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Dear Advisors,

Congratulations! Your students have worked hard this year and will attend the 2024 SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) in Atlanta. On behalf of our state association and board of directors, thank you for your dedication as an advisor to help fulfill the SkillsUSA mission of empowering members to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders and responsible community members.

On June 24-28, 2024 we will enjoy an incredible national conference week in Atlanta. I know you and your students will make us proud. The NLSC offers an opportunity for every student and teacher. 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 make decisions for the future of SkillsUSA as they grow their skills as outlined within the SkillsUSA Framework. Our advisors will grow their classroom toolboxes by observing the national competitions, networking with industry partners and attending professional development sessions. All attendees can interact with our industry supporters through the competitions, the TECHSPO trade show and through other events. Total attendance is expected to exceed 16,000 students, teachers and partners.

This NLSC guide outlines the 2024 SkillsUSA conference in great detail. It is essential that you take the time to effectively prepare both yourself and your students by reviewing this NLSC information. Students will succeed best when they are informed and feel well-prepared for this incredible opportunity.

Please review this document and reach out with any questions to me or to SkillsUSA Customer Care at 844-875-4557. We look forward to being with you in Atlanta for the 2024 NLSC!

Sincerely,

Tracy Becker

SkillsUSA North Dakota

Conference Overview

Conference Preparation

NLSC Microsite

SkillsUSA has launched 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! Visit nlsc.skillsusa.org for more information.

NLSC Advisor 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 on June 12, 2024, at 12 p.m. ET or 7 p.m. ET. (choose one session as the content will be the same)

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!

Please register for the 12 p.m. ET meeting here: <u>Join Zoom Meeting</u>

Meeting ID: 815 7938 9709 Passcode: 7ddqWH

Please register for the 7:30 p.m. ET meeting here: <u>Join Zoom Meeting</u>

Meeting ID: 837 5271 7763 Passcode: 9xSPTL

Road to Atlanta Emails

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 conference. The information shared by email will help you and your students prepare for 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.

Justification Letter Templates

Below are templates of letters intended to help garner support from your school's administration. These letters are designed specifically for attending NLSC 2024. They aim to facilitate the process of securing approval and assistance to participate in the event.

Professional Development Request Template Student Request Template

Conference Overview

Condensed Conference Agenda

Monday, June 24

1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

8 p.m.

SkillsUSA Store Grand Opening State Delegation Meeting for those who have arrived

Tuesday, June 25

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. SkillsUSA Store

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. SkillsUSA Championships
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. SkillsUSA TECHSPO
10:00 a.m. 4:20 p.m.

10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.Academy of Excellence10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.SkillsUSA University7 p.m.Opening Session

Wednesday, June 26

6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. SkillsUSA Store

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. SkillsUSA Championships 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. SkillsUSA TECHSPO 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Academy of Excellence 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. SkillsUSA University

Champions' Festival

Thursday, June 27

7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. SkillsUSA Store

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. SkillsUSA Championships 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. SkillsUSA TECHSPO 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Academy of Excellence

10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. SkillsUSA University

Friday, June 28

9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Community Service Project

5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Awards Session

9:30 p.m. State Delegation Celebration

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 for 2022. 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.

DISCOVER ATLANTA



Conference Venues

The majority of NLSC functions are hosted at the Georgia World Congress Center and State Farm Arena. To learn more about NLSC venues <u>click here</u>.

Atlanta Information Directory

SkillsUSA has produced an Atlanta Information Directory that highlights medical services, pharmacies, grocery stores and other amenities near the conference venue and hotels. To view the directory click here.

State Delegation Information

Registration Opens Thursday April 18, 2024 Registration Closes Tuesday May 7, 2024

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:
 - O 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 general sessions at State Farm Arena are <u>not</u> included. Purchase the Child Session Pass to include admission to the general sessions.

Additional Conference Costs

- SkillsUSA Official/Competition Apparel https://tinyurl.com/59de8ccv
 - Official Dress and Official Competition Apparel is REQURIED for all competitors.
- Hotel Parking (\$32/daily) or Downtown Self Parking (varies), GWCC Parking
 page 12
- Atlanta Attractions page 14
- Trading Pins \$1.25 ea
- Conference T-shirt/Drawstring Bundle Pre-Order \$15 Order Here!

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 May 7.
Room Costs – Approx. \$250/night (\$210/night + State/Local/Hotel Taxes)
Single King Room
Double Queen Room
Guest Amenities – Outdoor Pool, Fitness Center, Restaurant, Mini Fridge



Registration Information

Advisor Registration Instructions

Register contestants, student participants, parents or anyone requiring a badge for entry to the general sessions including the Opening and Awards sessions, access to the SkillsUSA Conference floor, 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 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 and Skills Conference in the filter event drop-down menu.
- Participants previously registered for past conferences: 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.
- 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.

In individual registration records:

Add-on Events

- The advisor should check the boxes, YES or NO, for ADA, Dietary or Education Accommodations
 and answer the questions if checked yes. See examples of questions that will need to be answered
 online at the bottom of this registration guide.
- The Advisor is responsible for providing the Code of Conduct to students and other attendees they register. Read the agreement in the attestation section and check the box next to I agree. See section Conference Registration Liability and Release Form section for instructions on how to display and print the Code of Conduct Agreement.

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

Once the name is registered, click the FORM link that is displayed to the left of the name and ensure all fields are completed. 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.

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 on the website as mentioned above.

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 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.

Registration Information

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 available at by Tuesday, May 7, 2024: 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.

Registration Information

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

NLSC Safety Tips



Download the NLSC 2024 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 2024 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

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 since 2023 by the Air Transportation Research Society. Learn more about navigating the Atlanta airport click here.

Delta Airlines Discounts for NLSC Attendees

Delta Air Lines is offering special discounts for NLSC attendees. Go to bit.ly/nlsc-delta24 to book your flights. You may also call Delta Meeting Network at 1-800-328-1111* Monday–Friday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Central time) and refer to Meeting Event Code **NM3AA**.

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

United Airlines Discounts for NLSC Attendees

*Booking fees are waived for NLSC reservations.

Conference Experience

Airport Transportation Information

DART Airport Hotel Shuttle

SkillsUSA has partnered with Dart Airport Transfers to offer a discounted rate for airport to hotel shuttle and private car services for SkillsUSA attendees. You will receive a discounted rate when you book online using promo code, "SKILLS24." Visit the custom booking portal by clicking <u>Pick Me Up Dart</u>. Please be sure to book in advance.

Airport Shuttle Service

Adults: \$25.00 each way (\$5.00 off) Students: \$20.00 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 (40 or more passengers) or groups arriving outside of normal shuttle hours, complete a <u>Pick Me Up Dart Quick Quote Request Form</u> and provide details on your transportation needs and Dart will get back to you within 24-48 hours.

Airport Transportation Information, Cont.

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 (itsmarta.com/marta-on-the-go.aspx) or trip planner (itsmarta.com/planatrip.aspx) app to get directions and see real-time train schedules.
- MARTA's fare system uses Breeze Cards. Purchase cards at mmw.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 per ride.
 - · A Breeze ticket is \$1 plus the \$2.50 fare for a single ride.

Conference Experience

Limited Bus Conference Transportation

SkillsUSA will provide very limited transportation during NLSC from some state association hotels to the Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC) Transportation Depot adjacent to State Farm Area. All conference hotels are within walking distance to GWCC and walking is encouraged.

Bus transportation is for participants with heavy toolboxes or equipment to carry from hotels to GWCC and for those with walking limitations. Additionally, there will be a standby line option for those without wristbands who want to ride the bus when space is available.

Additional details about wristband usage, state allocations and the standby procedure will be shared closer to NLSC in the conference app.

Atlanta Parking Information

Public parking is available throughout Downtown Atlanta. Visit the <u>Downtown Atlanta Public Parking Map</u> for more information.

Conference Experience

GWCC Parking Information

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 is

- \$10 pre-purchase
- · \$15 day of

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 reenter the parking deck.

Bus and Trailer Parking

The Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC) operates an on-site, 540,000-square-foot Marshalling Yard on Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd. adjacent to the Yellow Lot. The GWCC Marshalling Yard sits just seconds away from the GWCC loading docks and is patrolled 24 hours a day by GWCCA Public Safety officers to ensure safe access to and from the facility during the show.

Daily parking at the Marshalling Yard is \$30 when pre-purchased.

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

Navigate to the SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference event and click 'Reserve Parking'.

Conference Attire

Monday

Travel day and State Delegation Meeting

• School appropriate casual attire.

Tuesday

Career Competition Orientations/Competitions

• Competitors must wear <u>official competition attire</u> as outlined in the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards for their event to the contest orientation.

SkillsUSA Academies of Excellence, Advisor Summit, SkillsUSA TECHSPO and SkillsUSA University

• Business casual attire

Opening Session

• SkillsUSA Official Attire is recommended. Business professional attire acceptable

Wednesday

Career Competitions

 Competitors must wear their official competition attire as outlined in the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards

SkillsUSA Academies of Excellence, Advisor Summit, SkillsUSA TECHSPO and SkillsUSA University

Business casual attire

Champions Festival

• School appropriate casual attire

Thursday

Career Competitions

 Competitors must wear their official competition attire as outlined in the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards

SkillsUSA Academies of Excellence, Advisor Summit, SkillsUSA TECHSPO and SkillsUSA University

• Business casual attire

Friday

Career Competitions

 Competitors must wear their official competition attire as outlined in the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards

Awards Session

SkillsUSA Official attire or career competition attire. Winners not wearing this will not be allowed
on stage.

Atlanta Attractions & Discounts

Georgia Aquarium

Experience over 11 million gallons of awe-inspiring wonders at Georgia Aquarium, the largest aquarium in the United States. Visit and learn about whale sharks, beluga whales, manta rays, penguins, sea lions, and their newest sharks. As a friend of Georgia Aquarium, SkillsUSA is offering an exclusive, online-only discount on Georgia Aquarium general admission.

SkillsUSA General Admission Discounted Price: \$34.99* (Regular price \$44.99) *Advance purchase only.

Ticket Purchase Link: georgiaaquarium.org/SkillsUSA

National Center for Human and Civil Rights

The National Center for Civil and Human Rights is a museum and cultural institution that connects the U.S. Civil Rights Movement to human rights challenges today. The center believes in justice and dignity for all—and the power of people to tap their own power to change the world around them.

SkillsUSA General Admission Discounted Price \$14 (Regular price \$19.99)

Show your SkillsUSA conference badge at the door and receive discounted general admission.

Chick-Fil-A College Football Hall of Fame

The Chick-Fil-A College Football is the home of all things college football. Throw, kick a field goal and experience 94,000 square feet of the storied tradition of college football. Enjoy more than 50 engaging and interactive exhibits. This is a shrine to the greatest to play or coach the game.

Standard/Adult Ticket (Age 13+): \$23.65 (Regular price \$29.56)

Ticket Purchase Link: https://bit.lv/CFHOF NLSC24

Show your SkillsUSA conference badge at the door or purchase tickets using the link below and receive discounted general admission.

World of Coca-Cola

Journey through the storied history of the iconic beverage brand, interact with a variety of exhibits, and sample beverages from around the world. Visit The Vault where our legendary secret formula for Coca-Cola is secured. Oh, and chill with the world's bubbliest polar bear.

Regular price ticket - \$21

General Admission Ticket Purchase Link: worldofcoca-cola.com/plan-your-visit/ticket-information

If you are visiting as a group of 15 or more, please fill out the online reservation form at <u>worldofcocacola.com/groups/form-group-reservation</u>

Atlanta United FC

Watch the Atlanta United take on the Toronto FC on Saturday, June 29 at 7:30 p.m.

SkillsUSA Discounted Prices: \$34.00-42.00.

Ticket Purchase Link: https://fevo-enterprise.com/Skillsusa24

_For questions or interest in purchasing 10+ tickets, please contact Ryan O'Connor at Ryan.Oconnor@atlutd.com or call directly at (470) 341-3486 for more information.

Atlanta Restaurants

With more than 300 restaurants in the downtown Atlanta area, there is something for everyone. Restaurants in downtown Atlanta range from fast-casual spots to a more formal affair. Not only are there options at every price point, but Downtown Atlanta restaurants also showcase a variety of cuisines and cooking styles. Learn more about Atlanta's walkable downtown restaurants by clicking here.

Conference Programs and Events SkillsUSA Academy of Excellence

The SkillsUSA Academy of Excellence is an initiative that offers NLSC educator attendees including advisors, teachers, administrators, and counselors an opportunity for a wide selection of professional development training. SkillsUSA will offer up to 40 75-minute sessions over three days to help participants develop in the areas such as:

- Comprehensive chapter management
- Educational psychology
- Mentorship
- Classroom management

- CTE
- Work-based learning
- Resource implementation
- SkillsUSA Framework

Academy of Excellence is an opportunity to:

- Gain and assess Framework skills
- Enhance your classroom instruction or build your instructional style
- Network with professionals in your field
- Get access to additional field-specific resources
- Receive a certificate of competition for the available skills
- Participate in raffles and price giveaways

Check the NLSC 2024 App for session dates, times and locations.

ACADEMY OF

Conference Programs and Events SkillsUSA University

SkillsUSA University is an Academy of Excellence initiative which offers all registered NLSC attendees a chance to learn directly from industry expert practitioners and gain field-specific skills which they can later incorporate into their classroom instruction.

SkillsUSA University is an opportunity to:

- Gain technical skills through direct instruction provided by an industry expert in your field
- Network with others in your field
- Enhance your classroom instruction or educational experience
- Get access to additional field-specific resources
- Receive a certificate of competition for the session

Check the NLSC 2024 App for session dates, times and locations.



NLSC Advisor Summit

NLSC Advisor Summit is an immersive Professional Development experience led concurrently with the NLSC that is designed exclusively for SkillsUSA Advisors. Learning events include Academy of Excellence and SkillsUSA University as well as a special kick off event, guided floor tours and exclusive sessions for only Summit attendees. The program also includes a continuum plan for learning after the conference is over. NLSC Advisor Summit is a unique way to experience NLSC for education professionals who want to focus on their growth as CTE teachers and SkillsUSA leaders. CEU credits will be awarded upon successful completion of assigned work post-NLSC. This program will run June 25-28, 2024.

SkillsUSA Advisor Summit is an opportunity to:

- Participate in Academy of Excellence and SkillsUSA University sessions specific to the advisor's career cluster
- Experience a guided tour of the SkillsUSA Championships floor and TECHSPO
- Attend the exclusive Advisor Summit sessions
- Experience all other NLSC registration events and activities

Registration Fee: Advisors will pay the regular NLSC Registration, plus a \$100 additional fee that includes everything listed above plus the awarding of CEU credits upon successful completion of the program. Attendees should register on the SkillsUSA registration site.

ADVISOR SUMMIT

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.

As a result of participating in the TECHSPO, the SkillsUSA mission is achieved by ensuring that participants are able to engage in meaningful, mutually beneficial exhibit booth experiences that teach students skills and knowledge related to their industry of interest and build their network of student and industry experts.

Check the conference app and be sure to visit the booths aligned with your career cluster.

Conference Programs and Events SkillsUSA Championships Information

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 <u>competition update</u> 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 21, 2024. 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 22 – June 6, 2024. All required online test(s) must be completed by 5 p.m. ET on Thursday, June 6, 2024.

Online Submission Requirements

SkillsUSA Championships national competitors must complete their online submission(s) by June 6, 2024, at 5 p.m. ET. The upload(s) will be completed via SkillsUSA's secure platform which will open in late May 2024. Check the current SkillsUSA Technical Standards for your competition to learn about any required national pre-conference online submissions.

Competition Material Shipping Resources

<u>Competition Materials Shipping Instructions</u> <u>Competitions Materials Move-In/Move-Out Instructions</u>

If you have problems getting into your test for State PLEASE let State Director Tracy Becker know ASAP!

Conference Programs and Events

General Sessions (Opening and Awards Sessions)

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

Opening Session | Tuesday, June 25 at 7 p.m.

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

The Opening General Session is the kick-off event of the annual SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference. This experience engages attendees with high-energy, participatory and recognition components that set the tone for the week-long conference.

- Pre-Session
 - o CareerSafe Safety Video Presentation
- Emblem Ceremony/National Anthem
- National Officer Welcome
- Advisor of the Year
- Honorary Life Membership

- Hall of Champions Award
- Courtesy Corps Recognition
- State of the Association Address
- National Officer Candidate Introduction
- Keynote Speaker

Awards Session | Friday, June 27 at 5 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 culminating experience of the SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference is the closing Awards Session which serves to recap the entire NLSC experience. This high-energy session will recognize the accomplishments of the attendees who participated in NLSC activities including the SkillsUSA Championships, National Officer Election Process and more. Attendees will leave the conference inspired to achieve greatness in their own leadership roles within the organization and with a spirit celebration for self and others.

- Pre-Session
 - o President's Volunteer Service Award
- Session Welcome
- Conference Recap Video
- National Officer Tribute

- SkillsUSA Championships Medal Presentations
- Models of Excellence Announcement
- Community Service Recognition
- NET/Technical Committee Recognition
- National Officer Election Announcement
- 2024-2025 Membership Theme Unveiling

Conference Programs and Events Community Service Project

On Friday, June 28 at the National Leadership & Skills Conference, SkillsUSA students will apply their skills and provide service to the Atlanta community by participating in the SkillsUSA "Build Skills – Do Good – Complete the Cycle" community service project. The student participants will assemble bikes to be presented to local children.

The day of service will begin with a kickoff rally for attendees and business partners at 9 a.m. in the Georgia World Congress Center. From 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., students will work in teams to apply their skills and carefully construct two children's bicycles. This will be a fantastic ending to conference week as 400 students, advisors and partners work to give back to the Atlanta community.

Students and advisors who want to register for the Community Service Project will do so in SkillsUSA Register. Under "Add-On Events," users will click the "Yes" button next to the question "Participate in Community Service Project on Friday?"



Additional details about the service project will be provided before NLSC on the SkillsUSA website. We look forward to your state's participation in the NLSC Community Service Project!

Registration Information

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: Attend NLSC Pre-Conference meeting with your state office staff (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!
- 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 Absorb in the Professional Membership Benefits section. 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.

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

Pre-NLSC & Post-NLSC Student Reflection Questions

As SkillsUSA advisors work to equip their student members for a successful 2024 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. <u>Student Reflection Questions</u>

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: <u>Hotel Courtesies</u>

1. Fire exits and stairwells are your best escape routes. Never use an elevator during a fire; the elevator could stop at the fire floor.

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.