

SkillsUSA Framework

The *SkillsUSA Framework* is the source for the development of the organization's educational programs, resources and products. The framework was created in 2014 because SkillsUSA realized the need for students — future employees — to be able to intentionally develop and communicate their abilities with respect to employability skills. In a survey, more than 1,000 employers stated that their greatest need when seeking new hires is to have access to job candidates who possess the skills identified within the SkillsUSA Framework.

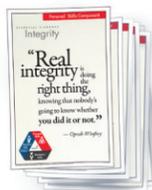
The framework communicates SkillsUSA's definition of the career-ready individual. Within it, 17 Essential Elements are divided among three components: personal skills, workplace skills, and technical skills grounded in academics.

The SkillsUSA Framework is essential to our mission because it serves as the blueprint for career readiness and a benchmark for measuring student success — our ultimate goal as an organization. This approach actualizes SkillsUSA's mission to “empower members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens.”



Resources to focus your efforts

From Quotes to Results 2: SkillsUSA Framework Poster Series



SkillsUSA Framework Thumball and Teacher's Guide



SkillsUSA Framework Fundamentals: Teaching Strategies for the Essential Elements



SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Foundations Curriculum

Find these great products online at: www.skillsusa.org/shop/

Experiences

Working together in teams, understanding leadership, communicating clearly and demonstrating integrity are required in any career. However, these skills haven't been easy to teach — until now. *SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Experiences* is the next generation of employability skill-building curricula developed for today's students. *SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Experiences* curricula have everything you need to give your students what they need to be career-ready.

SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Experiences curricula

- are designed with the best practices of project-based learning.
- empowers teachers with high-quality skill development resources and advances the impact of the SkillsUSA Framework.
- addresses multiple Essential Elements, so students can understand the skills they are building and how employability skills function together to create a career-ready individual.
- includes on-line and off-line learning events: a pre- and post-test, an instructor-led kickoff, e-learning modules addressing career readiness content and activities that contribute to project completion.
- includes a built-in grading and badging system.
- engages students in implementing the Essential Elements through contextualized learning applied to real-life and real-work situations.

The *Experiences* exist in four curriculum sets

- Exploratory set** (ages 12 – 14; available Summer 2019)
- Fundamental set** (for ages 14 – 16)
- Advanced set** (for ages 17 – 19)
- Adult Learner set** (for ages 20+; available Spring 2019)

Below represents just four of the many characters that students will interact with as they work through the advanced set of Experiences.



SkillsUSA Career Essentials Suite

Empowering students to **Define, Implement and Measure** their career-readiness skills.



SkillsUSA FRAMEWORK

DEFINE career-readiness skills

The SkillsUSA Framework was developed from research of 1,000 employers identifying the most critical skills needed for career success.

The *Career Essentials: Foundations* curriculum is sourced in the framework and contributes, along with a multitude of other resources, to defining career-readiness.

EXPERIENCES

IMPLEMENT career-readiness skills

A series of project-based learning events, both on- and offline, to help students use their career-readiness skills in relationship to one another and in the context of the workplace. *Career Essentials: Experiences*, coupled with active participation in SkillsUSA, is the ultimate in creating career-ready students.

EXPLORATORY*
Ages 12-14
Available Summer 2019

FUNDAMENTAL*
Ages 14-16

ADVANCED*
Ages 17-19

ADULT LEARNER*
Ages 20+
Available Spring 2019

ASSESSMENTS

MEASURE career-readiness skills

Career-Ready Assessment + Technical Skills Assessments

Career Essentials Credential

SECONDARY: Pass the fundamental Experiences, Career-Ready assessment and advanced Experiences

POSTSECONDARY: Pass the advanced or adult learner Experiences and Career-Ready assessment

* Students earn a certificate and badge for successful completion.





In today's world, it's not enough for students to have technical skills. If they want to advance their career potential and compete in today's job market, they need to stand out, be distinct and be a step ahead. That's a tall order. How can you ensure students are career-ready? Here's how.

Career Essentials Suite

The SkillsUSA Career Essentials suite engages students in defining, implementing and measuring their career-readiness skills along every point in their educational journey whether it be middle-school, high-school or college/postsecondary. The curriculum guarantees high levels of student engagement and is built on evidence-based outcomes that support the industry-validated Career-Ready Assessment. Together, curricula and assessments work to culminate in students earning the industry-recognized Career Essentials Credential.

No longer do you need to search for a curriculum that will meet the pressing needs of fulfilling national and state standards related to career readiness. The finest practitioners in the areas of career readiness and employability built the Career Essentials suite as a complete system and learning continuum to ensure your students are competitive in the global marketplace.

Measure

CAREER-READINESS SKILLS

Assessments

With SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Assessments, we can provide a path to other professional certifications and pave the way ahead for our future workforce.

Career-Ready Assessment

The Career-Ready Assessment was developed by industry partners and educators, using the competencies associated with each of the SkillsUSA Framework's Essential Elements. Each version of the Career-Ready Assessment includes 50 questions from a bank of more than 270 questions, and all versions of the assessment measure a student's proficiency of each Essential Element at equal weights. Many questions are scenario-based and require students to apply their learning to demonstrate their career readiness.

Technical Assessments

Available in more than 40 technical and employability areas, including co-branded ones with ASE/AYES and PrintED/GAERF, the assessments offer a reliable evaluation of technical knowledge and skills. They are designed for end-of-unit, end-of-course or end-of-program use, depending on the design of your curriculum. Each assessment consists of approximately 50 questions and takes an estimated 60 minutes to complete.

Career Essentials Credential



Individuals' successful completion of the requirements for the Career Essentials Credential at their respective age level indicates their proficiency in the understanding and application of the career-readiness competencies, sourced in the SkillsUSA Framework Essential Elements. Each individual who earns the credential establishes and maintains a career-readiness portfolio which demonstrates transferrable career-readiness skills and ability to successfully contribute to a place of work.

Earning the Career Essentials Credential as a high school student requires:

- Passing (at 80 percent or higher) the SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Experiences, fundamental set
- Passing (at 80 percent or higher) the SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Assessments, Career-Ready assessment
- Passing (at 80 percent or higher) the SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Experiences, advanced set

Earning the Career Essentials Credential as a College/Postsecondary or Adult Learner requires:

- Passing (at 80 percent or higher) the SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Experiences, advanced set OR the SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Experiences, adult learner set
- Passing (at 80 percent or higher) the SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Assessments, Career-Ready assessment

Materials meet the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.

For full details on the SkillsUSA Career Essentials suite of products including purchasing information, please visit: www.careeressentials.org

Experience Map

(Shown here is a sample of an advanced set, Experience curriculum map)

- ✓ Pre-test: Continuous Improvement (10 minutes)
- Continuous Improvement Kickoff Presentation (30 minutes)
- Overview: Continuous Improvement (5 minutes)
- ESSENTIAL ELEMENT 1.A Computer and Technology Literacy
 - ▶ Using Technology Responsibly (10 minutes)
 - Validating Information Online (30 minutes)
- ESSENTIAL ELEMENT 1.B Job-Specific Skills
 - Action Planning to Stretch Your Skills (20 minutes)
 - Planning a Process (10 minutes)
 - ★ Going Above and Beyond (20 minutes)
- ESSENTIAL ELEMENT 1.C Safety and Health
 - ▶ Committing to Personal Well-being (10 minutes)
 - Following Safety Policies (45 minutes)
 - ★ Responding in an Emergency (15 minutes)
- ESSENTIAL ELEMENT 1.D Service Orientation
 - ▶ Building Strong Relationships (5 minutes)
 - Personal and Professional Time (10 minutes)
 - Customer Service Role-play (20 minutes)
- ESSENTIAL ELEMENT 1.E Professional Development
 - Your Career Interview (30 minutes)
 - Your Career Path (15 minutes)
 - ★ Your Progress Interview (20 minutes)
 - ★ Stand-out Portfolios (30 minutes)
- ✓ Post-test: Continuous Improvement (10 minutes)

- ✓ TEST
- PRESENTATION
- ▶ MODULE
- ACTIVITY
- ★ CAPSTONE



THE MOST IMPORTANT SKILLS ARE THE HARDEST TO TEACH—UNTIL NOW.



SkillsUSA Framework

