

SLSC25 Know Before You Go

We are so excited for SLSC25 and to welcome you and your students to Jacksonville! In this email, you will find a plethora of information related to the conference, competitions, and other important details. I know it's a lot - but we have so many cool things going on, there was no way around it! Please review this information carefully and share it with anyone from your school who might benefit.

GENERAL LOGISTICS

Onsite Registration and Check In

On Monday, April 28, visit us at the Hyatt from 2 PM to 6 PM to claim your name badges, conference t-shirts, and more. Each school should send 1-2 advisors to the registration area on the 2nd floor skybridge of the Hyatt. Advisors will:

- Turn in all Code of Conduct forms for attendees and advisors
 - Students: <https://www.skillsusaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Student-CoC.pdf>
 - (parent/guardian signature required for students under 18)
 - Advisors/Chaperones: <https://www.skillsusaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Advisor-CoC.pdf>
- Submit an approved chaperone form, if you have not already done so
 - Download here: <https://www.skillsusaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Chaperone-Certification-and-Volunteer-Screening-Form.pdf>
- Provide any outstanding payments, if applicable.
- Collect registration materials and sign off that they have been received.
- Ensure any Courtesy Corps members check in to get t-shirts and an all-access pass.
- Optional: pre-purchase any daily parking passes for the Hyatt (\$10 if you are not an overnight guest. Pre-purchase is not required.)

Registration will end promptly at 6 PM. If your school is local and you are commuting to the conference, we ask that you arrange to pick up your materials on Monday, April 28, during regular registration hours.

Drops

All of our competition judges are volunteers, donating their time and expertise to facilitate our competitions, and in many cases, also donating consumable materials for use in competitions. While we cannot offer a refund for their registration, please notify us of any students who will no longer attend SLSC. We appreciate your help in honoring our volunteers' time and resources!

- Complete this form: <https://form.jotform.com/212523572228048>

Conference App and Schedule

The conference app is hosted on an app called Yapp, which can be downloaded free from the App Store and Google Play. Once you download the app, enter event code "FLSLSC25" to access the full conference schedule, venue maps, important links and documents, and more! The schedule published in the app is the schedule that will be used for all activities, regardless of previous publications.

Bus Transportation and Parking

Bus transportation is provided to all conference attendees from the official conference hotels, the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, and the Doubletree Jacksonville Riverfront. A conference name badge is required to ride conference transportation. Specific bus schedules will be posted in the conference app and in the lobby of each hotel. **NOTE:** On Thursday, transportation is only provided from the Doubletree to the Hyatt. Return service at the end of the ceremony is not provided.

Parking at the Hyatt is \$10 per day (purchase at the CHAD) or \$20 per day for overnight guests (charged to your room). There is no cost for parking at the Prime Osborn or any of the FSCJ campuses. Bus parking is limited to designated parking at the Prime Osborn and is \$100 for the duration of the conference.

- To request oversized vehicle parking: <https://form.jotform.com/213625465474056>

Behavior Expectations

SkillsUSA is a welcoming place for all career and technical education members in Florida. Bullying, harassment, derogatory, or otherwise harmful behavior is not tolerated. Review the Inclusivity Statement and Expectations for more information. Students and advisors are expected to adhere to the Code of Conduct, or may face disciplinary action like contest penalties, removal from the conference, and/or legal action.

Dietary Restrictions and Allergies

If you have not already notified us of any dietary needs or allergies, please let us know as soon as possible. Without prior notification, we cannot guarantee food options to accommodate.

- Dietary Restrictions and Allergies: <https://form.jotform.com/212435080058045>

Visitor Access to Conference

Parents and other supporters are welcome and encouraged to attend SLSC25! There are three options to participate in the conference for folks outside of your school delegation. Check out all the options on the sheet linked below, and feel free to share with parents and others who want to attend. All options are available both onsite and online in advance, and pre-purchase is encouraged.

Closing Ceremony: Closing Ceremony tickets or a name badge are required to enter the Closing Ceremony. Closing Ceremony tickets are \$25 each for attendee, and free for attendees under the age of 13 (with ticketed/credentialed adult). Limited ticket purchases are available on the morning of the ceremony; encourage visitors to purchase tickets in advance of the event. Visitors can also purchase discounted parking for the Hyatt at the CHAD for \$10 per day.

- Purchase here: <https://skillsusaf.square.site/>
- Download the info sheet: <https://www.skillsusaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/SLSC25-Visitor-Access-to-Conference.pdf>

Red Jacket Form

Onsite at the conference, advisors will have access to the Red Jacket Form, which is the fastest and most efficient way to get any assistance, questions answered, or anything else you need from the SkillsUSA team. As you can imagine, our cell phones are basically on fire during the conference, and using this form will help ensure your request is automatically routed to the right person to get you the most prompt response. A QR code to the form will be provided during registration. **Please only share this link with advisors; students should not use this form** and should instead contact the Conference Help and Assistance Desk (C.H.A.D.) at either the Prime Osborn or the Hyatt for any assistance.

Payment

If your school has not yet made payment, please ensure that any outstanding fees are brought with you to onsite registration. Invoices are final at the close of registration, and we are not able to honor any drops for a refund at this time.

Lunch Procedure

Lunch is provided for contestants on any day they are required to report for competition. **NEW THIS YEAR:** You will not receive lunch tickets in your registration materials this year.

- **For contests at the Hyatt:**
 - Contests that will extend through lunch where the students are not dismissed from the area will receive a box lunch delivered to the contest area.
 - Contests that will not extend through lunch or require students to report only at specific times will receive a food truck ticket at their contest orientation to retrieve lunch at any of the available food trucks that day.
- **For contests at the Prime Osborn:**
 - Box lunches will be delivered to the contest area. For contestants completing only orientation and written exam (Electrical Construction Wiring, Plumbing, Industrial Motor Control, Carpentry) will receive a food truck ticket.
- **For contests at other locations:**
 - Lunch will be delivered to the contest site. If a contest ends before 11 AM, encourage students to check with judges about lunch delivery before leaving the site.

Food truck tickets

Food trucks will be available for meal purchases on Monday evening from 5-11 PM, Tuesday from 11-1 and 5-10, and Wednesday from 11-1. We will also provide dinner for all attendees via food trucks at Champions Festival on Wednesday from 6-10 PM. Pre-purchased Champions Festival Food Truck Tickets will be included in your school's registration packet.

Meal tickets for the food trucks can be pre-purchased and/or purchased onsite. There is no minimum or maximum order, and cash and credit cards are accepted as payment. Tickets are \$17 each, and include a meal and a drink. An invoice will be sent to you with your order confirmation once it is submitted. Food truck tickets purchased are non-refundable.

- **Pre-purchase food truck tickets:** <https://form.jotform.com/250814270888161>.

COMPETITION INFORMATION

Online Testing - Professional Development Assessment

Our online testing deadline for the Professional Development test is April 18 at 5 PM ET. Please ensure all of your students have tested. If you have technical issues, please; let us know using the form below. We **MUST** receive notification of any technical issues by the end of the testing window, or students may be subject to a penalty. **Any students with technical issues that were reported to us will complete the Professional Development Assessment onsite at SLSC.** A designated testing area will be available in the Grand Ballroom Foyer at the Hyatt from 8 AM to 4 PM on Tuesday and Wednesday. Students must be checked in to the testing area by 4 PM on Wednesday in order to complete testing.

Online Testing - Hospitality Competitions (Culinary, Baking, etc.)

Competitors registered in hospitality competitions must complete testing online through ACF prior to the conference. Information has been sent directly to advisors from ACF. If you have any issues, reach out to Kivi Hermans at KHermans@acfcchefs.org

Other Technical Assessments

Any other technical assessments will be completed onsite at SLSC. Students should arrive at each competition prepared for an exam, as they may not be notified of an exam in advance.

Contest Updates

Be sure you have reviewed the information on the Contest Updates page at skillsusafl.org/updates. Any updates to competitions between now and the competition will be posted and also emailed to the student's advisor. Competitors are responsible for adhering to the information provided in a Contest Update.

Pre-Conference Uploads and Resumes

Please review the Contest Update related to pre-conference uploads and resumes. Any pre-conference uploads are due by April 21, 2025. If a contest requires a safety or verification letter, refer to the contest Technical Standards for specifics and required verbiage. Any pre-conference submission is a scored component. Contestants may be assessed a penalty or zero score for failure to submit accordingly.

- **Resume and Pre-Conference Upload Update:** <https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Resume-and-Preconference-Submission-Update-REVISED-3.4.25.pdf>

Grievances - New Policy

A grievance may only be filed in the event of a rule violation. Rules to be considered include the National Technical Standards, National General Regulations, State Contest Updates, and State General Regulations.

This form is due by 6 PM local time on the day of the perceived grievance. The grievance must be filed cooperatively by the student and their advisor. Information should be submitted with as much detail as possible. For team events, enter only one team member name. It may be completed online or in hard copy.

One hard copy of the form and a QR code to access the online form will be included in each school registration packet. Submit hard copies to SkillsUSA Florida Headquarters in Daytona, 3rd floor of the Hyatt.

The SkillsUSA Florida Grievance Committee will review the submission to determine if the submission is a valid grievance or a suggestion for competition improvement. If the committee deems the submission to be a valid grievance, they will make recommended actions for resolution. If the committee deems the submission to not be a valid grievance, or if an infraction impacted all competitors equally, no action will be taken.

- **Download a hard copy:** <https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Competition-Grievance-Form-REV-4.25.pdf>
- **File a Grievance Online:** <https://form.jotform.com/251054179717056>

ADVISOR ACTIVITIES

Advisor Lounges

Advisors are invited to grab a cup of coffee and a light snack at the designated Advisor Lounge at the Hyatt and the Prime Osborn. At the Hyatt, visit Mathews on the 4th floor for dedicated WiFi and outdoor access to the balconies overlooking the river. At the Prime Osborn, visit room 105 for a quick refresher or to charge your laptop. Access is limited to registered advisors only - no students or observers are permitted.

Framework Luncheon and Advisor Business Meeting

All advisors are invited to join us on Wednesday, April 30 at the Hyatt Regency for a special luncheon and our annual Advisor Business Meeting. During this meeting, you'll hear special updates from the state and national offices, including information about the new fall advisor meeting, our 2026 competition plans, and State and National Education Team information. Advisors will also elect two representatives to serve as Advisor at Large on the Florida SkillsUSA Inc Board of Directors. Each candidate will give a 2-3 minute speech about why they should be elected.

- **Nominate yourself or someone else:** <https://form.jotform.com/213636519031047>

Supervision

As a reminder, each school is required to provide primary supervision for students during the conference. SkillsUSA provides security for logistical support and to prevent unauthorized entry, but Advisors are expected to know the whereabouts of their students at all times. Students, including adult students, should not leave the hotel or conference facilities unattended or without permission from their advisor.

OTHER CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Community Service

On Tuesday and Wednesday from 9-11 am, we will host a Community Service project at the Prime Obsorn Convention Center. If you have any old T-shirts, blanket material, or throw blankets to donate, please bring them to Jacksonville! We'll be making tug toys for the pet shelter and blankets for the local homeless shelter. Students will receive documentation of their community service hours upon completion of the project.

SkillsUSA Store

We'll have an on-site SkillsUSA Florida store again this year, with some old favorites and some cool new stuff! (Check out our social media channels for a sneak peek!) Store items range from \$1 - \$25 for stickers, bags, sweatshirts, and more - plan accordingly and go back to your chapter with bragging rights AND some pretty great swag.

Penny Wars

Bring your change and prove your region is the best! Drop coins into your region's jug for positive points, and attack another jug with dollar bills to bring their total down! Look for the jugs outside the CHAD and at Champions' Festival and see which region reigns supreme!

Professional Development

Back again this year, all student members are invited to attend Professional Development sessions during SLSC to grow their Framework skills and prepare for their future careers. Participants will receive a certificate upon completion. Pre-registration is not required; sessions are limited to the first 30 attendees.

- **Tuesday:**
 - 10:30 - Decision Making
 - 12 PM - Interview Skills
- **Wednesday:**
 - 9 AM - Resume Writing
 - 10:30 AM - Responsibility
 - 12 PM - Adaptability and Flexibility

Delegate Sessions and State Officer Elections

During each State Leadership and Skills Conference, delegate representatives from each chapter gather to vote for the incoming state officer team and conduct official business for the organization. Check out more information about the Delegate process on the conference app. This year, our student members will discuss proposed student bylaw changes. Advisors are welcome to attend and observe, but may not participate in official student business.

- Download a Delegate Info sheet to share with students: <https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Delegate-Information-SkillsUSA-Florida-12.2.24.pdf>
- Review the proposed bylaw changes here: <https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Student-Bylaw-Amendment-Proposed-4.10.25-1.pdf>
- Review the current student bylaws here: <https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/SkillsUSA-Florida-Student-Bylaws-Rev-June-7-2016.pdf>

Opening Ceremony

Doors open for the Opening Ceremony at 6 PM on Monday, April 28 at the Florida Theatre. You won't want to miss this high-energy session with our favorite keynote speaker and mentalist, Brian Imbus! We'll recognize chapters for Chapter Excellence Program achievements, as well as some of our key volunteers, partners, students, and advisors. We'll also introduce the 2025-2026 State Officer Candidate team and share any last-minute announcements. Arrive early - the theatre is expected to reach capacity! Chapters are encouraged to wear chapter t-shirts or other SkillsUSA logo attire.

CareerExpo

Back again this year, our partners will gather at the Prime Osborn Convention Center to showcase careers and educational opportunities for our students in a variety of trade areas, including construction, manufacturing, transportation, and more. Make it a point to get your students there to experience it!

Expedition: SLSC

The hunt is on: can you collect the most points? Members can create a team of up to 4 people from their chapter and complete our virtual scavenger hunt to earn points! Collect points by answering trivia, taking photos and video, and checking in at certain locations. The top scoring team will be recognized at the Closing Ceremony and receive a special prize!

Champions Festival

On Wednesday from 6 PM to 10 PM, all conference attendees are invited to attend the annual Champions Festival, an event to kick back, relax, and celebrate a year of hard work. We'll have a DJ, photo booth, live art performance, indoor and outdoor games, and karaoke - AND a chance to pie a State Officer in the face for \$1 per pie!

The coolest competition you never knew existed: The 2nd Annual SLSC Speed Puzzling Challenge kicks off at the Champions Festival at 7 PM! Compete by yourself or gather a team of up to 4 people, and be the fastest team to put together a 500-piece puzzle! Each team keeps the puzzle at the end of the contest. Spots are limited - register your team using the link below! <https://form.jotform.com/240515971223048>

Advisors are invited to attend a special reception in Mathews on the 4th floor from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM. Join us for coffee and dessert, door prizes, and lots of networking. You'll get an exclusive bird's eye view of the outdoor activities, with an incredible view of the city skyline to take a deep breath and savor the moment.

Meet the Employer

On Tuesday from 5 PM to 8 PM at the Hyatt, a variety of local, state, national, and international employers and educational institutions will be present to talk to our student members about current job openings. All high school seniors and college/postsecondary students are encouraged to attend and learn more about employment opportunities. The event is beneficial for all students - get interview experience, learn about potential careers in their sector, and network with business, industry, and education partners. Pre-registration is not required! Students should bring multiple copies of their resume and dress professionally.

CLOSING AND AWARDS INFORMATION

Closing Ceremony Streaming

The Closing Ceremony will be streamed live for any supporters to watch from home or school. Encourage your school to arrange a watch party and cheer on your contestants! The link will be provided to attendees.

Closing Ceremony Attire

As a reminder, contestants must be in either competition attire, SkillsUSA Official attire, or professional attire (minimum polo/slacks) in order to receive medals onstage and be included official photographs. No jeans, hats, or casual attire are acceptable. Students will not be allowed onstage and will receive medals offstage.

Competition Prizes

After medals are awarded onstage, students will proceed out of the ballroom to the prize area to receive any prizes for their competition. Gold medalists will also receive a QR code to complete the Intent to Enter form for the national competition, which must be completed by the end of the ceremony. We work with our industry partners to be able to provide industry-related prizes for all competitions, but cannot guarantee all medalists will receive a prize. We appreciate your patience and cooperation.

Contest Scores and Photos

Competition scores are usually posted within 1-2 weeks of the conference. Please make note of contestant numbers for your students - you'll need these to retrieve scores later. Students will receive an email with information on how to retrieve their scores, and we will notify advisors when scores are available as well.

The scores of the judges are final. If a student has a question about their scorecard related to a potential clerical error (i.e., 10 was entered instead of 100), they can submit a Request for Scoring Review within 2 weeks of the release of scores using the link below. We will review the hard copies of scorecards to recertify scores. Additional medals will be awarded as appropriate, but a medal will not be removed.

Our photography team works hard throughout the event to capture great moments! We'll share all the photos on our Flickr page, where they will be available for free, high-quality download.

- Retrieve scores: scores.skillsusa.org
- Request for Scoring Review: <https://form.jotform.com/223325090009042>
- Check out all photos: <https://flickr.com/photos/skillsusafloida/albums>

NLSC Delegation Meeting

Immediately following the Closing Ceremony, all students and teachers advancing to the national competition must attend a brief orientation in River Terrace 1 (Hyatt, 3rd floor). Please ensure that all Intent to Enter forms are completed! A virtual orientation for advisors will be held on May 6 at 6 PM. Meeting link will be emailed to those who complete the Intent to Enter form.