

>>> Save the Date: May 7 is SkillsUSA National Signing Day!

SkillsUSA National Signing Day is coming, the day in May when SkillsUSA chapters across the nation give skilled professionals the spotlight they deserve. On Signing Day, students are publicly recognized by their school administrators, teachers, elected officials, advisors, family and friends for signing letters of intent to pursue careers and/or further education in the skilled trades. Look for more information coming soon on how your chapter can register and gain access to our Signing Day toolkit, special offers and more. In the meantime, Learn more about SkillsUSA National Signing Day and how chapters celebrated last year and get ready for an even bigger celebration this May.



>>> Seeking Musical Talent to Perform National Anthem at NLSC

Do you have a musical gift to share with the SkillsUSA community? If so, apply to perform the national anthem at the opening session of SkillsUSA's National Leadership & Skills Conference this June. The chosen performer will be offered complimentary conference registration if their sole purpose of attendance is to perform the national anthem. <u>Apply</u> by 5 p.m. ET on **Tuesday, April 2.** For questions, contact <u>Melinda Lloyd</u>.

>>> Global Youth Service Day Looking for Participation

Youth Service America (YSA) is searching for heartwarming young heroes with creative ideas to foster meaningful connections, promote inclusion and teach empathy. With support from Hershey's Heartwarming Project, YSA will award up to \$50,000 in grants for youth-led service projects and community-building activities during Youth Service Month (April 12-May 12) and Global Youth Service Day (April 26-28). With \$250 and \$500 grant options, youth ages 5-25 are eligible to apply for community projects. Learn more and apply by March 10.

>>> Register Members by March 1 to Claim Eligibility

The national SkillsUSA membership deadline is **March 1**. Student members must meet both state and national membership deadlines to be eligible for national competitions; serve as voting delegates; run for national office; or apply for national scholarships, awards and honors. Check out the <u>state dues and deadlines</u> and learn how to access your professional membership benefits in this <u>video tutorial</u>.

>>> Take Up the Challenge! NLSC Pin and T-shirt Design

SkillsUSA is offering the 2024 National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) Pin and T-shirt Design Challenge to all dues-paying student members. The winning designs will become the official T-shirt and pin design for the 2024 NLSC. Entries must be received by **March 1 at 12 a.m. ET**, and winners will be announced on March 8.

>>> Presidential Honors for Selfless Service

At the 2024 NLSC, SkillsUSA will recognize advisors, students and registered alumni for their community service through the President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA). To qualify, SkillsUSA members must submit a record of their service hours. With SkillsUSA's focus on community service, your students may have already met the requirements! For details on how to apply, visit the website. Applications must be received by **March 31** for recognition at the 2024 NLSC.

>>> SkillsUSA College/Postsecondary Scholarships Open!

SkillsUSA members anticipating tuition expenses for the summer or fall 2024 academic terms can apply for scholarships from SkillsUSA and our generous industry partners. SkillsUSA uses the Kaleidoscope scholarship platform for a streamlined experience. Scholarship applications require a letter of



recommendation from a SkillsUSA advisor or another instructor, a resume and a brief essay. Scholarship winners are notified by email and must submit an acceptance form. Scholarship funds are remitted directly to the recipients' postsecondary institutions and applied to the tuition account balance. These scholarships are competitive and applying for a scholarship does not guarantee your selection. Here are some best-practice tips to help your students as they apply for scholarships:

- Review the available <u>scholarships</u> to see opportunities and award amounts.
- Have students update their resumes with SkillsUSA leadership positions, competition participation and any medals earned.
- Ask students to write their SkillsUSA Framework story as a tool to help them with essays or
 interviews, thinking through their strengths and explaining what they can bring to a company/job they
 are applying for. To learn more, use the Framework Integration Toolkit in <u>Absorb</u> and scroll down
 within the toolkit to find the Framework story lesson plan and videos.

The scholarship application period ends **April 15**. For questions, contact our Customer Care Team.

>>> Spring SkillsUSA Professional Development Offerings

Take your SkillsUSA knowledge to the next level with SkillsUSA's virtual Professional Development offerings. Sessions include new advisor training, the Chapter Excellence Program, how to apply for scholarships and more. Visit our <u>training webpage</u> and sign up now for the sessions that interest you. All sessions are free and open to any SkillsUSA advisor.