day is generating greater awareness that the skilled trades offer rewarding career paths.



On Signing Day, SkillsUSA chapters will host students at signing ceremonies attended by administrators, teachers, elected officials, SkillsUSA advisors, family and friends. Like signing day events for student

athletes who commit to a college or team, students will be applauded one by one as they sign letters of intent for a job offer, apprenticeship or advanced technical training. Throughout the day, skilled trades supporters will share their encouragement for these future workers, so watch our SkillsUSA social media channels for some exciting updates.

All chapters are asked to submit their Signing Day photos, videos and stories to SkillsUSA's communications team so we can highlight your local events. [To submit your photos and stories, upload them here.](#) If you post on social media, use the hashtag #SkillsUSANationalSigningDay.

»» Facilitating Cloud Technologies on SkillsUSA Technical Fridays

Join us for SkillsUSA Technical Fridays, new industry-led workshops that help teachers develop specific technical skills relevant to their career fields. On **April 29**, from 4-5 p.m. ET, the presenter is instructor and textbook author Jill West. Her session will focus on preparing students to

work in the cloud and bringing the cloud into the classroom. Attendees will also practice building servers in Amazon Web Services. This session is appropriate for all experience levels, and the cost is \$10.

[Register here.](#)



»» Love and Logic Session: Preventing Problems in Your Classroom

Join us on **May 3** from 3:30-5 p.m. ET for a Love and Logic session designed to help you learn how to prevent problems in the classroom without taking time away from teaching. Learn strategies to cover more content and go home at the end of the day feeling fantastic instead of frazzled. The cost to attend is \$10. [Register here.](#) For questions, contact [Karolina Belen](#).

»» Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

Please join your fellow advisors on **May 4** from 5:30-6:30 p.m. ET for our best practices series, where seasoned SkillsUSA advisors lead panels focusing on one topic each month. This session will focus on how to run fair and efficient chapter officer elections. [A PDF of the 2022 Professional Development Opportunities is available here.](#) You can [register for this and more professional membership benefits here.](#) Completion certificates are provided for each session. [Use this Google Doc](#) to learn how to access your professional membership benefits online. For questions, contact [Karolina Belen](#).

»» A Toolkit to Assist with Your Chapter Officer Election Process

The end of the school year includes celebrations and awards ceremonies, and many schools also hold their chapter officer elections for the following school year. It is important to honor the work and commitment of the students applying for chapter office and to conduct a process that is fair and equitable for all candidates. The process should identify the candidates that can best serve your local chapter in advancing quality while engaging all members. SkillsUSA's Chapter Officer Election Toolkit will assist you in conducting your next SkillsUSA chapter officer elections, and it's [available for download here.](#)

»» Celebrate Community Contributions During SkillsUSA's National Week of Service

SkillsUSA is asking all chapters to conduct and promote a community service project during SkillsUSA's National Week of Service, May 8-14. This event helps commemorate the founding of SkillsUSA on May 8, 1965. Connect with SkillsUSA via social media by posting photos of your activities online. Chapter advisors or officers should email a brief description of their chapter events to Gayle Silvey at gsilvey@skillsusa.org. In return, we'll send a SkillsUSA logo gift item valued at \$15 to say thanks.

We encourage participants to publicize your projects locally. To locate media resources for your community, including contact information for area newspapers, [use our SkillsUSA Advocacy Site](#). On the site, click on "Media," enter your ZIP code, and choose up to six outlets at a time. Then, click on "Send a Message." To see the full contact information for each outlet, click on the name of the newspaper.

»» The SkillsUSA Store – NEW Chapter Champion Rockers

Take competition pins to a whole new level by adding a Chapter Champion Rocker. Rockers are a great way to personalize any competition pin, as it easily signifies that the wearer has earned a bronze, silver or gold medal on the local level. Shop the [Chapter Champion Rocker](#) and personalize your hard-earned [Competition Pins](#) today!



»» Press Release Template for State Conference Participants

The [SkillsUSA Advocacy Site](#) offers a press release template for state conference participants and others to share competition results with local media. Parents, instructors, students or anyone can send emails using the customizable template. For questions, email [Jane Short](#).

»» SkillsUSA Scholarships Open for Applications

Several scholarships are open to benefit SkillsUSA students in pursuit of further education or certification in their chosen fields. Help spread the word about these opportunities:

- **Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Travel Scholarships**
Travel Scholarships for SkillsUSA high school members in selected trades who are competing in the 2022 SkillsUSA Championships. Eligible members can apply to receive up to \$1,500. *Deadline: May 20.*
- **Fine Homebuilding #KeepCraftAlive Scholarship**
Scholarships to SkillsUSA high school or college/postsecondary students continuing their education or certification programs in construction-related fields. *Deadline: May 30.*
- **Larry Rash Memorial Scholarship**
Two \$2,500 scholarships in 2022 to support active SkillsUSA members who plan to further their education in architectural drafting (or a related field). *Deadline: May 31.*
- **Bob Westphal Memorial Scholarship**
Merit-based scholarships to high school or college/postsecondary students continuing their education to pursue a career in energy construction (oil and gas pipelines, gas distribution, solar, and wind). *Deadline: May 31.*



- **Clifford T. Rees, Jr. Memorial Scholarship**
Multiple \$2,500 scholarships to SkillsUSA high school juniors, seniors or college/postsecondary students enrolled in a HVACR or a general construction program and who will be pursuing college/postsecondary career training in the HVACR industry. *Deadline: **May 31**.*
- **Student Research Foundation Scholarship**
One scholarship to a SkillsUSA member currently enrolled in high school who plans to continue their education in a postsecondary program. It recognizes outstanding community contribution. *Deadline: **July 26**.*

[Applications and more scholarship information are available here.](#)

»» **Apply for the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teacher Excellence**

Applications are still open for the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence. The prize was launched in 2017 to recognize outstanding instruction in the skilled trades in U.S. public high schools and the teachers who inspire students to learn skills to prepare for life after graduation. In 2022, the program will award more than \$1.25 million in prizes. Six SkillsUSA instructors were recognized as winners in 2021. Applications must be received by **May 20**. Finalists will be announced on June 27 and winners will be announced in October. Learn more and [apply online here](#).