



NATIONAL LEADERSHIP & SKILLS CONFERENCE

Presented By  Aerotek®



North Dakota

2026 ADVISOR GUIDE

State Director Message

Dear Advisors,

Congratulations! Your students have worked hard this year and are preparing to attend the **2026 SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC)** in Atlanta. On behalf of our state association and SkillsUSA ND Board, thank you for your dedication as an advisor and for helping fulfill the SkillsUSA mission of empowering members to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders, and responsible community members.

From **June 1-5, 2026**, we will come together for an incredible national conference experience in Atlanta. I know you and your students will make North Dakota proud. The NLSC offers meaningful opportunities for every student and educator in attendance.

New and Expanded for 2026 — *Credential Opportunities at NLSC*

This year we will offer new and expanded credentialing opportunities for students and advisors through SkillsUSA: Learn. These credentials help validate technical knowledge and workplace readiness skills, giving students a competitive advantage as they enter the workforce or continue their education. Participating in credential opportunities at NLSC allows students to leave not only inspired but with tangible proof of their skills and career readiness.

Competitors in the SkillsUSA Championships will represent our state as the best in their skill areas. Our state delegates will conduct the business of the organization and help shape the future of SkillsUSA while strengthening their leadership skills. Advisors will grow their classroom toolkits by observing national competitions, networking with industry partners, and participating in professional development opportunities.

All attendees will engage directly with industry through competitions, the TECHSPO tradeshow, credential opportunities, and other conference events. Total attendance is expected to exceed **19,000 students, teachers, and industry partners**, making NLSC one of the largest workforce development events in the nation.

This guide outlines the 2026 SkillsUSA NLSC in detail. It is essential that you take time to carefully review all information to effectively prepare both yourself and your students. Students succeed when they are informed in advance and feel well-prepared for this incredible opportunity.

Please review this document and reach out with any questions to me or the SkillsUSA Customer Care Team at **844-875-4557**. We look forward to seeing you in Atlanta for the 2026 NLSC!

Sincerely,



Tracy Becker

SkillsUSA North Dakota State Director

State Delegation Information

Registration Opens Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Registration Closes Monday, May 27, 2026

Registration Fees

Paid attendee national registration fee: \$195 (age 11 and over)

- Registration includes admission to the conference including the Opening, Recognition and Awards general sessions, access to the SkillsUSA Championships, SkillsUSA TECHSPO, educational workshops, and the official conference pin.

Registration Types

- Contestants – All students competing in a contest.
- Advisors – SkillsUSA Advisors or educators who are attending the conference.
- Participant – Student members, state officers and delegates that are not competing in a contest.
- Administrator – Principal, Asst. Principal, Counselor, Chancellor, Dean, President, VP, Director, Department Head, CTE Director or any other administrator.
- Guest – Chaperone, family members and guests of chapters that are not listed above but wish to attend the entire conference and State Farm Arena Sessions.
- Children 10 and under:
 - Child Session Pass (\$75)- Registration includes access to conference floor at Georgia World Congress Center, Champions Festival, and admission to the general sessions at State Farm Arena.
 - Child Free Registration - Registration includes access to conference floor at Georgia World Congress Center. Admission to Champions Festival and general sessions at State Farm Arena are **not** included. Purchase the Child Session Pass to include admission to the general sessions.

Additional Conference Costs

- SkillsUSA Official/Competition Apparel - <https://www.skillsusastore.org/>
 - Official Dress and Official Competition Apparel is REQUIRED for all competitors.
- Hotel Parking (\$32/daily) or Downtown Self Parking (varies), GWCC Parking – page 8
- Atlanta Attractions – page 9
- Trading Pins - \$1.25 ea
- Conference T-shirt/Drawstring Bundle Pre-Order – \$15



Hotel Information

North Dakota Assigned Hotel

Aloft Downtown
300 Ted Turner Drive NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Phone: 678-515-0300

Web: <https://bit.ly/4d4Bs2M>

Hotel Forms – Due to the state office by Tuesday April 28.

Room Costs – Approx. \$265/night (\$220/night + State/Local/Hotel Taxes)

Single King Room

Double Queen Room

Guest Amenities – Outdoor Pool, Fitness Center, Restaurant, Mini Fridge

Advisor Registration Instructions

Register competitors, student participants, parents or anyone attending who wants access to the Opening Session and the Awards Session, access to the SkillsUSA Conference floor including competitions and exhibits and educational workshops or other events.

Log-on to the Conference Registration site using your advisor log-on credentials to register attendees for the National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC): www.skillsusa-register.org/Login.aspx. Only the advisor or school personnel should be registering attendees. Below is a short description of the registrant types.

Register for Conference

Competitors must be registered SkillsUSA members by the state deadline or no later than the national deadline of March 1 to compete at nationals and the school membership invoices must be paid before competitors can register.

- Log on to the registration site and click the tab Conference>My Registrations.
- Select the event; SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference in the drop-down event menu.
- Participants previously registered for past state conferences may be copied to NLSC: Click the button Look Up Previous Regs at the bottom of the screen to locate registrations from a previous conference and quickly register for NLSC. *NOTE: This feature will only work if all membership invoices are paid in full for your school. Ensure all data and registrant type are carried over to the NLSC record accurately.*
- Click the Add Registrant button at the top of the screen to manually register new attendees. Follow the prompts. Be sure to select registered members from the drop-down name list. Only manually type names of attendees who are not members at the school.

Individual Registration Records

- Complete all the information in each individual registration record. It is critical to provide accurate birth dates for competitors, onsite emergency contacts for all participants, and complete the Americans with Disability Act (ADA), Education and Dietary accommodations section if applicable.
- ADA/Education/Dietary Accommodations- Only check the boxes or add information in the Details screen if an accommodation is needed. Otherwise, please skip this section. A blank hard copy of the Conference Registration and Liability form can be printed and handed out to attendees to collect the accommodation information. See information on the form below.
- Once names are added and individual registration records are completed click the Submit Registration button to validate your registration information and to issue an invoice if your state is using the invoicing in the system.
 - NOTE: Once a name is added to the site, they are considered registered regardless of whether the *Submit Registration* button was clicked. **Be sure to advise your state director before the registration deadline of anyone who is no longer attending.**

Conference Registration Liability and Release Form

- The Advisor is responsible for providing the Code of Conduct to students and other attendees they register. Provide the hard copy registration and liability form and return to the individual registration record to check the box in the attestation section next to I agree. See bullet below on how to access and print a blank fillable NLSC form that can be given to attendees.
- Once the name is registered, click the FORM link displayed to the left of the name *for a copy of the completed online Code of Conduct and Liability form for individual attendees.*
- A [blank fillable NLSC form](#) can be printed ahead of time and given to the participant to fill out or have a parent sign. The ADA/Education/ Dietary questions will be part of the online form. Click the tab Conference > NLSC Conference Liability and Release Form. The form should then be returned to the advisor or designated school person to enter the data.

Home Address

You must provide a home address for competitors. Competitor awards and corporate gifts may be mailed to home addresses.

Emergency Contact

Emergency contact information is required for all participants.

Name Badges

Name badges must be worn to be admitted to all NLSC functions. Please remind your students to remember to have their badge before leaving the hotel to avoid a return trip back to the hotel.

Please attach collectable pins to lanyards and not directly on the badge holder. All information displayed on the badge must be visible.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Schools are responsible for paying for all registrants that cancel after the registration deadline. Cancellations made after the deadline are not eligible for a refund/credit.

Hotel Booking Information

Hotel booking will be taken care of by the State office as we are part of a hotel block.

Please fill out the hotel lodging form by Tuesday, April 28, 2026: [Lodging Form](#)

If you have one or two students that are willing to share a room with another chapter to keep costs down, please let your state director know ASAP.

Condensed Conference Agenda

Monday, June 1

1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Upon Arrival

SkillsUSA Store Grand Opening
State Delegation Check-in for those who have arrived

Tuesday, June 2

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
5 p.m.
7 p.m.

SkillsUSA Store
SkillsUSA Championships
SkillsUSA TECHSPO
SkillsUSA LEARN
Doors Open for Opening Session
Opening Session

Wednesday, June 3

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
1 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SkillsUSA Store
Call to Action: Advisor's Session
SkillsUSA Championships
SkillsUSA TECHSPO
SkillsUSA LEARN

Thursday, June 4

7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

SkillsUSA Store
SkillsUSA Championships
SkillsUSA TECHSPO
SkillsUSA LEARN
Champions' Festival

Friday, June 5

9 a.m. - Noon
3 p.m.
4 p.m.

Community Service Project
Doors Open for Awards Session
Awards Session

Accessibility

SkillsUSA strives to ensure inclusive participation in all of our programs, including NLSC. As we prepare for NLSC in Atlanta, please review the information below about accommodations and information about our key conference venues.

Contact SkillsUSA Accessibility Team

- **Accommodations Request Form:** All attendees may request accommodations through the Accommodations Request Form.
- **Registration System:** Students and some attendees may request accommodations via the online NLSC registration system.
- **In Person:** Connect with a SkillsUSA associate at the Accessibility Help Desk, located at the NLSC Registration area for help.

ACCESSIBILITY

Conference Preparation

NLSC Microsite

SkillsUSA has a microsite specifically to help you prepare for your trip to Atlanta. Take on NLSC like a pro and learn more about attraction & airline discounts, conference programs, safety and security, and more!

[NLSC MICROSITE](#)

NLSC Town Hall Meetings

SkillsUSA Advisors! Whether this is your first trip to the SkillsUSA NLSC, or you are a veteran of the conference, we invite you to the NLSC Town Hall. In the session we will review the NLSC schedule, what to expect, traveling tips, and best practices from experienced advisors. This Town Hall will solidify your preparations for Atlanta.

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

4 p.m. ET

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Road to Atlanta Email Campaign

After NLSC conference registration closes, please check your email for our SkillsUSA Road to Atlanta email series that will be delivered to your inbox. Be sure your email is correct when registering for the conference. The information shared by email will help you and your students prepare for the conference with details about exciting conference programs and events, how to download the NLSC app, maps to navigate the area and much more. Additionally, there will be a post-conference survey to share your feedback.

Welcome to Atlanta!

Atlanta, dubbed as an urban oasis nestled within a forest of towering buildings, boasts expansive green spaces and a multicultural atmosphere, earning it a spot on the Best in Travel list. Serving as both a historical railroad terminus and a modern transportation hub, notably through the world's busiest airport, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the city seamlessly blends its rich past with a global outlook. Downtown's highlights include Centennial Olympic Park and its surrounding attractions, while sports enthusiasts can catch major league action at venues like Mercedes-Benz Stadium and State Farm Arena. Atlanta stands as a beacon of Southern charm, creativity, and sophistication, inspiring all who encounter its boundless possibilities. The majority of NLSC functions are hosted at the Georgia World Congress Center and State Farm Arena.

DISCOVER ATLANTA

Transportation

Airline Information and Discounts

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta international airport provides nonstop service to more than 150 domestic destinations. In 2023 it was celebrated as the world's most efficient airport by the Air Transportation Research Society. Learn more about navigating the Atlanta airport [click here](#).

Delta Airlines

Delta Airlines offers discounts for NLSC attendees. Go to bit.ly/nlsc26-delta to book your flights or call the Delta Meeting Network at 1-800-328-1111* Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Central time) and refer to Meeting Event Code NM4V2.

*There is no service fee for reservations booked and ticketed via the reservation 800 number.

United Airlines

United Airlines offers discounts for NLSC attendees. Go to bit.ly/SkillsUSA-united26 to book your flights or call the United Meetings Reservation Desk at (800) 426-1122* Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central time) and Saturday or Sunday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Central time) and use discount code ZRHN852872.

*Booking fees are waived for NLSC reservations.

Airport Transportation Information

DART Airport Hotel Shuttle

SkillsUSA has partnered with Dart Airport Transfers to offer a discounted rate for airport to hotel shuttle for SkillsUSA attendees. You will receive a discounted rate when you book online using promo code, "SKILLS26." Visit the booking portal by clicking [Pick Me Up Dart](#). Please be sure to book in advance.

Airport Shuttle Service

Adults: \$30.00 each way (\$5.00 off)

Students: \$25.00 each way (\$5.00 off)

Airport Shuttle Operating Hours:

Arrival Shuttle Service – 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Departure Shuttle Service – 5 a.m. – 5 p.m.

For large group inquiries (30 or more passengers) or groups arriving outside of normal shuttle hours, complete a [Pick Me Up Dart Quick Quote Request Form](#) and provide details on your transportation needs and the Dart Airport Shuttles team will get back to you within 48 hours.

MARTA Atlanta's Rapid Transit

Riding MARTA, Atlanta's rapid transit system, from the airport to your downtown hotel is easy. Participants will go to the Domestic Terminal, between the North and South baggage claims. Take the Red and Gold lines to the downtown convention district and depart at the station nearest your hotel.

Tips for taking MARTA to and from Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport:

- MARTA's Airport Station is *inside* the Domestic Terminal. Travel to the Domestic Terminal, between the North and South baggage claims. Here is the domestic terminal directory: bit.ly/MARTA-TermMap
- **Take the Red or Gold lines.** They travel directly to and from the Airport Station.
- **Plan ahead (or on the go).** Use the [MARTA On the Go](http://www.itsmarta.com/marta-on-the-go.aspx) ([itsmarta.com/marta-on-the-go.aspx](http://www.itsmarta.com/marta-on-the-go.aspx)) or [trip planner](http://www.itsmarta.com/planatrip.aspx) ([itsmarta.com/planatrip.aspx](http://www.itsmarta.com/planatrip.aspx)) app to get directions and see real-time train schedules.
- **MARTA's fare system uses Breeze Cards.** Purchase cards at www.BreezeCard.com ahead of time, at the Breeze Vending Machines in any MARTA rail stations or in person at the Marta Ridestore in the Airport or Five Points stations.
 - A reloadable Breeze Card is \$2 and then \$2.50 for a one-way trip.
 - A Breeze ticket is \$1 plus the \$2.50 fare for a one-way trip.

MARTA
VIDEO

Atlanta & GWCC Parking Information

Atlanta Parking

Public parking is available throughout Downtown Atlanta. Visit the [Downtown Atlanta Public Parking Map](#) for more information.

GWCC Car Parking

The Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC) offers convenient on-campus parking with two surface lots (Blue & Yellow) and three parking decks (Red, Orange & Green) for visitors, attendees, and staff for on-site events. There are thousands of parking spaces to make visiting the GWCC convenient. Look at the [GWCC Campus and Area Maps](#) for parking location details.

Daily Parking at the Red, Orange & Green Deck and Yellow & Blue Lot

Multi-day parking passes available:

- 3 days parking pass – Tuesday – Thursday
- 5 days parking pass – Monday – Friday
- 7 days parking pas – Friday – Friday

Pre-purchase parking at this link: bit.ly/GWCC-Parking

Navigate to the SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference event and click 'Reserve Parking'. Note if you are renting a vehicle and do not have the license plate number, type in 123456 to bypass this field.

**Parking services has agreed to make special accommodations for our group and allow in and out privileges. Please show your printed or electronic receipt or parking pass when reentering the parking deck.*

GWCC Bus and Trailer Parking – Visit Website for details

<https://www.nlsc.skillsusa.org/plan#parking>

NLSC Safety Tips



Download the NLSC 2026 App

The conference app contains important information about where and when events occur. It will also help you navigate the NLSC venues.



Always Remember Your Badge

NLSC venues use a secure badge system for all attendees. You will not be permitted to enter without your badge! Replacement badges area available in the registration hall.



Follow the Designated Walking Paths

SkillsUSA has outlined specific walking paths through Atlanta. These provide the safest path to and from the Georgia World Congress Center. You can find the walking paths in the NLSC 2026 app!



Use the Buddy System

Choose one other member in your chapter to be your "buddy" during NLSC. Do not go anywhere without your buddy! Make sure your advisor knows who your buddy is as well!



Be Observant At Your Hotel

Do not answer the door of your hotel without verifying who it is, and make sure to close the door securely once you enter the room. Always use the main entrance, especially if you're returning late at night!



Use the Atlanta Ambassadors

If you get separated from your group, need an escort, or simply have a question about where to go, give them a call or look for an Atlanta Ambassador! They are in red and blue uniforms and will be riding segways or bikes. They are trained in medical assistance and know every inch of downtown!



Know the Emergency Numbers

Emergency Assistance: 911
Police: (404) 614-6544
Fire: (404) 546-7000
Ambassadors: (404) 215-9600

Atlanta Attraction Discounts



Atlanta Restaurants



General Sessions

**The session run-of-shows are tentative and subject to change as session schedules are finalized.*

Opening Session | Tuesday, June 2 at 7 p.m. | Doors: 6 p.m. | Pre-Session: 6:25 p.m.

SkillsUSA Official attire or career competition attire is recommended. Business professional attire acceptable.

The Opening Session is where the magic of NLSC truly begins... a powerful conference kickoff and celebration. As the lights come up and the energy builds, we'll honor our WorldSkills competitors and recognize the 2026 Advisor of the Year, while taking a moment to celebrate the dedication and impact of all SkillsUSA advisors nationwide. We'll introduce the dedicated candidates for the 2026–2027 National Officer Team and hear an uplifting message from SkillsUSA Executive Director, Chelle Travis, that will set the tone for an unforgettable week ahead. Add in an electrifying entertainment performance and a powerful keynote from IndyCar Champion Josef Newgarden — presented by Snap-on Incorporated — and you'll leave energized, motivated and ready to take on the week as we officially launch NLSC 2026.

Awards Session | Friday, June 5 at 4 p.m. | Doors: 3 p.m. | Pre-Session: 3:25 p.m.

SkillsUSA official attire or career competition attire. Winners not wearing approved attire will not be allowed on stage and will receive their medallion off-stage.

The Awards Session is the pinnacle of NLSC — a moment to reflect, recognize and celebrate a week defined by achievement, growth and unforgettable experiences. Together, we'll honor the 2026 Models of Excellence and witness the election of the new National Officer Team while applauding the incredible legacy of the outgoing 2025–2026 team. Anticipation will build as we unveil the next annual theme and announce next year's keynote speaker. The evening will culminate with the highly anticipated presentation of the 2026 SkillsUSA Championships Awards, where the nation's best and brightest are recognized for their exceptional skill and dedication.

Our come-and-go session format, featuring a published awards order, allows awards session attendees to arrive and depart based on the estimated time that their competition(s) will be awarded on stage. Attendees can access full instructions and the awards session schedule live in the NLSC 2026 conference app.



SkillsUSA TECHSPO

As a CTE destination, SkillsUSA TECHSPO showcases the latest technology and its application by our future workforce, teachers, and experts. Over 200 exhibitors at SkillsUSA TECHSPO are placed alongside national career competitions and leadership sessions that are shaping and celebrating our nation's career-ready students. Across three exhibition floors, interactive experiences inspire participants while industry connections are forged to enhance classrooms and develop the country's talent pipeline.

**SKILLSUSA
TECHSPO**

SkillsUSA Championships

The SkillsUSA Championships program assesses and recognizes career and technical education students. It engages students by testing their skills against standards for entry-level workers in the skilled trades through authentic skill demonstrations. Students are evaluated by expert representatives of business, industry and organized labor. Visit the link below to view the SkillsUSA Competitor Checklist, which includes information about SkillsUSA Technical Standards, Online Submission Requirements, Online Testing, and Competition Updates.

COMPETITOR
CHECKLIST

Competition Updates

A [competition update](#) covers anything that is not listed in the official SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards and that a competitor and/or advisor needs to be aware of and bring and/or complete for the national competition. Updates are posted frequently leading up to NLSC. Please check back regularly!

Online Test(s)

SkillsUSA Championships national competitors will receive login credentials to access their online test(s) by May 22, 2026. National competitors will need to identify a proctor and complete the online proctor agreement prior to taking their online test(s). The online testing window is May 5 – May 22, 2026. All required online test(s) must be completed by 5 p.m. ET on Friday, May 22, 2026.

Online Submission Requirements

SkillsUSA Championships national competitors must complete their online submission(s) by May 22 2026, at 5 p.m. ET. The upload(s) will be completed via SkillsUSA's secure platform which will open in early May 2026. Check the current SkillsUSA Technical Standards for your competition to learn about any required national pre-conference online submissions.

Credentialing Opportunities

There will be several opportunities at NLSC 2026 for both advisors and students to sit for a quality credential exam from Autodesk, FANUC, NC3, and more. Space is limited, so registration will be on a first come, first-served basis.

CREDENTIAL
OPPORTUNITIES

SkillsUSA LEARN

SkillsUSA LEARN is reimagining professional development at NLSC to deliver high-quality, engaging learning experiences that are practical, relevant and grounded in the SkillsUSA Framework.

SkillsUSA LEARN is comprised of six tracks:

- **Student Development** - *for students to develop their personal, workplace, and technical skills*
- **Student Credentialing** - *for students to earn industry-recognized credentials*
- **CTE Instructor Innovation and Development** - *for instructors to improve instruction*
- **Advisor Development** - *for advisors to develop chapters*
- **Advisor/Instructor Credentialing** (non-licensure) - *for educators to earn or be able to administer industry-recognized credentials*
- **CTE Administrator/Leadership Development** - *for local school administrators*

Registration for professional development sessions is included in your NLSC registration for all educators. Credentialing opportunities may require an additional fee.

Check the NLSC 2026 App for session dates, times and locations.

SkillsUSA
LEARN

Community Service Project

The Community Service Project provides students a meaningful, hands-on opportunity to live out the SkillsUSA mission, while making a tangible impact on the City of Atlanta. Through service, students apply leadership, teamwork, professionalism and technical skills beyond the competition floor, reinforcing that workforce readiness includes responsibility to others.

This year, there are three service project options: donating items to City of Refuge, Foundation for Hospital Art PaintFest, and building beds for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Learn more about all three options.

COMMUNITY
SERVICE PROJECT

Immersive Experience

The Immersive Experience: Construction event is a three-day, hands-on workforce development program designed to help students *experience the job before they get the job*. Through authentic, industry-led learning, participants apply technical and employability skills in real-world construction settings while exploring career pathways alongside industry professionals.

IMMERSIVE
EXPERIENCE

Scholarships

Numerous college/post-secondary scholarships are available to active members of SkillsUSA through SkillsUSA and our partners. Financial assistance to attend national SkillsUSA events is also offered. SkillsUSA student eligibility varies by scholarship. Members can view detailed information about available scholarships and apply for scholarships by at the link below:

SCHOLARSHIPS

Advisor Best Practices

Conference week will really fly by but try to take in as much as possible. This conference provides something for everyone. Best practices: Meet as many people as you can. Get contact information or connect on social media. You will meet fellow advisors who have great ideas; you will meet industry personnel who can advise you. You will meet national staff who are prepared to help you become the best SkillsUSA advisor you can be. And it all starts with a simple hello!

Set yourself and your students up for success by following these best practices:

- **NLSC Pre-Conference Virtual Meeting & Town Hall:** Attend NLSC Pre-Conference meeting with your state advisor (or set up a meeting yourself). This will be an opportunity to discuss NLSC as a State group, as questions and make sure that you and your students have what you need to prepare for a successful event! The Town Hall is also a great way for new advisors to get the inside scoop on the upcoming conference.
- **Discuss NLSC with your school administrator or CTE Director:** Seeking support for you and your students to attend NLSC is a critical step. Schedule a meeting to discuss budget and travel policies. Create a planned budget of expenses to share during the meeting. Include the cost of registration, travel, meals, shipping (if applicable), and try to plan for some fun extras if possible. (Your school may not provide all these items, but there may be organizations in the community willing to help offset those costs.) We encourage you to consider bringing along future chapter leaders and another advisor for professional development.
Tip: Begin the requisition process as soon as possible (some advisors even do this before state championships, as there is sometimes a quick turnaround for travel agents, registration, etc.).
- **Connect with Student Families:** Meet with your student(s) and their families. This step is crucial! Don't assume that your student is communicating needed information to parents/guardians. This meeting should be done after you meet with your administrator so that finances can be discussed. Make sure that your students' family understands that even though NLSC is in June, it is a school event and all policies and procedures will still be followed. (This is true even if the student has graduated from high school prior to attending NLSC.) Review the travel itinerary and hotel arrangements with the family. Be candid about costs. If your student is expected to pay for food, baggage fees, mementos and clothing, give them a reasonable amount of money to plan for.
- **Preparing a Competitor for NLSC:** First and foremost, review the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards competition guidelines, which is located in Pathful. We encourage you to set up regular contest practice sessions with your competitor. It is vital that your competitor studies the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards rules and regulations and practices each skill for the national competition. It is great to seek assistance from business and industry to evaluate work and provide feedback. This helps your competitor feel ready to compete. Be sure and check the [competition updates](#) page frequently for any important contest updates. Testing information along with resume upload instructions will be sent to your students email address on file. The required competition attire for national events is outlined in the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards and SkillsUSA official attire is required for the Opening and Awards Sessions at NLSC.
- **Pre-NLSC & Post-NLSC Student Reflection Questions:** As SkillsUSA advisors work to equip their student members for a successful 2025 National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC), you are encouraged to take the time to ensure a quality learning experience. Provide these reflection questions to guide your students as they prepare for the NLSC and consider why they are attending and what they can gain from the experience. [Student Reflection Questions](#)

- **Hotel Courtesies** SkillsUSA has a nationwide reputation for upholding high standards. This good reputation allows each of us to take pride in our organization. The following is a list of hotel courtesies and suggestions for students and advisors: [Hotel Courtesies](#)
- **SkillsUSA Winners List and Winners Photos** SkillsUSA will announce winners on Friday night at the Awards Session, provide lists of winners to SkillsUSA state directors and then post winners on the SkillsUSA website immediately after NLSC. In addition, scores will be posted when available and these can be located using your contestant number.

SkillsUSA will post winners photos on the website after the national conference. These downloadable photos are taken backstage of all medalists as they go to collect their prizes.

Planning and Packing – Tips for Students:

- Take the time to think through what you will need, then pack accordingly
- Leave your itinerary with your family
- Tag your luggage inside and out
- Bring a cellphone (and charger) and download the NLSC app
- Save your advisor's cell phone number
- Have a valid travel ID and medical insurance card
- Bring comfortable shoes
- If you take prescription medicine, bring a supply with you
- No backpacks or large tote bags are allowed in the general sessions