

>>> Share Your SkillsUSA Week Stories!

Chapters across the country engaged in SkillsUSA Week experiences Feb. 5-9 that honored supporters, made connections with industry professionals, shared SkillsUSA with their administrators, provided opportunities to advocate for career and technical education with elected officials and so much more.

<u>Visit our collection of photos from the week</u>. If your chapter conducted advocacy visits for SkillsUSA Week, <u>use this form</u> to let us know! There is still time to <u>share your SkillsUSA Week</u> <u>stories</u>, <u>photos or links</u> with the SkillsUSA headquarters, and we just may feature your chapter on the SkillsUSA Champions



digital hub or on our social media. Look for a full recap of the week soon on SkillsUSA's website and our social media. Thanks for being SkillsUSA champions every day — and every week — of the year!

>>> Upcoming SkillsUSA Technical Fridays Workshop

Join us for "Technical Fridays" virtual workshops led by industry experts to help teachers develop specific skills relevant to their career fields of interest.

Leave the sessions with a new skill to implement in your classroom. Learn more about the workshops here. On

Feb. 23, a session on "Advanced Haircutting Mastery: Speed, Precision and Creativity" will be led by Charlise Kinslow, a cosmetology teacher at LaVergne High





School, with 29 years of expertise in her craft. Elevate your haircutting skills and explore nontraditional methods to increase speed, master one-length or solid form haircuts and learn to create beveled cuts using clippers. Unleash your creativity and redefine modern hairstyling. Workshops are free but space is limited. Register for the sessions online. If you have questions, contact Emily Cornwell.

>>> 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, <u>visit the website</u>. Applications must be received by **March 31** for recognition at the 2024 NLSC.

>>> 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 here</u> by 5 p.m. ET on **Tuesday, April 2.** For questions, contact <u>Melinda Lloyd</u>.

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 scholarships 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 Absorb 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 <u>Customer Care Team</u>.

>>> 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.

>>> The SkillsUSA Store — Featured Product

Stay on trend and ready for adventure with the Excursion Fanny Pack. This fashionable and fun accessory is perfect for anyone who likes to travel light. Carry your keys, wallet and phone without the hassle of a heavy bag to weigh you down. With two accessory pockets, you can even store a camera. Take it to a conference, out sightseeing or even use it for school. This makes a great gift, too!

