

SkillsUSA Utah

State Directors Message for August 10, 2016

(Please forward/share this message with your CTE colleagues throughout your school/district.)

Welcome to another great year of Career and Technical Education Training with Skilled and Technical Science programs supported by SkillsUSA activities and events. We look forward to working with our amazing students, advisors, administrators and industry representatives.

As we start a new year with current and new participants, I hope that all of our student and professional members recognize the value of full participation in SkillsUSA. There is tremendous potential for professional development, leadership development, social activities, service activities and many opportunities for students to kick-start their career preparation efforts. Next spring we will add the "icing on the cake" that comes from local, regional, state and national competitions, where our students prove that they are the very best young career professionals that our country has to offer.

URGENT ADVISOR ACTION ITEM: SKILLSUSA UTAH WEBSITE UPDATES:

- **NEW WEBSITE:** Check out our new SkillsUSA Utah website at <http://www.utahskillsusa.org/>
 - SkillsUSA Utah own and operate this new website. We will constantly be editing and updating as needed so check it ***OFTEN***. We have launched the basic website but will soon have additional pages with information specific, but not limited to; Advisors, Cluster Chairs, Technical Committee Members, Ed Team Leaders, State Conference, National Conference, Etc.
 - This new website is for ***INFORMATION ONLY***. It will provide up-to-date information, instructions, and calendar dates for all of our SkillsUSA Utah events. But all registration, account creation, etc. will be completed on the National Website for ALL events. (See Details below) No more duplicating efforts!
 - **PLEASE NOTE:** We are no longer associated with SkillsSOS, the previous vendor for our state website services, so please delete any and all references to the previous site, www.skillsusa-utah.org.
- **NEW SITE FOR EVENT AND MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION:** Registration for ***ALL SkillsUSA Utah events and membership must be completed on the SkillsUSA National Website at www.skillsusa.org***.
 - Detailed instructions for event registration (ULTI) is provided on our new state website by **[CLICKING HERE](#)**.
 - We request that participants ***provide an accurate cell phone number, an accurate email address, accurate home mailing addresses for students and accurate school mailing addresses for advisors***. We are anxious to communicate as much as possible with all of you, but can only do so with **ACCURATE INFORMATION**.
 - Cell phone numbers will ***only*** be used for extremely rare official SkillsUSA communication from the State Director and **WILL NOT** be sold to third parties.

URGENT ADVISOR ACTION ITEM: SKILLSUSA UTAH CONTACT INFORMATION:

- **New mailing address:** The ***new*** street mailing address for all SkillsUSA Utah correspondence is:
SkillsUSA Utah
Attn: Richard Wittwer
4318 West 1275 South
Cedar City, Utah 84720
Please use this address when mailing checks, invoices and correspondence to SkillsUSA Utah.
- **New email addresses:** The ***new*** email address for electronic correspondence with the **SkillsUSA Utah State Director, Richard Wittwer**, is: skillsusa.utahstatedirector@gmail.com
- **Verify correct contact phone numbers:**
Richard Wittwer, State Director
435-590-8386 (Cell)
435-867-3938 (Office)
NEW EMAIL: skillsusa.utahstatedirector@gmail.com

Angelee (Angie) Day, Assistant to the State Director

Phone: (385) 212-4727

E-mail: angelee.day@gmail.com (E-mail is preferred and will receive a quicker response)

- **PLEASE ENSURE ALL SCHOOL AND DISTRICT FIREWALLS DO NOT BLOCK THE NEW STATE DIRECTOR’S EMAIL ADDRESS OR HIS ASSISTANT’S EMAIL ADDRESS. WE WANT TO ENSURE EVERYONE IS CAPABLE OF RECEIVING EXTREMELY IMPORTANT INFORMATION WHEN NEEDED!**

ADVISOR ACTION ITEM: UTAH LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE (ULTI):

Our new state officer team is energized and prepared to lead our organization this year. They, along with the state staff have been diligently preparing for numerous fall activities, starting with the Utah Leadership Training Institute that will be held Monday, October 10th at the Utah Valley University Student Center in Orem, Utah. I encourage all advisors and their school level SkillsUSA officers to attend this valuable leadership training / professional development event. Your school student officers will return with resources, information and enthusiasm to direct your local school members through a productive and rewarding year in the SkillsUSA organization.

- **Registration for the ULTI event must be completed on the national SkillsUSA website. (www.skillsusa.org)**
A step-by-step instruction sheet to complete ULTI registration is located on our new state website, or [Click Here](#).
- Please read and follow the instructions carefully. Learning this new process will take time initially but will make it very easy to register for all future events, including membership registration.
- ULTI participants ***are not*** required to register as members of SkillsUSA before completing the ULTI registration process.
- The CTSO Activity Summary Sheet for the 2016 ULTI event is located under “Conferences and Events”, then “2016 UTAH LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE”, or [Click Here](#).

2016-17 SKILLSUSA MEMBERSHIP DUES:

<u>Dues: (per person)</u>	<u>National dues</u>	<u>State dues</u>	<u>Total dues</u>
Secondary (high school) student:	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00	\$16.00
Secondary (high school) instructor/professional	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$30.00
Post-secondary (college) student	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$16.00
Post-secondary (college) instructor/professional	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$30.00

Special note #1: Starting this year, paid professional membership dues will include on-line access to the 2017-2018 National Technical Standards.

Special note #2: All national and state dues are paid to the national SkillsUSA office. Additional membership registration information will be provided at the ULTI event.

SKILLSUSA COMPETITION THEME FOR 2016-17:

The SkillsUSA competition theme for the 2016-17 school year is: SkillsUSA: Champions at Work, Preparing America’s Skilled Workforce. This theme is to be addressed by contestants in the Chapter Display, Prepared Speech and Promotional Bulletin Board competitions.

SKILLSUSA CHAPTER EXCELLENCE PROGRAM:

The national SkillsUSA organization has developed an amazing program to recognize SkillsUSA chapters that are providing excellent skill training, personal development, professional development, service activities and fun social activities for students. Additional information and applications for the CEP can be accessed at the following link on the National Website: <http://www.skillsusa.org/programs/chapter-excellence-program/>

Participation in the Chapter Excellence Program at any level is purely voluntary, but we encourage all Utah chapters to consider working towards the “Quality Chapter” Level 1 recognition. The application and documentation must be delivered to the state director no later than March 1, 2017.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions, concerns or feedback. I wish you all the very best for a wonderful year.

Warmest regards,

Richard Wittwer
SkillsUSA Utah State Director
skillsusa.utahstatedirector@gmail.org
435-590-8386 (cell)
435-865-3938 (office)
4318 West 1275 South, Cedar City, Utah 84720