



SkillsUSA Utah
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“Empower members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens.”

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Dear school SkillsUSA Utah advisor and/or CTE Program Director,

The SkillsUSA state leadership team is looking forward with anticipation to a new school year! This year is full of opportunities for SkillsUSA students to improve leadership skills, engage in meaningful service, prepare for their personal career opportunities, develop soft skills required by employers, and show off their technical skills during local, regional, state, national, and for some, international skills competitions. Your students will have opportunities to engage with business and industry professionals and SkillsUSA Utah partners.

I invite you to provide your students with exceptional opportunities during the 2021-2022 academic year by re-engaging with the SkillsUSA Utah career and technical student organization. As a full-time college and high school automotive instructor for the last 43 years, I know well the frustrations and challenges we've all been through the last 20+ months. Trying to teach "hands-on" technical skills in a virtual environment was difficult, making participation in a virtual state conference impossible for many of us. There are much better times ahead!

Our new SkillsUSA Utah Student Officer Team has been fully engaged in training events throughout the summer months, and they are anxious to lead this student organization during the coming year! They are ready to engage with your students at the school level and assist your local chapter officers as they lead your school chapters.

Our SkillsUSA Utah Fall Leadership Conference will be a live in-person event, held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at the Utah Valley University Student Center in Orem, Utah. This is a training event for your school chapter officers and students, plus special discussions for SkillsUSA advisors and instructors. Additional information will be available soon on our state website; utahskillsusa.org.

Salt Lake Community College in Taylorsville, Utah has welcomed our SkillsUSA Utah Leadership and Skills Conference (State Competition!). State will be a live, in-person event, held on Thursday and Friday, March 24-25, 2022. More information will be provided on our state website.

Our SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference will be a live in-person event, held Monday through Friday, June 20-24, 2022, in Atlanta, Georgia. I will be traveling to Atlanta in October to meet with our hotel people, tour the national conference venue, and see what cool things there are to do that are not named PeachPit. More NLSC information will be provided in March 2022.

Register your students as members of SkillsUSA for the coming year and consider joining yourself as a professional member. You will need to be a professional member to access valuable information and resources on the national website.

When people ask me why I serve as the SkillsUSA Utah state director, my answer is always the same: "I get to work with the best students in the country, who are taught by the best instructors in the country, using the best equipment and facilities, supported by amazing administrators at all levels, while interacting with incredible business and industry professionals that support our students and the mission of SkillsUSA!" Please join us during this exciting year.

Sincerely,
Richard Wittwer
SkillsUSA Utah State Director