



## **2021-2022 Virtual Meet the Employer**

Dear SkillsUSA Advisor,

We are excited to introduce the 2021-2022 Virtual Meet the Employer events beginning this fall. These interactive webinars will provide students the opportunity to ask questions of industry professionals on how to get hired and promoted within their trade. In addition, they will hear directly from our partners about the opportunities they have available for employment, training, and education.

Webinars will be focused on a specific trade or program area, and the schedule of events will be released via the Tuesday Times and our social media channels. Our partners are excited for the opportunity to meet directly with students, and we are excited to provide this unique insight into their future careers.

This document will provide some more insight on what to expect during the webinar and how to prepare. We hope your students will use this opportunity to network with business and industry partners and prepare for their future careers!

Thank you for your continued support of our future workforce!

Jessica Graber  
State Director  
850-284-8534  
[jgrabers@skillsusafl.org](mailto:jgrabers@skillsusafl.org)

## **WHAT IS VIRTUAL MEET THE EMPLOYER?**

Virtual Meet the Employer is a web-based forum for employers to connect with current students and potential employees at SkillsUSA chapters across the state of Florida. These sessions will provide our students with much-needed insight on how to prepare for their future careers, as well as a chance for business and industry to showcase what opportunities exist within their organizations, how to apply, and why they should be a part of their team.

## **WHAT DOES A VIRTUAL MEET THE EMPLOYER LOOK LIKE?**

Webinars will take place on the third Tuesday of each month at 9 AM ET. Each webinar is 1 hour long and is divided into three sections. The first section will begin with information and directions from one of our state officers, including what to expect and how to ask questions throughout the webinar. The officer will introduce the presenters and ask questions about getting hired in their industry and facilitate discussion based on those responses. A list of sample questions the officer may ask is included below.

The second section will be open for questions from live webinar participants. Questions will be typed into the chat feature and screened by our staff. For the last 10-15 minutes, our partners will talk about what their organization has to offer, including current openings and how to apply. In many cases, employers are regional, so job opportunities are not limited to one particular part of the state.

## **WHAT DOES IT COST TO PARTICIPATE?**

There is no cost for students or instructors to participate. Participation of business and industry partners is a benefit of an official partnership with our organization.

## **HOW CAN I PREPARE MY STUDENTS?**

Encourage students to participate by including these sessions as a part your curriculum, as an in-class or homework assignment. Recordings of the sessions will be posted on our website and can be used at any time throughout the year. In advance, discuss with your students what they can expect and how they should behave during the webinar. You may want to give them the note-taking sheet at the end of this document to use during the presentation.

Students should dress professionally and their background should be free of clutter. A solid color polo or shirt (no t-shirts) is preferred. We expect that our members will conduct themselves with professional decorum as if they were in the same room as our industry partner. Students who do not meet these criteria may be removed from the webinar. Please share the list of expectations below with your students.

## **HOW DO WE REGISTER?**

Sign up to participate using this link: Meeting information will be emailed to the registrant. Advisors can register their class, or students may sign up individually.

## **STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

Students will:

- Log in to the webinar 5 minutes prior to the start time, camera-ready.
- Have their video on and the microphone muted.
- Dress professionally, and not eat on camera.
- Conduct themselves with professional decorum, including attentiveness, attire, and attitude.
- Ask questions to further their knowledge of their future careers.
- Remain open-minded and flexible. We are relying on a great amount of technology to facilitate these events and it may not always work the way we want it to.
- Stay engaged. Put away phones, close other browser windows, and eliminate distractions.

Students can submit questions in advance or during the webinar using [Slido](#). The Slido meeting ID will be provided in advance, as well as during the meeting. It is not necessary to create a Slido account in advance, as students can access it directly from their phone or computer. Some questions to get your students thinking:

- How has this industry changed in the last 5 years, and how do you expect it to change in the next 5?
- What new, up-and-coming technologies are you excited about?
- How has COVID-19 affected your industry and the hiring process?
- What rookie mistakes did you make early in your career, and how did you overcome them?
- What other jobs did you consider before choosing this career? How did you decide?
- What are five things you look for in a good employee?
- If you could give us one piece of professional advice, what would it be?
- Have you ever felt discriminated against in your career? How did you handle it?
- How did you know you were on the right path?
- What did you do at work yesterday?
- What is the best advice you've ever received?
- What high school class did you think was useless that you now find valuable?

## **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE WEBINAR?**

For the privacy and safety of our members, we do not share students' contact information but may provide a list of participating schools and general contact information with our industry partners. Partners are encouraged to share contact information with the students so students can follow up. You may want to have the students who participated report back to the class or chapter on what they learned, and their key takeaways.

The webinars will be recorded and posted to our website at [www.skillsusafl.org](http://www.skillsusafl.org). Feel free to refer back to the webinars at any time!

## **WILL THERE BE AN IN-PERSON MEET THE EMPLOYER?**

Yes! At the State Leadership and Skills Conference, which will be held April 11-14, 2021 in Jacksonville, FL. We encourage you to participate! More information will be posted soon on our website at [www.skillsusafl.org](http://www.skillsusafl.org).

# SkillsUSA Florida Virtual Meet the Employer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Career Cluster: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Presenter Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information: \_\_\_\_\_

## Three Things I Learned About This Profession:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Two Things I Learned About This Employer:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## One Question I Have:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_