



2024-2025

Championships Orientation

SLSC25 | March 24-25, 2025

Welcome!

- Mic off, camera on (if you can 😊)
- Use the chat
- Ask lots of questions
- Stay adaptable and flexible

Agenda

- Conference Communication
- Pre-Conference Information
- Conference Overview – daily schedule and activities

Conference Communications

- Email is primary method. Expect more frequent emails as the conference approaches.
 - Large chapters – Lead Advisor may receive and distribute information.
 - Review the [SLSC25 Conference Guide](#) for important links and information
 - If you are not receiving emails, check with your IT dept (whitelist)
 - Sign up for Tuesday Times: <https://bit.ly/TueTimes>
 - SLSC Page – skillsusafl.org/SLSC
- Contest Updates Page – skillsusafl.org/updates
- Advisor Resources Page – skillsusafl.org/resources
- Onsite – Red Jacket Form
 - QR Code to online form for any questions, concerns, needs during conference.



Conference App

- Available after April 1 – will email once released
- Detailed schedule with reporting times for competitions
- Customizable personal agenda
- Social feeds to share photos
- Push notifications and alerts for real-time updates
- Maps of all conference venues
- Free download – Yapp
- Advisors will receive QR code to share with students



Advisor Responsibilities

- [Chaperone Certification Form](#) – required for all school chaperones (once per year).
- Designate a Lead Advisor onsite – Remind
- Ensure students are prepared with the necessary information – supply lists, contest updates, tech standards, pre-conference submissions, etc.
- Facilitate online testing for all competitors.
- Adhere to the rules outlined in the Code of Conduct.
 - No swimming or water activities.
 - No private counseling or sharing hotel rooms with students.
 - Maintain curfew and dress code.
 - Etc.
- Provide supervision for your own students at all conference events.
 - Supervision is the responsibility of each school.
 - Schools must complete their own room checks at curfew or establish an earlier curfew for your school.
 - We provide staff to ensure logistical support and a safe environment for attendees.
 - Advisor cooperation required.
- Integrity.



Inclusivity Statement and Gen Regs

- Everyone has a home in SkillsUSA. Behavior that makes anyone feel unwelcome, discriminated against, harassed, or bullied will not be tolerated.
- Inclusivity Statement – Zero tolerance policy for violations. Share with students and review the process for reporting any inappropriate or questionable behavior.
- State General Regulations – general rules for state competitions. All advisors and students should review and be familiar!



Pre-Conference Submissions & Resumes

- All contests require the submission of a hard copy of the competitor's resume.
 - Penalty assessed for no resume
 - Contest update published with more details
 - Should be a real resume to show experience and education. It's ok for it to be short!
 - Generic info instructions for sensitive student data
- Pre-conference submissions required for some contests – review contest update
 - Technical Standards – safety and verification letters



Clothing and Attire

- Always in line with school/district dress code.
- Competition:
 - Technical Standards.
 - Construction and Transportation: t-shirts provided. See update.
 - Uniform Exceptions: Listed in the State General Regulations, page 5
- Opening Ceremony:
 - Nice casual; chapter t-shirts are encouraged!
 - State Officer Candidates: Official attire
- Closing Ceremony:
 - Contest attire, official attire, or business attire required (i.e., polo and slacks) to go onstage to receive medals.
 - State Officer Candidates: Official attire
- Other conference activities:
 - Maintain school dress code.
 - Remind students that business and industry partners may be present anytime during the conference.



AICE Testing

- AICE schools were sent info regarding testing availability at SLSC25.
- If you have students in the AICE program who need to take exams during SLSC25, reach out to us ASAP to make arrangements!!!



Conference Overview

Monday, April 28

- 2 PM to 6 PM – Onsite registration and packet pick up, *Hyatt*
- 5 PM to 11 PM – Food trucks, *Hyatt*
- 6 PM – Doors open for Opening Ceremony, *Florida Theatre*
- 7 PM to 9 PM – Opening Ceremony, *Florida Theatre*



Onsite Registration

Monday, April 28 from 2 PM to 6 PM, Hyatt 2nd floor

- No distribution outside of these times
- Pick up:
 - Printed roster of your contestants, with shirt size and contestant number
 - (Save this list for scores later!)
 - Name badges and lanyards
 - T-shirts (all, advisors, construction/transportation)
 - Conference pin
 - Delegate and Officer Candidate ribbons
 - Champions' Night dinner Tickets
 - Food truck tickets (if applicable)
 - Crisis contact card
- Drop off:
 - Chaperone Certification form
 - Code of conduct forms for each registrant
 - Requires parent/guardian signature for under 18.
 - No participation without a completed form – get them signed in advance!!!



Name Changes and Substitutions

- Substitutions and Spelling Corrections accepted until April 18
- Contestant substitutions must be received by Monday, April 7 to gain access to online exams.
- Submit form online:
<https://form.jotform.com/212523572228048>
 - Link on Contest Updates page
- Bring completed Conference Liability and Release form to onsite registration: <https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/SkillsUSA-Conference-Registration-and-Liability-Form.pdf>
- No drops for refund.
 - In respect of our volunteers' time and resources, please alert us of any drops using the form above.



Day Passes and Visitor Registration

- Parents and other supporters can purchase tickets online in advance of the conference, beginning April 1.
- <https://skillsusafl.square.site/>
- Day passes for competition: \$35, covers Tues and Wed
 - Prime Osborn and Hyatt only. FSCJ contest viewing not guaranteed.
- Closing Ceremony Tickets: \$25, prepurchase encouraged
- Conference Badge (includes all activities, including Champions Festival): \$150
- Share info sheet with folks who want to attend:
<https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/SLSC25-Visitor-Access-to-Conference.pdf>



Opening Ceremony

Monday, April 28 at the Florida Theatre

- 7 PM to 9 PM
 - Bus transportation not provided – 2 blocks from Hyatt
- Doors open at 6 PM – arrive early to get a good seat! The theatre will likely reach capacity!
- State level awards and recognition
- State Officer Candidates Announcement
- Brian Imbus – Mentalist and Illusionist
- Any last-minute announcements



Conference Overview

Tuesday, April 29

- 7 AM to 4 PM – Conference Transportation
- 7 AM to 4 PM – Advisor Lounge at the Hyatt, POCC
- 8 AM to 4 PM – Competitions (access POCC at 7:30 AM)
- 9 AM to 2 PM – CareerExpo at Prime Osborn
- 9 AM to 11 AM – Community Service Project at POCC
- 11 AM to 1 PM – Food trucks for purchase
- 10:30 AM, 12 PM – Professional Development for Students
- 3 PM to 5 PM – Meet the Candidates
- 5 PM to 8 PM – Meet the Employer
- 5 PM to 10 PM – Food trucks for purchase



Conference Overview

Wednesday, April 30

- 7 AM to 4 PM – conference transportation
- 7 AM to 4 PM – Advisor Lounge at the Hyatt, POCC
- 8 AM to 4 PM – Competitions
- 9 AM to 2 PM – CareerExpo at Prime Osborn
- 9 AM to 11 AM – Community Service Project at POCC
- 11 AM to 1 PM – Food trucks for purchase
- 9 AM, 10:30 AM, 12 PM – Professional Development for Students
- 11 AM to 1 PM – Framework Luncheon and Advisor Business Meeting
- 3 PM – Delegate Session and State Officer Elections
- 6 PM to 10 PM – Champions Festival
- 6:30 to 9:30 PM – Advisor Reception



Transportation

- Buses will run on a continuous loop for all attendees (name badge required)
- Doubletree to Hyatt to Prime Osborn
- Doubletree to Hyatt to FSCJ
- Doubletree to Hyatt to Nassau/Deerwood
- Full detailed schedule posted in conference app
- Free parking at FSCJ, POCC
- \$10 parking per day at Hyatt (\$20 overnight guests)



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YOUR POTENTIAL
2024-2025

Advisor Lounge

Tuesday and Wednesday, April 29-30

- Hyatt: 4th Floor, Matthews
 - 7 AM to 4 PM
 - Access to the 4th floor Riverdeck
- POCC: Room TBD
 - 8 AM to 2 PM
- Coffee from morning till lunch
- Light snacks

Advisor Social – Wednesday, April 30, 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

- Must have Advisor name badge for entry
- Desserts and coffee
- Door prizes



CareerExpo

Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 AM to 2 PM

- CareerExpo – Prime Osborn; interactive booths and exhibits, immersive experiences in construction and transportation
- Virtual reality experiences
- Professional simulators
- Hands-on activities from the construction industry and beyond.
- Nail driving competitions and opportunities to operate real, professional-grade hand and power tools.
- Free hard hat, safety glasses, industry swag, and photo opportunities.



Expedition: SLSC

- Virtual scavenger hunt
- Complete tasks, submit photos and video, and answer trivia about SLSC25 and our partners.
- Chapters can create teams of up to 4 people, winning team gets prizes at the Closing Ceremony!
- Goosechase app



PD and Community Service

- **Professional Development for Students – Hyatt**
 - Facilitated by state officers and alumni.
 - Sign up not required.
 - Tuesday: 10:30 AM (Decision Making), 12 PM (Interview Skills)
 - Wednesday: 9 AM (Resume Writing), 10:30 AM (Responsibility), 12 PM (Adaptability and Flexibility)
- **Community Service Project – Prime Osborn Convention Center**
 - Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 AM to 11 AM
 - Certificate of hours provided
 - Sign up not required.



Delegate Activities

- Each school is assigned a number of delegates based on total membership for the year.
- Advisors will receive an email with the delegate allocation for their school.
- Delegates represent our students' voices in official organizational business
- Meet the Candidate – Tuesday, 3 to 5 PM
- Delegate Sessions and State Officer Elections – Wednesday, 3 to 5 PM



Student By-law change

- Student by-law change has been proposed
- The process:
 - Proposal
 - Submission to Florida SkillsUSA Board of Directors for approval
 - Distribution to all chapters at least 1 week before business meeting.
 - Voting to occur during Delegate Sessions at SLSC.
- Current state: Review by Board of Directors
- Anticipated release to chapters: April 1, 2025



Meet the Employer

Tuesday, April 29 from 5 PM to 8 PM

- Hyatt in River Terrace 1
- Sign up here: <https://form.jotform.com/240725130505041>
- “Speed Networking” – students will visit with employers in groups of 3-4. Every 15 minutes we will rotate, and students will have the opportunity to leave a resume at each table.
- High school seniors and postsecondary students are highly encouraged to participate; all students are invited.
- Professional attire is appropriate, and students should bring 10 copies of resumes.
- Great for interview experience and learning about future careers.
- Students control the information provided to employers.



Framework Luncheon and Advisor Business Meeting

Wednesday, April 30, 11 AM to 1 PM

- River Terrace 1 at the Hyatt
- Lunch is provided for registered advisors (name badge required)
- State and national updates
 - New fall advisor business meeting
 - 2026 Competition Plans
 - State Education Team Introduction
- Advisor at Large elections – 2 seats up for election
 - Nominate yourself or someone else here:
<https://form.jotform.com/213636519031047>
 - Give 2-3 minute speech on why you should be elected.



Champions Festival

Wednesday, 6 PM to 10 PM at the Hyatt and Coastline Drive

- Food trucks (10+) – dinner provided for all attendees
- Live performance art
- DJ and dancing
- SkillsUSA Florida Store
- Photo booth
- Board games
- Friendship bracelets
- (and maybe Karaoke...)
- Speed Puzzle Competition – open to all conference participants! Gather up to a team of 4 and put together a 500-piece puzzle as fast as you can. Sign up here:
<https://form.jotform.com/240515971223048>



Contest Schedule and Updates

- Contest schedule is online at skillsusafl.org/updates
 - Updated schedule will be shared with the conference app.
 - If an update is posted that contradicts the schedule, use the most recently released document.
- Lunch is provided on competition days.
 - If attendance is required for two days, lunch is provided both days.
- Review Contest Updates for specific information that differs from the Technical Standards.
 - Supply list, uniform, other contest information



Online Testing

- Only Professional Development test will be taken online.
 - Any technical assessments will be done onsite, except hospitality
 - Baking/Culinary – ACF CFC, CFPC exams administered online in the same window.
- Testing window: April 7 at 8 AM ET to April 18 at 5 PM ET
- No time limit.
- 25-50 questions related to SkillsUSA Framework skills and how they are applied
- Study guide available online
- Score will be used as a tie-breaker
- All students must complete the exam or a 10-point penalty will be assessed.
- Lead Advisor will receive a list of testing credentials for all students.



Food Trucks

- Available at the Hyatt – parking lot behind the parking garage
 - Monday – 5 PM to 11 PM
 - Tuesday – 11 AM to 1 PM and 5 PM to 10 PM
 - Wednesday – 11 AM to 1 PM (**Champions Festival – 6 PM to 10 PM*)
- Can be pre-purchased by schools, or purchased onsite by anyone.
 - Non-refundable.
- No limit or minimum purchase, no restrictions on usage by meal
- Variety of trucks for each meal, ticket includes meal and drink
- Pre-purchase tickets here:
<https://form.jotform.com/250814270888161>
- Additional food options for purchase at the Hyatt
- Concessions available for purchase at POCC (new stand with hot options)



Lunch for Competitors

- Competitors and models will receive lunch on any days that they are required to attend their competition.
- Lunch tickets will be distributed by each contest area. Student must attend Contest Orientation to get a lunch ticket.
- Dietary restrictions/ allergies – if not listed on registration, you must complete the Accommodations Request form as soon as possible!
<https://form.jotform.com/212435080058045>
 - No accommodations are guaranteed without submitting the necessary information.



Grievances and Contest Feedback

- Report rule violations in a competition with a Grievance.
- Report feedback for how a contest is administered, scheduled, or other input outside of rule violations with the Contest Feedback form.
- Provide constructive feedback for competitions here: <http://bit.ly/ContestFeedback>
- New Grievance Policy this year...



New Grievance Policy

- Grievances must be filed on the day of the perceived grievance, no later than 6 PM local time.
- The competitor and advisor must cooperatively file the grievance.
- Paper and online version
 - One hard copy and QR Code in school registration packets
 - Requires:
 - Contest name and Division
 - Competitor Name and number, school, phone number, and email
 - Advisor name, phone number, and email
 - Description of the situation in question
 - Rule that was violated (must cite specific Technical Standard or General Regulation)
 - Suggested Resolution
- Will be evaluated by Grievance Committee to determine whether the submission is an actual grievance or suggestion for competition improvement.
 - If grievance, the Committee makes recommended actions for resolution.
 - If not a grievance, not approved, or if an infraction impacted all competitors equally, then no action will be taken.



Conference Overview

Thursday, May 1

- 7:30 AM – Doors open for Closing Ceremony
- 8:30 AM – Closing Ceremony begins
- Immediately following – NLSC delegation meeting
- 1 PM - Adjourn



Closing Ceremony

- Thursday, May 1 at the Hyatt, Grand Ballroom
- Doors open at 7:30 AM
- Ceremony begins at 8:30 AM
- Live streamed – link provided prior to the ceremony and shared on social media
- Announce 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each division and contest
- Medalists will go to the front of the stage. Once all are gathered for a contest, they will be escorted onstage. Then, they will leave the ballroom to proceed to the prize area to receive prizes and take photos.
- Gold medalists will receive QR Code for Intent to Enter form. Must be submitted by the end of Closing Ceremony to secure your invitation to NLSC.
- **TICKET OR NAME BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY.** Tickets on sale for \$25 per person (children free). Pre-purchase is highly encouraged!



Scores, Results, and Photos

- **Scores –**
 - Posted 1-2 weeks after conference online at scores.skillsusa.org.
 - Download medalist list or individual scores
 - Need contestant number and DOB to access individual scores.
 - Includes detailed scoring for each area, with the competitor's score, along with the highest, lowest, and average score attained for the contest.
- **Request for Scoring Review –**
 - Within 2 weeks of publication. Only for clerical errors, not for score protest (i.e., score was entered as 1 but should be 100).
 - <https://form.jotform.com/223325090009042>
- **Conference photos –**
 - Competitions, activities, Champions' Festival, and Closing Ceremony (including medalists)
 - Free high-quality download from our Flickr page – [flickr.com/skillsusaflorida](https://www.flickr.com/photos/skillsusaflorida/) (click on Albums for easiest access)



NLSC Delegation Meeting

- Immediately following Closing Ceremony in River Terrace 1 at the Hyatt
- Review important deadlines and information
- Ensure Intent to Enter forms are complete and that we have accurate advisor contact info for each competitor
- NLSC25 Conference Guide – available April 1 on Advisor Resources page.
- Virtual Meeting: May 6, 2025, at 6 PM
 - Meeting credentials emailed to Intent to Enter list



QUESTIONS?

- Jessica Graber
 - State Director
 - igraber@skillsusafl.org
 - 850-284-8534
- Jayde Alioto
 - Assistant State Director
 - jaydea@skillsusafl.org
 - 352-322-3345
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- SkillsUSAFL.org/updates
- SkillsUSAFL.org/resources

