



**2022 SkillsUSA Florida State Leadership and Skills Conference**  
**“Building Today to Shine Tomorrow”**  
**April 18-21, 2022**  
**Jacksonville, FL**

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### Important Dates and Deadlines:

**January 11 and 12** - Virtual Advisor Meeting - State Conference Overview

**February** - Registration opens

**February 28** - State Officer Application Due

**March 7** - Registration closes; no drops or refunds after this date

**March 7** - Glam Squad Applications due

**March 7** - Social Media Ambassador Applications due

**March 10** - Full contest schedule is released

**March 14** - Transportation survey due

**March 17** - Accommodations requests due (including ADA needs and dietary restrictions)

**March 21** - Payment due to the state office

**March 21** - Deadline to book hotel rooms

**March 29 and 30** - Virtual Advisor Meeting - Championships Orientation for Advisors

**April 18** - Onsite registration and packet pickup

**April 18** - COVID-19 forms and Code of Conduct forms due

**April 18** - State Leadership and Skills Conference 2022 (SLSC22) Opening Ceremony

**April 19** - SLSC22 Competitions, Expo, Meet the Employer, and other activities

**April 20** - SLSC22 Competitions, Expo, Champions Night Celebration, and other activities

**April 21** - SLSC22 Closing Ceremony and mandatory NLSC Delegation Meeting

**May 9** - NLSC registration deadline

**May 30** - NLSC payment deadline (check payment ONLY)

**June 20-24** - National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC), Atlanta, GA

### **Virtual Advisor Preparation Meetings**

These meetings are optional and free to attend. Advisors are strongly encouraged to attend one or both meetings to receive all SLSC information, ask questions, and receive guidance on the upcoming state conference. Use the links below to sign up. The Zoom link will be emailed to you once your registration is submitted.

**State Conference Orientation** - Review the conference guide and registration procedures, conference agenda, and other details related to the state conference.

January 11 at 6 PM and January 12 at 10 AM

Sign up: <https://form.jotform.com/212843587760161>

**Championships Orientation for Advisors** - Review contest procedures and updates, supply list, and specific contest questions.

March 29 at 6 PM or March 30 at 10 AM

Sign up: <https://form.jotform.com/212373737779065>

### **Registration Information**

**REGISTRATION FEE: \$110 per registrant**

**REGISTRATION CLOSES: MARCH 7, 2022 AT 5 PM EST**

**\*\*NO DROPS OR REFUNDS AFTER THIS DATE.**

**To help ensure the health and safety of all conference participants, only individuals who are registered for the conference and have official conference credentials will be permitted in contest areas, at conference activities, on conference transportation, and in designated conference locations, including Opening and Closing Ceremonies.** This event is not open to the public.

Credentials (official SkillsUSA name badge and lanyard) will be provided for each registered participant during onsite registration on Monday, April 18. Failure to provide credentials will result in removal from the conference facility. Replacement name badges are available for \$25 per occurrence.

### **How to Register**

**Register online following your Regional events at [www.skillsusa-register.org](http://www.skillsusa-register.org).**

- Login to your account and click “Conference,” and then “My Registrations”.
- Select “SkillsUSA Florida State Leadership and Skills Conference” as the event.
- Click “Add New Registrant”.
- Select the correct registration type. **All registrants MUST be joined as official members of SkillsUSA by February 1.**
  - **CONTESTANT** - all student competitors.
  - **MODEL** - Esthetics, Nail Care, and Job Skill Demonstration models. Esthetics and Nail Care require a live model; Job Skill Demonstration is optional.
  - **ADVISOR** - Instructor or chaperone; anyone who has a supervisory role of students during the conference. Advisors will have access to special [“advisor-only” activities](#).
  - **OBSERVER** - student or professional who will observe the conference, but is not an active participant. Professionals who are registered as observers may not have supervisory roles during the conference, and will not have access to special “advisor-only” activities during the conference.

- **COURTESY CORPS** - student and teacher volunteers who assist with the logistics of the conference and pay a reduced registration fee. [Courtesy Corps](#) registrants may not participate in any contest as a contestant or model.
- Select the member you want to register from the drop-down list. For contestants and models, enter the division and contest information as prompted.
  - Team events will require you to select the Team Code to add members to the same team. Ensure that teammates are added to the correct team.
- Click “Save & Continue.”
- Enter registration information for each participant, including:
  - Address.
  - Phone number.
  - Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy format). Ensure this information is accurate, as it will be used to retrieve scorecards following the competition.
  - Email address.
    - **NOTE: ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A WORKING, UNIQUE EMAIL THAT IS NOT A SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS.** This will ensure they can access the online testing platform for the conference. Written exams will be taken online in advance of the conference, and students must have a working email address that can receive outside communications in order to gain access.
      - No school or district email addresses may be used for students - for example, @browardschools.com, @students.duvalschools.org, etc. are not appropriate. Please use gmail, hotmail, yahoo, icloud, or similar public domains. Advisors may use a school or district email address.
      - Do not use an advisor email address for student registrations, and avoid duplicating the same email address for multiple students.
      - Email addresses will be automatically verified on the invoicing screen before you submit your registration. Any errors or duplicates must be corrected before registration is submitted. This screen does not verify the accuracy of email addresses entered, but is verifying the domain’s ability to receive outside communications.
  - Accompanying adult name and phone number. This is the person who will be supervising the student onsite during the conference, and is required for both minor and adult students participants, but is not required for professional members.
  - T-Shirt size.
  - If a student is under 18, please enter parent/guardian names and phone numbers.
  - ADA or Dietary restrictions or accommodations, if appropriate.
- After all information is entered, click the attestation at the bottom of the page.
- Click “Save Registration.” This will return you to the list of all the conference registrations for your school. Here, you can click “Add Registrant” and add additional registrants until all are entered.
- Once you have entered all participants, click “Submit Registration.”
- Review the email address validation. Correct any errors or duplicates before submitting.
- Follow the prompts, and once you submit, you will receive an invoice in a pop-up window, and one will also be emailed to you. If you do not receive an invoice, please email [jgraber@skillsusaf1.org](mailto:jgraber@skillsusaf1.org) and we will send you a copy.

All participating schools must register at least one advisor or chaperone for the conference who will actively supervise students. Admission to the Framework Luncheon, Advisor Lounge, Chapter Connections, and other advisor-only events is included only for registered advisors. Observers will not be admitted. Schools may register an unlimited number of advisors and observers for the conference; however, all are required to pay the full registration fee.

**Remember: Only SkillsUSA members who are registered and paid by February 1 are eligible for competition!**

Questions or problems with registration? Contact the Customer Care Team at 844-875-4557 or [customercare@skillsusa.org](mailto:customercare@skillsusa.org).

### **Registration Payment Information**

**Payment Deadline: MARCH 21, 2022**

Download our W-9 here: <https://www.skillsusaf1.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/W-9-2022.pdf>



**Check payment is preferred.** Please mail checks to:

SkillsUSA Florida  
4446 Hendricks Ave PMB 229  
Jacksonville, FL 32207

To pay via credit card, please visit <https://givebutter.com/ConferencePayments> and follow the instructions provided. For instructions on how to use Givebutter, [click here](#). **Credit card payments not accepted by phone.**

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING CREDIT CARDS:** Givebutter is a credit card processing platform designed for non-profits. One way they keep platform fees reasonable to organizations like ours is by allowing users to add a “tip” for the platform when they make a payment. A tip is completely optional and supports the platform directly. SkillsUSA Florida does not receive any portion of tips. **The instructions above provide step-by-step visuals on how to disable this option. THESE FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE - PLEASE ENSURE THE CORRECT SELECTIONS ARE MADE AND REVIEW YOUR PURCHASE CAREFULLY BEFORE CLICKING “PAY NOW.”**

### **COVID-19 Information**

The health and safety of our members, partners, and stakeholders is of the utmost importance. We are continuing to monitor the situation surrounding COVID-19 and related variants, and will advise our participants as new information emerges. SkillsUSA Florida will follow the current CDC guidelines for the nature and size of events such as the State Leadership and Skills Conference. For current CDC guidelines, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/gatherings.html>. Additionally, SkillsUSA Florida and attendees will follow local, state, and federal guidelines and mandates, as well as the policies and procedures instituted by each venue.

**All participants must submit a [COVID-19 Acknowledgement Form](https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/COVID-19-Acknowledgement-Form.pdf) at onsite registration.** This form must be completed and provided at onsite registration and packet pickup. Please note, for students under the age of 18, parent/guardian signature is required. Download the form here: <https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/COVID-19-Acknowledgement-Form.pdf>

The following measures will be in place for the event. Please note, these are subject to change based on the progression of the COVID-19 virus and related variants as the event approaches.

- A written Crisis Response Plan will be provided to the Lead Advisor at each school, which outlines the protocols and procedures related to exposure, development of symptoms at the event, communication plans, and other mitigation techniques to limit exposure and risk to all attendees. The Lead Advisor should review and be familiar with the procedures outlined in the Crisis Response Plan.
- The conference is not open to the public. Only individuals with credentials (official conference name badge) will be permitted to access contest areas, the CONNECTED Expo and Trade Show, conference transportation, and all conference activities.
- All registrants will submit the COVID-19 Acknowledgement Form at onsite registration. No admittance is allowed without this completed form.
- All registrants will receive an individual hand sanitizer during onsite registration and packet pickup for use during the conference.
- Additional hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout the conference venues, and frequent handwashing is encouraged.
- Conference participants will select a lanyard color to indicate their personal comfort level with physical contact. Lanyards are available at onsite registration and packet pickup, and may be changed at any time during the conference based on individual preference.
  - Red - please keep your distance and avoid all physical contact
  - Yellow - elbow bumps and air-high-fives only
  - Green - no social distancing necessary
- The Hyatt Regency has instituted additional cleaning and sanitation procedures for meeting spaces and sleeping rooms. Review hotel policies and procedures here: <https://www.hyatt.com/info/care-and-cleanliness-americas>
- Florida State College at Jacksonville provides detailed tracking information, links, and resources on their website at <https://www.fscj.edu/covid-19>.
- Student contestants who wear a mask during a contest, speech, or presentation, or who decline a handshake during an interview or contest will not be penalized under any circumstances.
- Mask requirements: conference attendees should follow CDC guidelines and hotel policies in relation to vaccination status.

***SkillsUSA Florida reserves the right to make changes to the event to ensure the safety of its staff, volunteers, students, teachers, partners, and stakeholders. Any changes to these measures will be communicated to attendees. By registering for the event, participants understand that this event is scheduled to occur as a regular, in-person event and agree to follow all protocols and procedures to mitigate the risk of contracting COVID-19. Failure to comply may result in removal from the event without refund. Should the unlikely need arise to convert to a virtual event, participants are responsible for the virtual registration fees, and no refunds or drops will be allowed.***

## **General Conference Agenda**

### **Monday, April 18**

2 PM to 6 PM	Registration and Packet Pickup	Hyatt Grand Foyer
4 PM	Glam Squad Reports	Florida Theatre
5 PM	Social Media Ambassadors Report	Florida Theatre
7 PM to 9 PM	Opening Ceremony	Florida Theatre

### **Tuesday, April 19**

7 AM	Competition doors open for contestants	Hyatt
7 AM to 4 PM	Advisor Lounge - Advisors Only	Hyatt
7:30 AM	Competition doors open for advisors & observers	Hyatt
7:30 AM to 4 PM	Transportation to offsite contests	Newnan St Entrance
8 AM to 4 PM	Skill and Leadership competitions	Hyatt and offsite locations
8 AM to 3 PM	CONNECTED Expo and Trade Show	Hyatt Grand Foyer
9 AM to 11 AM	Give and Grow Community Service	Hyatt
3 PM to 5 PM	Delegate Sessions and Meet the Candidates	Hyatt
5 PM to 8 PM	Meet the Employer Career Fair	Hyatt

### **Wednesday, April 20**

7 AM	Competition doors open for contestants	Hyatt
7 AM to 4 PM	Advisor Lounge - Advisors Only	Hyatt
7:30 AM	Competition doors open for advisors & observers	Hyatt
7:30 AM to 4 PM	Transportation to offsite contests	Newnan St Entrance
8 AM to 4 PM	Skill and Leadership competitions	Hyatt and offsite locations
8 AM to 3 PM	CONNECTED Expo and Trade Show	Hyatt Grand Foyer
9 AM to 11 AM	Give and Grow Community Service	Hyatt
12 PM to 2 PM	Framework Luncheon & Advisor Business Meeting	Hyatt
3 PM to 5 PM	Delegate Sessions	Hyatt
6 PM to 10 PM	Champions Night & Chapter Connections	Hyatt/Coastline Dr

### **Thursday, April 21**

7:30 AM	Doors open for Closing Ceremony	Hyatt Grand Ballroom
8:30 AM to 12 PM	Closing Ceremony	Hyatt Grand Ballroom
12 PM to 1 PM	NLSC Delegation Meeting	Hyatt Grand Ballroom
	Required for Gold Medalists and their advisors	

**The Full Contest Schedule will be posted on the SkillsUSA Florida website by March 10!**

### **Contest Schedule and Locations**

Official contest schedule will be posted to the SkillsUSA Florida website by March 10, 2022.

A list of contest locations is provided below. The list is subject to change, and is to be used for planning purposes only. Access contest locations here:

<https://www.skillsusaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/SLSC22-Contest-Locations.pdf>

### **State Conference Hotel**

The official conference hotel is the [Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront](#). Rooms may be booked at any time using the link below. Schools are responsible for arranging payment for rooms directly with the hotel, including submitting any necessary tax-exemption paperwork. Per SkillsUSA Florida policy, conference attendees must stay within official SkillsUSA Florida hotel blocks. Any contestant or school found to be staying at another hotel will be disqualified without refund.

#### **Hotel Address:**

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront  
225 E Coastline Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
Hotel Phone: 904-588-1234



**Standard room rate:** \$163 per room, per night, plus taxes and fees, up to 4 occupancy.

Book rooms using the link below. A credit card is required to secure the reservation.

<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/JAXRJ/G-SSLS>

**DEADLINE TO BOOK HOTEL ROOMS: MARCH 21, 2022.**

### **Commuters**

Schools must book rooms at official conference hotels to be eligible for competition. Commuters are permitted, only if the school is located within 35 miles of the conference site. Schools located outside this radius must book and pay for hotel rooms at the conference hotel. Schools located within the 35 mile radius who opt to commute are expected to arrive at all events on time. SkillsUSA Florida will not provide accommodations or exceptions for these schools, regardless of circumstances.

### **Hotel Parking**

Valet parking and self-parking are available at the Hyatt. Conference attendees are provided a discounted self-parking rate of \$10 per day. Alternatively, passes for the duration of the event may be purchased for \$20, which will provide in and out privileges from April 18 through April 21. These passes must be purchased in advance. Information about purchase will be provided to registered advisors.

The current valet parking rate is \$39 per day (overnight) and is subject to change.

The self parking garage is located directly across from the hotel, and is connected to the hotel on the second level by a covered Skybridge.

#### **Parking Garage Address:**

122 S Newnan Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

## **Hotel Meals**

Discounted meals are available for cash purchase at the hotel for conference attendees. Conference name badge is required to utilize these discounts.

### **Breakfast**

- \$8, including a hot breakfast sandwich and fruit cup. Beverages purchased separately.

### **Lunch**

- Provided at no cost for contestants during competition, and for advisors during the Framework Luncheon on Wednesday.
- Additional cash options will be available for \$10 throughout the Hyatt facilities. Beverages purchased separately.

### **Dinner**

- Monday and Tuesday - on your own. The hotel offers several restaurant and onsite dining options. DoorDash, Uber Eats, and other food delivery services are also available. Limited evening dining is available within walking distance of the hotel (see list below).
- Wednesday - dinner is provided at Champions Night and Chapter Connections for all conference registrants.

## **Nearby Restaurants**

[Bay Street Bar and Grill](#)

[Spliff's Gastropub](#)

[Burrito Gallery Downtown](#)

[Super Food and Brew](#)

[Bread and Board Downtown](#)

[Atrium Cafe](#) (breakfast and lunch only)

[D&G Deli and Grille](#) (breakfast and lunch only)

[Tossgreen](#) (lunch only)

[Olio](#) (lunch only)

A list of recommended dining options around the city can be found here:

<https://www.visitjacksonville.com/food-drink/>

## **Transportation Information**

Conference transportation is provided between the Hyatt Regency and all offsite contest locations. Shuttles will begin at 7 AM on Tuesday, April 19 and Wednesday, April 20. Shuttles to FSCJ will be provided on a continuous loop from 7 AM to 8:30 AM, and 2:30 PM to 4 PM each day. During other times throughout the day, shuttles will be provided approximately every 30-45 minutes. Buses will pick up and drop off at the Hyatt at the Newnan Street entrance, located on street level below the parking garage sky bridge. Detailed maps for all locations will be available in the conference app. A separate shuttle will be provided to the Fire Academy of the South. Ample parking is available at FSCJ Downtown campus and Fire Academy of the South for schools who wish to take their own transportation.

**Transportation is NOT provided to the Opening Ceremony venue.** [The Florida Theatre](#) is located 2 blocks from the Hyatt Regency (about a 3-5 min walk). Exit the Hyatt on Newnan Street (below the parking garage Skybridge) and turn right. Cross Bay St and turn left on Forsyth. The theater is on the



corner of Newnan and Forsyth. Parking at the Florida Theatre is extremely limited, with only street parking and paid lots. Schools are strongly encouraged to walk.

The [Transportation Survey](#) must be completed by each school and is due to the state office by March 14. The survey will indicate your parking needs, as well as your needs for transportation to offsite contest locations. Please complete the survey so that we can plan accordingly.

### **Onsite Registration - What to Expect**

Onsite registration and packet pickup will be Wednesday, April 18, 2020 from 2 PM to 6 PM. Packet pickup is not available prior to 2 PM. When you arrive at the Hyatt, visit the front desk on the ground floor to check into your school's rooms and retrieve hotel room keys. Official check in time begins at 3 PM, but rooms may be available earlier. Contact the hotel directly for more information.

**From the hotel front desk (ground floor)** - take the escalator up to the second floor. You will see signage directing you to the packet pickup area, located directly outside the Grand Ballroom.

**From the parking garage** - cross the Skybridge on the second level to enter the hotel. Continue straight until you see the registration area, located directly outside the Grand Ballroom.

We ask that only 1 or 2 advisors per school visit the registration area to retrieve items. Any outstanding balances are due at registration. Advisors will be required to verify that all items are received for their chapter, and then will distribute them to students once all materials are received from registration. Please bring all required forms with you to the desk, including [COVID-19 acknowledgement forms](#) and Code of Conduct forms for [students](#) and [advisors](#). As a reminder, forms for participants under the age of 18 require a parent/guardian signature.

Each registrant will receive:

- Name badge and lanyard
- Conference t-shirt and pin
- Contestant lunch tickets
- Champions Night tickets
- And other SkillsUSA and partner goodies!



If you have additions, spelling corrections, or substitutions after registration closes, complete this form and submit **no later than Wednesday, April 13, 2022.**

**Download, complete and email to [jgraber@skillsusaf1.org](mailto:jgraber@skillsusaf1.org):**

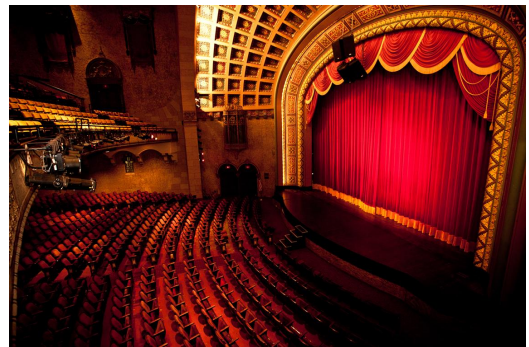
<https://www.skillsusaf1.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/SLSC-Drop-Change-Form.docx>

**Or complete this online form: <https://form.jotform.com/212523572228048>.**

Contestant substitutions may only be made with a current SkillsUSA member who joined prior to the February 1 deadline, meets the eligibility requirements for the contest, and has a completed [Personal and Liability Release Form](#). Payment for any additional registrants is due by onsite registration. Additional registrants who are not substitutions require prior written approval from the State Director.

## **Opening & Closing Ceremony - What to Expect**

**Opening Ceremony** kicks off the State Leadership and Skills Conference each year with special recognitions and [awards](#), a super amazing speaker, and any last minute changes to contest schedules or information. Official attire or contest attire is not required, but encouraged. Doors open at 6 PM, and the ceremony begins promptly at 7 PM. The Opening Ceremony will be held at the historic [Florida Theatre](#), located at 128 E Forsyth Street, approximately 2 blocks from the hotel. Concessions will be available prior to the ceremony. No food or drink is allowed inside the theater.



**Closing Ceremony** is the culmination of all the hard work of the conference, and where we recognize the top students in each contest. You'll also get to see our recap video from the entire conference (and don't forget to cheer when you see your chapter in the video!). First, second and third place in each division are awarded medals on stage, and then they will take a photo with their contest group and receive any prizes, if available, and turn in their [Intent to Enter form](#). Gold medalists will be provided a printed QR code to access the Intent to Enter form, and hard copies will be available to students who cannot access the form electronically. This form is due by the conclusion of the Closing Ceremony.

Winners are announced in three sections, with a brief break between the first and second, and the second and third sections. During the breaks, we will announce the new [2022-2023 State Officer Team](#) and the [2022 SkillsUSA Florida National Courtesy Corps team](#). The Closing Ceremony will be held at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront in the Grand Ballroom. Doors open at 7:30 AM, and the ceremony begins promptly at 8:30 AM. The ceremony will conclude by 12 PM.

**After the Closing Ceremony, all gold medalists and their advisors are required to attend a mandatory meeting about the National Leadership and Skills Conference.** We will provide important information regarding registration, hotel, and other details related to our brand new host city, Atlanta, GA!

With over 100 contests and three divisions, the announcements move fast, but don't worry - we have a great team of photographers who capture each group onstage. Photos of the medalists and from the rest of the conference will be available on the SkillsUSA Flickr page for free, high quality download within 2 weeks of the conference. View photos from previous events: [flickr.com/photos/skillsusaflorida/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/skillsusaflorida/albums)

Both Opening and Closing Ceremonies will be live-streamed through our social media channels for public viewing. We encourage you to share the links with your family, friends, and supporters. Links will be provided prior to the ceremony.

*Warning: The Opening and Closing Ceremonies may use fast flashing lights and other lighting effects that may cause discomfort and trigger seizures in people with photosensitive epilepsy. Please use discretion in viewing.*

In the spirit of regional pride, schools are encouraged to bring glow sticks, head gear, and other outrageous items to light up the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Each region will have a designated seating section to show off their regional pride. Keep an eye out for yourself on screen!

## **Awards and Recognitions**

Nominations are open for our state awards, and we encourage all members to review the criteria for each award. View a brief description of the award and nomination form below. Nominations are accepted until February 28, 2022.

### **Advisor of the Year**

The objective of this award is to recognize career and technical educators in addition to full-time classroom/laboratory teachers, who have provided or currently are providing significant contributions to SkillsUSA and career and technical education programs for youth and/or adults in their fields, communities, and/or the State of Florida.

**Nomination Form and Information:** <https://form.jotform.com/213626182510145>

### **Cornerstone Award (Administrators)**

This award recognizes the cooperative relationships that have been established over the years between local school administrators and SkillsUSA chapters. The success of each chapter is reliant on the collective efforts of many dedicated school administrators who have unselfishly committed their professional and civic tablets in support of our students.

**Nomination Form and Information:** <https://form.jotform.com/213626470840151>

### **Distinguished Service Award (Business Partners)**

This award recognizes organizations, agencies, businesses, or other groups that have made outstanding contributions to SkillsUSA and career and technical education on the state level. Their generous support of SkillsUSA state associations distinguishes these organizations, and it is important that we honor them to continue and deepen the relationship.

**Nomination Form and Information:** <https://form.jotform.com/213625947637163>

### **Hall of Champions Honorary Life Award**

The SkillsUSA Hall of Champions Award is an honor bestowed upon those who have dedicated their lives, at a state level, to helping youth develop the components of the SkillsUSA Framework (personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics) necessary to be successful in a changing world. Their legacy in the state will continue far beyond their career.

**Nomination Form and Information:** <https://form.jotform.com/213625680675159>

### **Pillars of Success Award (Volunteers)**

This award recognizes the achievements of volunteers who have contributed time, talent and financial support to our state association. Their generous support of our SkillsUSA association serves as a pillar of our success, and it is important that we honor volunteers to continue and deepen the relationship.

**Nomination Form and Information:** <https://form.jotform.com/213626035485052>

### **Todd Mann Service Award (Students)**

This award recognizes individuals or organizations inside or outside the field of career and technical education for the highest meritorious contributions to the improvement, promotion, development and progress of SkillsUSA Florida. They should represent the fundamental principles and purposes of our organization.

**Nomination Form and Information:** <https://form.jotform.com/213626652521149>

## **Contest Preparation, Updates and Supply Lists**

In order to prepare for contests, the [Technical Standards](#) are the first and primary source of information, available online with Professional Membership. Once you are a registered and paid professional member, you can access the standards online at [absorb.skillsusa.org](http://absorb.skillsusa.org). If you are having issues accessing, contact the Customer Care Team at 844-875-4557, or email [customercare@skillsusa.org](mailto:customercare@skillsusa.org).

Any changes to the Technical Standards for state level competitions or information about the contest projects needed prior to the conference, including updated supply lists, drawings and plans, and other contest-related information will be posted on the SkillsUSA Florida website: [skillsusaf1.org/state-conference/updates](http://skillsusaf1.org/state-conference/updates). Updates and information will be posted here until 2 weeks prior to the conference. After that time, they will be posted online and also emailed to the advisor who **registered** the competitor to distribute to the appropriate students and/or advisors. It is expected the advisor who registered the contestant will pass along the information to the contestant, instructor, and other parties. If no update is posted, use the supply list provided in the Technical Standards to prepare.

Because of time, equipment, and materials, in some cases some benchmarks outlined on the technical standards may not be evaluated during the state competition. Students should be prepared to perform any of the skills outlined in the technical standards. Any updates posted are at the discretion of the contest committee and the state association. Not all contests will have an update.

**Questions about clothing standards or general contest rules? Check out the [General Rules and Regulations](#) section below!**

## **Written Exams/Assessments**

**All written exams will be completed online in advance of the conference.** The online testing platform will open on April 4 at 8 AM, and close on April 8 at 5 PM. All exams must be completed within this window. Failure to complete any exam will result in a zero score. Students taking exams must be supervised. The Lead Advisor for each school will be responsible for arranging proctors for students to take exams on campus, and will sign an affidavit that all contestants were observed taking online exams. A form is not required for each individual proctor or supervisor.

### **Technical Knowledge Assessment**

Many competitions will require a written technical assessment. You can view a list of contests requiring a Technical Knowledge Exam using this link:

<https://www.skillsusaf1.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/SLSC22-Written-Exams.pdf>

### **Professional Development Assessment**

**The SkillsUSA Knowledge Exam will be counted as a scored portion of all state contests.**

Instructions on accessing the online testing platform will be available following registration. The study guide below will assist in preparing students for this written exam.

### **Professional Development Assessment Study Guide**

<https://www.skillsusaf1.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/National-and-State-PD-Test-Study-Guide-2022.pdf>

### **Advancing to National Championships**

All competitors must be certified by the State Association as having appropriately qualified for a contest in order to compete at the national competition. **Gold medalists will be required to achieve a “cut” score of 70% in order to earn a gold medal and advance to the National Championships.** If a contestant does not achieve the cut score, no gold medal will be awarded and the top scoring competitor will be awarded a silver medal. All scores will be verified by the State Director prior to the Closing Ceremony.

**Contestants will not advance straight to the National Championships without an appropriate qualifying event AND appropriate score at that event.**

Students advancing to the National Conference and their advisors are required to attend a mandatory meeting following the Closing and Awards Ceremony to receive information about registration and deadlines.

**A National Conference Information Packet will be released mid-February through the Tuesday Times mailing list and on our website. Registration for the National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) is due by May 9.**

### **Accommodations Request**



The SkillsUSA Championships management team will make every effort to provide assistance/accommodations as appropriate to create equitable opportunities and a level playing field for all contestants. No assistance will be provided that could be interpreted as giving a special needs contestant an unfair advantage. Advanced identification of the contestants and their special needs is required. The following are examples of the types of assistance that are allowed:

1. Special tables will be allowed for contestants who need to use wheelchairs.
2. Special tools and devices will be allowed for contestants with prosthetics or physical challenges such as a club foot, burn injury or amputation.
3. Contestants with dyslexia or other learning disabilities will be allowed assistance as determined by the complexity of the contest assignment.
4. Readers will not be allowed in contests where the use of technical manuals is required.
5. Hearing-impaired contestants may provide a sign language interpreter at contest orientations, at the start of the competition (and throughout the day if permitted by the technical committee) and for the contest debriefing. ASL interpreters will be provided for Opening and Closing Ceremonies.
6. Translators for language issues must be provided by the school/chapter and approved by the state prior to arrival at SLSC. Translators must be unassociated with the student.

Any conference registrant in need of accommodations of any kind should fill out [this form](https://form.jotform.com/212435080058045) to list their needs. **Please include all restrictions, including dietary, physical, or other.** Advisors may complete the form on behalf of their students. This form must be received no later than March 17, 2022 in order for an accommodation to be guaranteed. (<https://form.jotform.com/212435080058045>)

## **Courtesy Corps**

The SkillsUSA Courtesy Corps is responsible for the logistics of the conference, including contest site set up, break down, and changeovers, lunch delivery, contest support during the contests, and much, much more. This contest is great for any student who is interested in competition but not quite ready for the state level in their trade, or students who may not have qualified at the regional level but still want to get involved and participate in the state conference. It's a great opportunity to see how the event runs from behind the scenes and is also ideal for a student who is interested in event planning, project management, or other careers requiring logistical coordination. **Registration is ONLY \$25 for students (AND advisors!)** who are interested in participating. Students may not compete in any other event, or serve as a model or an assistant for another competitor. Courtesy Corps Advisors should not have primary supervisory duties for other students from their school. All Courtesy Corps registrants must complete the form linked below by March 7, 2022 to be eligible as Courtesy Corps members.

Courtesy Corps is also a competition that advances to the national level! Competitor performance is evaluated during the conference and the top students are invited to attend the National Leadership and Skills Conference in Atlanta, GA on June 17-25, 2022 -- all expenses paid! Selected students will participate in the national courtesy corps and ensure the conference runs smoothly. The SkillsUSA Florida National Courtesy Corps team will be announced during the Closing Ceremony.

“When attending a SkillsUSA conference, it’s probably not often that you think about the people working behind the scenes. From setting up contests, to distributing lunches, the people doing all of this is a team called Courtesy Corp. I’ve worked as a part of this amazing group of people at the state and national levels, and I can say that it is one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had. As a part of Courtesy Corp, you have a special opportunity to see SkillsUSA from a perspective that not many others get to see. The days are long, and the work is not easy, but nothing beats the feeling of seeing all your fellow SkillsUSA members enjoy your hard work. You also get the opportunity to learn more about SkillsUSA and all the different contests, and meet and form long lasting connections with people from all over the state. Courtesy Corp is a unique opportunity that I would encourage everyone to take if they’re up for the challenge.”

Skylar Rearick, *Past SkillsUSA State and National Officer*

**[Click here for more information and to complete the Courtesy Corps Application!](#)**

## **Alumni**

We love to have our alumni involved with our events! If you know an alumni who wants to get involved, have them contact Jayde Villagomez at [jaydev@skillsusaf.org](mailto:jaydev@skillsusaf.org) for more information!

Some ways alumni can help:

- Assist with production of Opening and Closing Ceremonies
- Judge a competition
- Run the SkillsUSA Florida Store
- Assist with Courtesy Corps
- Provide tours to VIPs
- And much, much more!

## ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES:

### **Champions Night Celebration**

On Wednesday, April 20 from 6 PM to 10 PM, SkillsUSA students and teachers are invited to celebrate their hard work and accomplishments this year. Champions Night will be held at the Hyatt on the Riverdecks and on Coastline Drive, overlooking the beautiful St. Johns River. Dinner is provided - join us for food trucks, music, and other activities - this is a time to just kick back and relax, meet new friends, and celebrate your successes! Dress is casual, and there is no additional cost to attend for conference registrants. You must have your name badge for entry!

### **CONNECTED Expo and Trade Show**

The CONNECTED Expo and Trade Show will offer students and teachers the opportunity to meet with potential future employers, participate in hands-on demonstrations, and meet with local, state, and national business partners. Booths will showcase new technologies and products, and provide valuable opportunities to connect. The Expo will take place in the Grand Foyer on the second level on Tuesday and Wednesday from 8 AM to 3 PM.

### **Delegate Sessions**

Each year, a group of student leaders are elected to represent our state association as State Officers. We need your students to act as delegates to elect them! Your students will develop responsibility and decision making skills during the sessions, as well as learn and experience parliamentary procedure. Each school is allowed delegates based on the total number of members registered for their chapter.

7-12 members	1 Delegate
13-24 member	2 Delegates
25-49 members	3 Delegates
50-79 members	4 Delegates
80-200 members	5 Delegates
201+ members	1 Delegate per 100 additional members

Having delegates represent your chapter is a great opportunity to learn about the democratic process and parliamentary procedure, and for your chapter to be involved with decisions made at the state level. For more information, reach out to [dmoye@skillsusaf1.org](mailto:dmoye@skillsusaf1.org). Sign up your delegates [here!](#)

Do you have a student interested in running for a State Officer position? Check out the 2022-2023 State Officer Program Guide here:

<https://www.skillsusaf1.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2022-23-SkillsUSA-FL-State-Officer-Program-Guide.pdf>

Email Dave Moye at [dmoye@skillsusaf1.org](mailto:dmoye@skillsusaf1.org) for more information!

### **Give and Grow Community Service**

Students and teachers are invited to join our annual community service project to give back to the Jacksonville community. Participants will receive a certificate documenting their hours. Pre-registration is required. Sign up here: <https://form.jotform.com/213634247839059>

### **Glam Squad**

Help the State Officer team look their best before their onstage performances at Opening and Closing Ceremonies! Cosmetology students are invited to apply for the Glam Squad, and selected applicants will receive complimentary conference registration, including dinner on Monday evening, and breakfast on Thursday morning, and all other conference activities. Successful applicants should complete [this application](#), and provide photos showcasing their work styling both male and female subjects. Applications are due by March 7. For more information, check out the Glam Squad Application: <https://form.jotform.com/213633520145042>

### **Meet the Employer**

This is a direct recruitment and job fair event. Our industry partners want to meet with SkillsUSA students and provide career opportunities! All students are encouraged to attend, even if they are not seeking immediate employment. Students should dress for success and arrive with multiple copies of their resume to provide to potential employers. Pre-registration is not required, but students will be asked to sign in before accessing the career fair. The event will take place on Tuesday, April 19 from 5 PM to 8 PM at the Hyatt on the third level.

### **Professional Development Opportunities**

We are excited to offer professional development opportunities for both students and teachers during the conference. All sessions will be held at the Hyatt and will cover topics like implementing the SkillsUSA Framework, training chapter officers, and preparing students for future careers. A full schedule of available sessions will be posted in March, and all attendees are encouraged to participate!

### **Social Media Ambassadors**

Social media ambassadors are responsible for posting and monitoring content during the state conference. Selected ambassadors will participate in online training on responsible social media posting and brand standards, and will receive an all-access press pass for the State Leadership and Skills Conference. All students are invited to apply, and selected applicants will receive complimentary conference registration, including dinner on Monday evening, and breakfast on Thursday morning, and all other conference activities. Applications are due by March 7. For more information, check out the Social Media Ambassador Application: <https://form.jotform.com/213634493960158>

### **Exclusive Advisor-Only Events**

#### **Advisor Lounge**

The Advisor Lounge will be open exclusively to registered advisors, and will feature comfortable seating, tables, electrical outlets, coffee, and a dedicated space to relax near the competition areas while your students are competing. The lounge will be located on the third level, and will be open on Tuesday and Wednesday from 7 AM to 4 PM.

#### **Chapter Connections**

SkillsUSA wouldn't be successful without our advisors! During Champions Night, we will host a special reception to celebrate our advisors and their hard work throughout the year. Attendance is limited to



registered advisors, and dessert will be served. We will also provide opportunities to meet and connect with business and industry partners who want to get involved with your work in the classroom and support your efforts on the local level. Food, industry connections, and door prizes will be the highlights of this event!

### **Framework Luncheon and Advisor Business Meeting**

All advisors are invited to attend a special luncheon to recognize their hard work and dedication to their students. On Wednesday, April 20 at 12:00 PM, all SkillsUSA Advisors are invited to the Framework Luncheon and Advisor Business Meeting. Join us for informational updates from the state and national offices and Advisor at Large elections. We will discuss the 2022 national conference, the 2022 Fall Leadership Conference, and other important information. No RSVP is required!



Advisors at Large serve as representatives for the SkillsUSA advisors to the Board of Directors. They serve two year terms, and are elected in alternating years. At SLSC22, two Advisor at Large seats are up for election. If you are interested in running, please contact [jgraber@skillsusaf1.org](mailto:jgraber@skillsusaf1.org), or [thomas.thoss@ocps.net](mailto:thomas.thoss@ocps.net) for more information. To nominate yourself or another advisor, use this form: <https://form.jotform.com/213636519031047>. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the business meeting.

#### *Advisors at Large:*

- Must be an active Professional Member of SkillsUSA for the 2021-2022 school year, and have an active chapter (at least 6 students and 1 professional member) for the year preceding election and for the duration of their term in office.
- Understand and embrace our mission to serve the students, teachers, and industry of Florida to provide our state with a quality workforce.
- Must have support from their school administration to serve in the role, which may require time away from school.
- Serve as a voice for SkillsUSA Florida Advisors in the strategic planning of the organization, and have a role in the future of our organization and how it serves its students.
- Are able to attend three Board meetings per year (August, January, and June).
- Actively participate in local, regional, and state activities and events.
- Travel with expenses paid for required SkillsUSA-related events.
- Have opportunities for additional training and professional development.

# GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS:

## **GENERAL RULES:**

1. Registration for the State Leadership and Skills Conference begins at the conclusion of the school/chapter's Regional Leadership and Skills Conference. Registration and payment deadlines will be published each year at [www.skillsusafl.org](http://www.skillsusafl.org). Failure to adhere to deadlines may result in additional fees, penalties or disqualification.
  - a. After the final registration deadline, no drops are allowed.
  - b. No late registrations are permitted. After the final registration deadline, contestants/teams may only be added if they are first approved by the State Director.
2. Schools/Chapters are required to stay within the approved SkillsUSA Florida Hotel Room Blocks in order to participate in the conference. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.
  - a. Students must be supervised by a chaperone at any hotel and throughout the conference, regardless of age. No student is permitted to stay outside of their school group and supervision.
  - b. Commuters are allowed, only if the school is located within 35 miles of the main conference venue.
    - i. Commuters are expected to arrive at contests and events on time. Late arrivals who are commuting will not be granted exceptions or accommodations under any circumstances.
3. Student registrants must be accompanied by a paid advisor registrant. Supervision is the responsibility of the school/district, who appoints the advisor to supervise students. All students must have an emergency contact name and phone number for onsite chaperone(s) submitted with their registration. Advisors and/or chaperones are responsible for maintaining contact information for parents and guardians.
  - a. All supervisory chaperones and advisors must complete a background check and Sexual Abuse Prevention Training prior to attending a SkillsUSA event.
    - i. In almost all cases, this is completed as a requirement of employment with a school or district. In this circumstance, verification may be completed by a designated representative from the school or district to certify that the background check and training have been completed. Verification may be completed using this form:  
<https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Background-Check-Certification-fillable.pdf>
    - ii. Verification must be completed once per school year, and the same verification may be used for all in-person SkillsUSA events during that school year.
4. Each school must designate a Lead Advisor to be responsible for online registration, onsite registration pick up, and serve as a point of contact during the conference.
  - a. The Lead Advisor will be designated at onsite registration, and contact information provided to the registration team.
  - b. The Lead Advisor must have a cell phone on and charged at all times, and will be notified first in the event of any emergency or other important communications.

5. Judges and volunteers donate their time and expertise to the success of this event and SkillsUSA Florida students. In respect of their privacy, SkillsUSA Florida does not disclose the names or contact information for any judge or volunteer. Judges may choose to provide contact information at their discretion during the conference or contest at their discretion.
6. All scores are final at the conclusion of the Closing and Awards Ceremony.

### **CONTEST INFORMATION:**

7. Scorecards or scoring criteria for all national contests can be found on the SkillsUSA website at [updates.skillsusa.org](https://updates.skillsusa.org). These may vary from the state contest version.
8. The Technical Standards are the primary source of information to prepare for contests. If you need help accessing the Technical Standards, contact the Customer Care Team at 844-875-4557 or [customercare@skillsusa.org](mailto:customercare@skillsusa.org).
9. Contests at the Regional and State Leadership and Skills Conferences will be based on the Technical Standards to the fullest extent possible. Contests will increase in difficulty at each level, and may be adapted for time, space, logistics, number of registrants, and a variety of other factors, as determined by the Regional Coordinator, State Director and/or Technical Committees.
  - a. Not all contests at the state level are offered at the regional level. Contests offered at the regional level are at the discretion of the Regional Coordinator, and may be based on the number of registrants, available space and materials, or other factors.
  - b. “Florida Only” contests do not advance to the national competition. Contestants are eligible for regional and/or state medals and prizes, as with all contests.
  - c. “Demonstration Contests” may have a national contest, and contestants may or may not be eligible for medals and/or prizes. Contest status will be published each year.
10. Any changes to the National [Technical Standards](#) for state events will be published online at [www.skillsusaf.org/stateconference/contest-updates](http://www.skillsusaf.org/stateconference/contest-updates) at least 2 weeks prior to SLSC. Any updates released less than 2 weeks before the event are emailed directly to the registering advisor to distribute to the appropriate students and/or instructors.
  - a. Published updates are at the discretion of the Technical Committee. The Technical Committee and/or State Director will make the final determination of what information is released prior to a contest. All materials will be released in the same manner to all participating schools/chapters.
  - b. If no update is published, refer to the Technical Standards for supply lists and other contest information.
11. All competitors must create a one-page, type-written résumé and submit it to the judges during contest orientation or upon arrival to their contest site. Failure to submit a resume at the assigned time will result in a penalty.
12. All contestants must complete the Professional Development Assessment as a scored portion of their contest. Failure to complete the assessment during the testing window will result in a zero score for that component. A study guide is provided in the State Conference Guide for students to prepare.

### **GRIEVANCE FORM AND CONTEST FEEDBACK:**

13. [This form](#) will be used to file grievances in all contests, and also outlines the steps to filing a grievance. Copies of the form will be available from the Head Judge in each contest. Advisors and students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the process. A grievance is only accepted by the student competitor before they leave the contest area during competition.

Grievance Form: <https://www.skillsusaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Grievance-Form.pdf>

- a. Grievances are not accepted from advisors, observers, or non-competing students.
14. Constructive contest feedback from competitors and non-competitors is welcome using this form: <http://bit.ly/ContestFeedback>
- a. When providing constructive feedback, please be as specific as possible and use as much detail as possible, noting times, locations, and any other important information.
  - b. Name and email address are required in order to submit feedback to allow for follow up or additional questions, if needed.

### **CLOTHING AND TOOLS:**

15. Competitors must adhere to the uniform requirements set forth in the Technical Standards for each contest. Clothing standards are available in the Introductory Information with the Technical Standards, or on the SkillsUSA Clothing and Tools App. You may also refer to the [Clothing Classifications](#).
  - a. The Clothing Classifications have recently been updated. Please review and note the changes.
16. At the state competition, the following substitutions are acceptable and do not require prior notice. Please note: these exceptions will NOT be made at the national competition.
  - a. A plain white polo may be substituted for the official SkillsUSA white polo in Class E attire, provided it is plain white with no logos, colored buttons, accents, or stitching.
  - b. Plain blue scrubs may be substituted for the official SkillsUSA blue scrubs, provided they are objectively similar in color. A different shade of blue is not acceptable.
  - c. A plain white chef's coat is acceptable for all culinary and baking contests, provided it does not have the name of a school or chapter visible on the jacket. Any logos or names must be securely covered prior to entering the contest area.
  - d. Additional exceptions must be approved at least 4 weeks in advance of the conference by the State Director. Any exceptions without prior approval are subject to penalty.
17. Contestants must wear the contest uniform to all contest related events; including orientations, debriefs, onsite written exams, practical skill tests, or any other official contest activity.
18. Failure to adhere to uniform requirements may result in a penalty, as determined by the Technical Committee and/or State Director.
19. Opening Ceremony dress is business casual. Official attire or contest attire is encouraged, but not required.
20. All contestants are required to wear their official contest uniforms or official SkillsUSA attire to the Closing and Awards Ceremony, where the winners are announced and the industry awards are presented. Students who are not dressed in the appropriate attire will be denied access to the awards platform onstage and will not appear in medalist photos. Appropriate attire is defined as official contest attire or official SkillsUSA attire.
21. The original official blazer, jacket, sweater or any other uniform with the old "SkillsUSA-VICA" or "VICA" emblem patch may still be worn in contests requiring official attire as the required clothing.
22. No canvas, vinyl, plastic or leather athletic-type shoes, open-toe shoes or open-heel shoes are permitted in any SkillsUSA Championships event. Contestants may be penalized or disqualified where improper clothing constitutes a health or safety hazard.
23. Contestants with long hair that poses a possible safety or sanitary hazard must properly restrain their hair, as is appropriate for their industry. Hair or beard nets may be required.

24. Contestants will be penalized or risk disqualification for lack of safety equipment, clothing or attire, based on the severity of the infraction.
25. The wearing of accessory items (such as belts) is optional unless otherwise specified in the contest rules and clothing classifications. Accessories may in no way pose a safety risk. Contestants should avoid large belt buckles, large and/or dangling jewelry, or any item that could impede on maintaining a safe work environment.
26. No identification of the contestant, chapter, advisor, city, or school may be visible on contest clothing.
27. The policy in regard to piercing and tattoos while participating in SLSC is as follows:
  - a. Piercings: Wearing of any piercings should not potentially cause a safety issue. If so determined, the offending item must be removed for the duration of the SkillsUSA Championships contest. Failure to comply may result in a penalty or disqualification.
  - b. Tattoos: Any tattoos that are considered vulgar, sexual or morbid should be covered to the best of the student's ability while competing in any SkillsUSA Championships contest. Failure to do so may result in a penalty.
28. Check for specific clothing and safety requirements for each contest. Each contest is assigned a [Clothing Classification](#) and identified with Class (A - H). Specific requirements of each classification are outlined under Introductory Information with the Technical Standards.
29. Participants who do not bring the required tools and materials as specified in the individual contest regulations will be penalized for items missing. Such penalties will be assessed by the contest chair. The contest chair may furnish the required item(s) if possible, but will assess the point penalty.
30. It is strongly recommended that toolboxes not exceed 9"x14"x22". Contestants may bring more than one box. Toolboxes that are bigger or cannot be carried by one person should have casters, wheels or a hand truck for movement to and from contest areas.
  - a. SkillsUSA Florida is not responsible for tools left in the contest area overnight. Toolboxes should have a locking mechanism in place.
  - b. It is the responsibility of the contestant to move their toolbox to the contest area.

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

31. Each contest provides for individual entries unless the rules of the contest state that it is a team competition. Team members must be from the same school and division. Schools may enter high school, middle school, and/or college/postsecondary students/teams in each competition, as outlined in the Contest Invitation Grid, available online at:  
<https://www.skillsusaf1.org/state-conference/updates/>
32. Participants must be active SkillsUSA members in their respective divisions whose dues have been postmarked by midnight on February 1.
  - a. Exceptions to the above policy may be made on a case by case basis, and only under certain conditions as determined by the State Director, in cooperation with the National SkillsUSA Office.
33. Participants must meet the eligibility requirements set forth in each contest description, including, but not limited to, programs of study and occupational objectives.
34. Nail Care and Esthetics models and assistants in Action Skills, Principles of Technology, and Job Skill Demonstrations A and Open must be active SkillsUSA student members who are not competing in a contest during the same conference. Advisors and competitors from other contests may not serve as models for these events.

35. Each member will register under one of the following divisions:
- a. **High-school** contestants are students enrolled in a coherent sequence of courses or a career major that prepares the student for further education and/or employment related to technology, the health industry, trades or industry. Further, a high-school contestant must be earning credit toward a high-school diploma/certificate or its equivalent during the school year immediately preceding the National Leadership and Skills Conference.
    - i. An individual who has not completed the requirements for nor received a high-school-level diploma must compete as a high-school contestant even though they may be taking advanced placement or college/postsecondary courses, including dual-enrollment.
  - b. **College/postsecondary** contestants are students enrolled in a coherent series of courses or a career major that prepares them for further education and/or employment related to technology, the health industry, trades or industry. College/postsecondary contestants must be earning credit toward a postsecondary degree/certificate during the school year immediately preceding the National Leadership and Skills Conference.
  - c. **Middle-school** members must be or have been enrolled in a middle-school exploratory course that prepares for future study in a career and technical education pathway.

#### **RESULTS, AWARDS AND PRIZES:**

36. SkillsUSA Florida Championships medals and awards may be presented to the top three contestants in each division. Contestants are rated against a standard of performance rather than automatically being awarded first, second or third-place medals based solely on the highest-rankings.
- a. Medals will not be awarded if the standard of performance as determined by the technical committee does not justify such recognition.
  - b. Medalists will be required to achieve a “cut” score of 70% or better in order to earn a gold medal and advance to the National Championships. If a contestant does not achieve the cut score, no gold medal will be awarded and the top scoring competitor will be awarded a silver medal. All scores will be verified by the State Director prior to the Closing Ceremony. By awarding a gold medal, the state association is acknowledging the scores have been verified and the student is receiving an invitation to the national competition. Receipt of a gold medal constitutes an invitation to the national championships.
  - c. If a gold medalist is unable to attend the national conference, the silver medalist may be notified and receive an invitation to NLSC within 1 week of SLSC.
37. Judges’ decisions and scores are final.
38. Prizes may be awarded, contingent on industry support, and are not guaranteed for any contest.
39. Contestants must be present during the Closing Ceremony to receive medals and/or prizes. No medals or prizes will be distributed following the close of the conference, unless approved by the State Director in writing in advance of the conference.
40. Advisors are not permitted backstage or in the prize room. Students will return to their seats after receiving their awards.
41. In order to advance to the National Leadership and Skills Conference, contestants must qualify through state SkillsUSA approved contests. Contestants are not permitted to advance “straight to Nationals” without being deemed qualified by the State Director.

42. Individual scorecards will be made available online 1-2 weeks following the close of the state conference. **Contestants must have their contestant number and date of birth in order to access their scorecard.** Please make note of contestant numbers.

### **TEAM CONTESTS:**

43. Teams will consist of SkillsUSA members from the same school or chapter, unless otherwise stated in the Technical Standards. All team members must be from the same division (middle school, high school, and college/post secondary).
44. Teams must wear the same uniform. In contests where multiple clothing classifications are acceptable (for example, Quiz Bowl), all team members must wear the same classification.
45. In team leadership contests, should a team member drop following the state competitions, schools/chapters may substitute another student. Teams may compete with one fewer team member in the case of an unforeseen circumstance just prior to the state competition (e.g., student becomes ill, is involved in an accident or simply does not show up) as long as a full team was registered and paid for originally and the specific contest guidelines do not state otherwise.
46. For team skill contests, a team may compete with less than the required number of competitors, but will be penalized based on the number of team members present divided by the number of team members required. For example, if a contest requires a team of 4, a team of 3 is permitted to compete with a 25% penalty.
47. Teams that advance to the National Championships must compete with at least half of the original members who qualified at the state event. If more than half of the original members are replaced, the team must forfeit their position to the next eligible team.

### **OBSERVERS:**

48. During the contest, participants must work independently, without assistance from judges, teachers, fellow students or observers. Contestants may be disqualified for receiving such assistance.
49. It is in the spirit of competition and good sportsmanship to demonstrate professional courtesy to other competitors. Contestants shall in no way disrupt or interfere with the work or performance of fellow contestants or teams. Any contestant or team found to be in violation of this regulation may be penalized or disqualified.
  - a. If the disruption comes from a non-contestant, a penalty or disqualification may be applied to all contestants from the offending school.
50. A roped or otherwise marked area may be designated for observers. Not all contests will allow for observers. No observers, including SkillsUSA advisors, will enter the designated contest areas at any time. This is necessary for both safety and to maintain the integrity of the contests.
51. SkillsUSA Florida reserves the right to remove any contestant, advisor, or observer for disruptive behavior.
52. No advisors or observers will talk or gesture to contestants. Doing so may result in penalties or disqualification.
53. Judges may request a penalty or disqualification of contestants who accept assistance from observers. The State Director will make the final determination of any such penalties or disqualification.
54. No advisors or observers will be permitted in the contest holding room or at the contest orientation meeting, unless expressly stated in the contest Technical Standards.

55. Additional limitations on observers, such as entering or leaving a contest area during a demonstration or sequence, may be posted to protect contestants from unnecessary distractions.
56. The technical committee chair may close the contest to observers if observers are seen to be communicating or aiding a contestant in any way, or if safety demands such action.
57. Cameras with flash attachments, cell phones, and/or recording devices of any kind will not be permitted in any contest area without the consent of the State Director and/or Technical Committee.