



SkillsUSA®

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP & SKILLS CONFERENCE

Presented By  Aerotek®

STATE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE GUIDE



Table of Contents

Conference Overview

State Director Message	2
Conference Preparation	3
Condensed Conference Agenda	4
Welcome to Atlanta!	5

Registration Information

State Delegation Information	6
Advisor Registration Instructions	7
Hotel Booking Information	8
Scholarships	8

Conference Experience

Safety and Security Information	9
Airline Information and Discounts	10
Airport Transportation Information	10
Atlanta and GWCC Parking Information	12
Conference Attire	13
Atlanta Attractions and Discounts	14
Atlanta Restaurants	14

Conference Programs and Events

SkillsUSA Academy of Excellence	15
SkillsUSA University	15
SkillsUSA TECHSPO	16
SkillsUSA Community Service	16
SkillsUSA Championships Information	17
General Sessions	18
Advisor Best Practices	19

State Director Message

Dear Advisors,

Congratulations! Your students have worked hard this year and will attend the 2025 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 23-27, 2025 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 18,000 students, teachers and partners.

This NLSC guide outlines the 2025 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 2025 NLSC!

Sincerely,



Tracy Becker
SkillsUSA North Dakota

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.skillsusa.org

[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, June 11, 2025

4 p.m. ET

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 831 0738 4113

Passcode: 7GxWtR

[ADD TO MY CALENDAR](#)

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.

Support 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 2025. They aim to facilitate the process of securing approval and assistance to participate in the event.

[Advisor Support Letter Template](#)

[Student Support Letter Template](#)

Condensed Conference Agenda

Monday, June 23

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

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

Tuesday, June 24

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
7 p.m.

SkillsUSA Store
SkillsUSA Championships
SkillsUSA TECHSPO
Academy of Excellence
SkillsUSA University
Opening Session

Wednesday, June 25

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

SkillsUSA Store
SkillsUSA Championships
SkillsUSA TECHSPO
Academy of Excellence
SkillsUSA University

Thursday, June 26

7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

SkillsUSA Store
SkillsUSA Championships
SkillsUSA TECHSPO
Academy of Excellence
SkillsUSA University
Champions' Festival

Friday, June 27

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
4 p.m.

Community Service Project
Awards Session

Conference Experience

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](#)

[CONFERENCE VENUES](#)



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, 2025

Registration Closes Tuesday May 6, 2025

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://tinyurl.com/59de8ccv>
 - Official Dress and Official Competition Apparel is REQUIRED 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

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 6.

Room Costs – Approx. \$260/night (\$215/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:

- 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.

Add-ons and Optional Add-ons

- **We are including the pin order and pre-order for t-shirts order right in registration this year.**
- **ADA/Education/Dietary Accommodations-** If the attendee needs accommodation, the advisor should check the boxes that apply in each section. **Ony 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. You will receive a separate invoice including your hotel rooms at a later date. 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 by Tuesday, May 6, 2025: [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 2025 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 2025 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 by the Air Transportation Research Society. Learn more about navigating the Atlanta airport [click here](#).

Delta Airlines

Delta Air Lines offers discounts for NLSC attendees. Go to bit.ly/nlsc_delta25 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 **NY3LG**.

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

Southwest Airlines

Southwest Airlines offers discounts for NLSC attendees. Go to bit.ly/SkillsUSA-SWA to book your flight.

United Airlines

United Airlines offers discounts for NLSC attendees. Go to bit.ly/nlsc-united25 to book your flights. You may also call the United Meetings Reservation Desk at (800) 426-1122* Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Central time) and Saturday–Sunday, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Central time) and refer to discount code **ZQE5976839**.

**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 and private car services for SkillsUSA attendees. You will receive a discounted rate when you book online using promo code, “SKILLS25.” Visit the custom 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 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](http://itsmarta.com/marta-on-the-go.aspx) (itsmarta.com/marta-on-the-go.aspx) or [trip planner](http://tripplanner.itsmarta.com/planatrip.aspx) ([itsmarta.com/planatrip.aspx](http://tripplanner.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

Conference Experience

Atlanta Parking Information

Public parking is available throughout Downtown Atlanta. Visit the [Downtown Atlanta Public Parking Map](#) 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 pass – 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 ***official competition attire*** 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

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

Champions Festival

- School appropriate 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.

Conference Experience

Atlanta Attractions & Discounts



Conference Experience

Atlanta Restaurants



SkillsUSA Academy of Excellence

The SkillsUSA Academy of Excellence offers NLSC educator attendees including advisors, teachers, administrators and counselors an opportunity for professional development training. SkillsUSA will offer up to 30 sessions over three days on topics such as:

Chapter Management

- Educational Psychology
- SkillsUSA Framework
- SkillsUSA Chapter Excellence Program
- Classroom Management

- Work-based learning

Targeted Audiences

- New or Experienced Teachers
- New or Experienced SkillsUSA Advisors
- School Administrators
- School Counsel

Academy of Excellence is an opportunity to:

- Gain and assess tangible skills in the represented areas that are specific to your role in education
- Become a confident and knowledgeable SkillsUSA advisor
- Enhance your classroom instruction or build your instructional style
- Network with other educators in your CTE field
- Gain access to additional SkillsUSA educational resources
- Learn how to apply to the Chapter Excellence Program and become a Model of Excellence
- Receive a certificate of completion
- Win prizes by participating in the daily Power Hour quizzes

**ACADEMY OF
EXCELLENCE**

No Fee: Registration is included in your NLSC registration for all educators.

Check the NLSC 2025 App for session dates, times and locations.

SkillsUSA University

SkillsUSA University offers all registered NLSC attendees a chance to learn directly from industry expert practitioners and gain field-specific skills to incorporate into their classroom instruction. Students are welcome to attend.

SkillsUSA University is an opportunity to:

- Gain technical skills through direct instruction provided by an industry expert
- Network with others in your field
- Enhance your classroom instruction or educational experience
- Get access to additional field-specific resources
- Receive a certificate of completion for the session
- Participate in lunch and learn opportunities for casual networking within the cluster
- Bring your students for networking with career experts and exposure to the most in-demand skills in the field

SkillsUSA UNIVERSITY

Check the NLSC 2025 App for session dates, times and locations.

Community Service Project

On Friday, June 27 at NLSC, 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?”



Add-On Events

Also Attending: <Not Attending Pre-Conference> [More Info](#)

Pre-Conference Attendee ONLY

Participate in Community Service Project on Friday? YES

IMPORTANT! The Community Service Project conflicts with Delegate and some post check [THIS list to see if your contest has a conflicting debrief](#) that would prevent you Community Service Project.

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 pipelines.

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 [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 21, 2025. 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 5, 2025. All required online test(s) must be completed by 5 p.m. ET on Thursday, June 5, 2025.

Online Submission Requirements

SkillsUSA Championships national competitors must complete their online submission(s) by June 5, 2025, at 5 p.m. ET. The upload(s) will be completed via SkillsUSA's secure platform which will open in late May 2025. Check the current SkillsUSA Technical Standards for your competition to learn about any required national pre-conference online submissions.

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 24 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 General Session is the kick-off event for NLSC. This experience engages attendees with high-energy, participatory and recognition components that set the tone for the week-long conference



Business icon Daymond John will inspire SkillsUSA members at the 2025 NLSC with his story of achieving the American Dream. Known for Shark Tank and founding FUBU, John empowers others to pursue success through resilience and innovation. SkillsUSA attendees will gain practical tools to fuel their own career journeys.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER
PROMO VIDEO**

Awards Session | June 27 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 culminating experience of NLSC is the Awards Session which serves to recap the entire conference experience. This high-energy session will recognize the accomplishments of the attendees including the SkillsUSA Championships, Models of Excellence chapters, 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 of celebration for self and others.



New This Year, 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 2025 conference app.

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 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](#)

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.