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ATT: CTSO Chapters, CTSO Leaders, ABC Training Providers, Educators, Business and Industry Partners and Friends, CTE Education Supervisors, Principal's

**RE: Benefit of Membership in SkillsUSA**

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives, working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. It helps each student to excel. SkillsUSA helps our student members become world-class workers and responsible American citizens.

SkillsUSA is a national organization serving teachers and high school students who are preparing for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations, including health occupations. SkillsUSA was formerly known as VICA (the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America).

SkillsUSA mission is an applied method of instruction for preparing America's high performance workers in public career and technical programs. It provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. It builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes and communications skills. It emphasizes total quality at work: high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education, and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA also promotes understanding of the free-enterprise system and involvement in community service.

Our Partners: Currently, 15,166 teachers and school administrators serve as professional SkillsUSA members and instructors. More than 1,500 business, industry and labor sponsors actively support SkillsUSA at the national level through financial aid, in-kind contributions, and involvement of their people in SkillsUSA activities. Many more work directly with state associations and local chapters.

Programs: SkillsUSA programs include local, state and national competitions in which students demonstrate occupational and leadership skills. At the annual national-level SkillsUSA Championships, over 6,000 students compete in 108 occupational and leadership skill areas.

SkillsUSA programs also help to establish industry standards for job skill training in the lab and classroom, and promote community service. SkillsUSA is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and is cited as a "successful model of employer-driven youth development training program" by the U.S. Department of Labor.

*Membership fees in SkillsUSA Louisiana help fund: \*Recruitment of schools, students and teachers into SkillsUSA, \*Training and coordination of teachers in IBC related courses, \*Support for students to earn IBC's, \*Technical assistance and testing for IBC, \*Administrative support of IBC's and IBC instruction, \*Develop IBC test, \*Input data, information on website for IBC test, \*Provide pre-testing IBC's, Testing IBC's.*

SkillsUSA is an organization which can provide the services described to the Louisiana Department of Education. Therefore, I Larry Rabalais, Executive Director of SkillsUSA Louisiana, Inc., request to manage and provide the services of SkillsUSA to CTE students and teachers.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Larry Rabalais".

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Larry Rabalais, Executive Director  
SkillsUSA Louisiana, Inc.

**Louisiana SkillsUSA Championships Leading the way to the new Workforce!** (Innis, Louisiana) - Sponsors of Louisiana's showcase event for career and technical education students announced the dates of the state's largest occupational skill competition today. The Louisiana SkillsUSA Championships. The SkillsUSA Championships will start on April 3, 2019. The name highlights new initiatives in work force training.

**We** found that we had outgrown our old term "Olympics," here in Louisiana and at the national level. That name put too much emphasis on individuals winning, said Larry Rabalais Louisiana High School state director. "The real focus of the Louisiana SkillsUSA Championships is to bring the best out in everyone who participates. America's and Louisiana's economy is only as strong as it is broad-based. Many skills are required and everyone needs to contribute," he explained."

**The** announcement of the annual event was made at the annual SkillsUSA Board of Directors meeting, this last September.

**The** national competition was started in 1967 as a way to recognize the talents and aspirations of America's career and technical education students.

**In** the first year the competition was comprised of only three contests. Since then, the event has grown to include 103 contest and more than 6,323 contestants from across the nation. Winners from the Louisiana SkillsUSA Championships will go to the national competition in Louisville, KY, in June 2018.

**Louisiana** has been holding statewide skills contest since April

1981. This past year, Louisiana's SkillsUSA association sent 134 student contestants to the national competition.

**Both** the national and Louisiana SkillsUSA Championships are sponsored by **SkillsUSA**.

**SkillsUSA** is a nationwide organization serving career and technical education students in high schools, two-year colleges and career and technical education centers. SkillsUSA's annual membership

standing of the free enterprise system and involvement in community service activities.

**SkillsUSA** officials give four reasons for the growth of the competition program. First, career and technical education students need a means by which they can be recognized for their achievements. Second, the competition is a collective effort by business, education and labor. Third, the contestants are stringently evaluated according to industry competencies. Fourth, the competition stresses all employment



averages more than one-quarter million students and teachers in career and technical, and health occupations programs.

**SkillsUSA** is an applied method for preparing America's and Louisiana's high performance workers in public career and technical education programs. It provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork citizenship and character development. It emphasizes total quality at work: high ethical standards, superior work skills, lifelong education and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA also promotes under-

skills, including communications and teamwork.

**The** SkillsUSA Championships has become one of the best ways for us to focus on skilled workers and what they must do to be successful, said Larry Rabalais, SkillsUSA Louisiana, Inc. Executive Director. "We think the new name keeps that focus where it belongs."

**This** year's Louisiana SkillsUSA Championships will be held April 4, 2019 beginning at 8:00 a.m. at Louis Miller Career & Technology Center 3051 Patriot Drive, Houma

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70363.

**The** Louisiana SkillsUSA Championships is a showcase for the state's best career and technology students to demonstrate their excellence in both skill and leadership. Involving more than 500 contestants, the state event shows Louisiana who its skilled workers are and what it takes for them to succeed. The championships are a positive way for employers to express their needs directly to educators. The competition is unique: technical experts from labor and industry design the contests to include a wide variety of skills that are needed in our work force, rather than gearing the events to what is taught in particular training programs. This motivates both students and personnel. This direct evaluation improves and upgrades the state of occupational training throughout Louisiana.

**The** philosophy of the Louisiana SkillsUSA Championships is to reward students for excellence, to involve industry in directly evaluating student performance, and to keep training relevant to employers' needs. Nearly 250 judges and contest organizers from the ranks of labor and management make it possible. They not only design the contest—they provide equipment, tools, supplies, money, executive time, talent, technical expertise, and awards for the winners. The investment by Louisiana business and labor in time and management is significant.

**Louisiana** SkillsUSA works directly with business and industry to maintain American productivity, quality and competitiveness. **SkillsUSA and Business is a partnership that pays off.** Through a proven system that produces quality-trained, well-rounded, entry-level employees, SkillsUSA brings together educators, administrators,

corporate America, labor organizations, trade associations and government. The result is a coordinated effort that addresses America's need for a globally competitive, educated and skilled work force.

**In** addition, SkillsUSA teaches the importance of developing leadership skills, positive attitudes and pride in workmanship. SkillsUSA emphasizes respect for the dignity of work, high standards in trade ethics, superior workmanship, quality and safety.

### **Meeting Business Needs.**

Nearly 1,527 corporations, labor unions and trade associations support SkillsUSA programs at the national level. The active participation of business and industry is the key to SkillsUSA's success. SkillsUSA programs give students an edge. They also give affiliated companies an edge. Through involvement with Louisiana **SkillsUSA**, your business can:

**Capitalize** on its ability to access SkillsUSA students—the best our educational system has to offer—as entry-level employees.

**Improve** the relevance of training in the educational system.

**Use** a proven system to access education and effect change.

**Become** involved in your trade area and receive publicity for your organization.

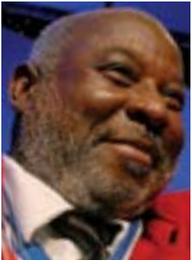
**SkillsUSA** provides corporate America with a direct link to one of its most important suppliers: **our educational system.** There is an even exchange of benefits in these partnerships as teachers provide relevant training and employers put

well-prepared people to work.

**In** June 1999, at the National SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City, Missouri, Louisiana had the distinction of its first National Officer. Mr. Jared Lord, Sowela Campus was elected National Postsecondary Parliamentarian. Mr. Warren Landry, formally of Delta-Ouachita Campus was named Region Two Advisor of the year. Again in 2001 Louisiana cultivated another National Officer, Mr. Mark Peters of Terrebonne Career and Technical High School, elected Region Two Vice President. Larry Rabalais, Louisiana SkillsUSA director was named 2001-02 National Director of the Year. Mr. Wayne Fruge, Instructor at Port Barre High School was selected 2002 region two advisor of the year. In 2004 Mr. Anthony Dannials of LTC Lafayette was elected National PS Vice President. Larry Rabalais became President of the SkillsUSA Directors Association. In 2006 SkillsUSA Board of Directors National President, Larry Rabalais, Louisiana. In 2009 Markel Guidry was elected HS Parliamentarian.

## **2019 SkillsUSA Theme SkillsUSA: Champions at Work, "Career-Ready Starts Here"**






# SkillsUSA<sup>®</sup>

## CHAMPIONSHIPS

# 2019



SkillsUSA's 55th annual National Leadership and Skills Conference — including the SkillsUSA Championships, a showcase of career and technical education students — will be held in Louisville, Ky., June 24-28, 2019. More than 15,000 people, including students, teachers and business partners, participate in the weeklong event.



The SkillsUSA Championships will be held June 26-27, 2019, at the Kentucky Exposition Center. Contests begin locally and continue through the state and national levels. More than 6,300 outstanding career and technical education students — all state contest winners — will compete hands-on in 103 different trade, technical and leadership fields. Contests are run with the help of industry, trade associations and labor organizations, and test competencies set by industry. The championships is a multi-million-dollar event that occupies space equivalent to more than 20 football fields. Leadership contestants will demonstrate skills including extemporaneous speaking and conducting meetings by parliamentary procedure.

In special delegate sessions, hundreds of high-school, middle-school and college/postsecondary student leaders will vote on issues affecting SkillsUSA. Others campaign and will be elected to either high school or college/postsecondary teams of national officers who represent SkillsUSA members nationwide.





## OFFICIAL CONTESTS\*

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Action Skills  
American Spirit  
Chapter Business Procedure  
Chapter Display  
Community Action Project  
Community Service  
Employment Application Process  
Extemporaneous Speaking  
Job Interview  
Job Skill Demonstration A  
Job Skill Demonstration Open  
Occupational Health and Safety  
Opening and Closing Ceremonies  
Outstanding Chapter  
Pin Design (State Conference)  
Prepared Speech  
Promotional Bulletin Board  
Quiz Bowl  
T-shirt Design

### OCCUPATIONALLY RELATED

Career Pathways Showcase  
Customer Service  
Engineering Technology/Design  
Entrepreneurship  
First Aid/CPR  
Health Knowledge Bowl  
Health Occupations Professional Portfolio  
Medical Math  
Medical Terminology  
Principles of Engineering/Technology  
Related Technical Math  
Team Engineering Challenge

### SKILLED AND TECHNICAL SCIENCES

3D Visualization and Animation  
Additive Manufacturing  
Advertising Design  
Architectural Drafting  
Audio/Radio Production  
Automated Manufacturing Technology  
Automobile Maintenance and Light Repair  
Automotive Refinishing Technology  
Automotive Service Technology  
Aviation Maintenance Technology  
Barbering  
Basic Health Care Skills  
Broadcast News Production  
Building Maintenance  
Cabinetmaking  
Carpentry  
CNC Milling Specialist  
CNC Technician  
CNC Turning Specialist  
Collision Damage Appraisal  
Collision Repair Technology  
Commercial Baking  
Computer Programming  
Cosmetology  
Crime Scene Investigation

Criminal Justice  
Culinary Arts  
Cyber Security  
Dental Assisting  
Diesel Equipment Technology  
Digital Cinema Technology  
Early Childhood Education  
Electrical Construction Wiring  
Electronics Technology  
Esthetics  
Firefighting  
Graphic Communications  
Graphics Imaging – Sublimation  
Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration  
Industrial Motor Control  
Information Technology Services  
Interactive Application and Video Game Development  
Networking  
Major Appliance and Refrigeration Technology  
Marine Service Technology  
Masonry  
Mechatronics  
Medical Assisting  
Mobile Electronics Installation  
Mobile Robotics Technology  
Motorcycle Service Technology  
Nail Care  
Nurse Assisting  
Photography  
Plumbing  
Power Equipment Technology  
Practical Nursing  
Residential Systems Installation and Maintenance  
Restaurant Service  
Robotics and Automation Technology  
Robotics: Urban Search and Rescue  
Screen Printing Technology  
Sheet Metal  
TeamWorks  
Technical Computer Applications  
Technical Drafting  
Telecommunications Cabling  
Television (Video) Production  
Web Design  
Welding  
Welding Fabrication  
Welding Sculpture



**\*New contests and demonstrations are added every year.**

For a list of current contests and descriptions, visit: [www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/contest-descriptions/](http://www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/contest-descriptions/)

### How to Qualify for the SkillsUSA Championships

Official rules for each contest are found in the current *SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards*. Before a student is registered for national competition, a thorough review of the General Regulations section of the *SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards* is imperative, as well as a review of the individual contest standards.

Any changes or additions to published contest standards are posted by April 15 at the SkillsUSA Championships Updates website at: [updates.skillsusa.org](http://updates.skillsusa.org). The website also includes contests that are offered as demonstrations and contests that are too new for inclusion in the technical standards.

The following represents an overview of the steps necessary to participate in the SkillsUSA Championships:

- Participants must be active SkillsUSA members in their respective middle-school, high-school and college/postsecondary divisions whose dues have been paid and postmarked by midnight, March 1.

- Participants in national contests must be first-place medalists selected on a competitive basis at the state level. If the first-place winner is unable to participate, the alternate must be the next-highest-placing contestant at the state level who is able to participate. All contestants must qualify through state SkillsUSA approved contests. States may be disqualified from participation in a specific contest if they approve contestants who have not competed in a state contest. Participation must be approved by contestants' state associations. The ability of the contestants to meet the standards of national competition must be considered before they are certified by their state association.

### How to Register

Only properly registered participants may enter SkillsUSA Championships contests. Proper registration requires:

- Contact your state SkillsUSA director for details on how to register for the National Leadership and Skills Conference: [www.skillsusa.org/about/state-directors/](http://www.skillsusa.org/about/state-directors/)

- Attending the mandatory contest orientation meeting. This meeting is held at the NLSC site in advance of the competition as announced in the conference program. For information on how to register, including changes to contestant registration, substitutes and alternates, refer to the General Regulations section of the *SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards*.

### Delegates and National Officers

As with SkillsUSA Championships competitors, student delegates and national officer candidates must be registered by their state association directors. Delegates are chosen by their state members, and representation is based on state membership figures. Candidates for national office must be endorsed by a majority vote of their state association's house of delegates or executive council. For details, contact your state association director and visit: [www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/students/become-an-officer/](http://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/students/become-an-officer/)



## SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference

Anyone who is a member of SkillsUSA can register and attend the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference including the SkillsUSA Championships in Louisville, Ky., June 24-28, 2019. Contact your state association director to register. To locate your state director, visit: [www.skillsusa.org/about/state-directors/](http://www.skillsusa.org/about/state-directors/)



### ACTIVATE, LEVERAGE AND ENGAGE CONFERENCES

Offered just prior to the National Leadership and Skills Conference, the Activate, Leverage and Engage conferences are opportunities for students and advisors to focus on leadership development.



**Activate** is a two-and-a-half-day leadership conference that will help SkillsUSA members find their “start button” through hands-on, high-energy and motivational programming. Activate is open to all SkillsUSA student leaders and focuses on developing the following framework skills: leadership, communication and team work.

**Leverage** is an intensive, two-and-a-half-day leadership experience open to SkillsUSA’s state officers and focuses on developing the following framework skills: leadership, professionalism and professional development. It provides state officers with high-energy leadership training that focuses on individual leadership skill development, building teams and communicating effectively. Count on Leverage to have a lasting impact on your state officer team.

**Engage** Engage is a professional development training conference designed to help teachers better understand and use leadership development materials and interactive resources available through SkillsUSA. Teachers will help their chapters grow through the latest information and tools in classroom management, student motivation, employability, leadership development and teaching strategies. The two-and-one-half-

day program is taught by experts within youth leadership development and guest presenters.

Events will be held June 22-24, 2019, at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, Ky. Find learning objectives and registration details at: [www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/training-opportunities/](http://www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/training-opportunities/)

### SKILLSUSA UNIVERSITY

SkillsUSA University is an opportunity for students and educators to attend educational sessions. These free sessions may include professional development, legislative updates, occupational and technical career trends and program overviews.

Teachers can stay updated on equipment, software, employment trends and other aspects of their training field. Students can learn new skills or find out what business and industry are looking for in new employees. SkillsUSA University will be held at or near the Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, Ky., June 26-28, 2019.

### SKILLSUSA TECHSPO

SkillsUSA TECHSPO is held in the midst of the SkillsUSA Championships. TECHSPO, short for technical exposition, is the largest trade show in America for technical education. Exhibitors and visitors include key decision-makers in career and technical education and leaders from business and industry. SkillsUSA TECHSPO will be held at the Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, Ky., June 25-27, 2019.



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