



2024-2025 SkillsUSA Florida Contest Guide

Welcome to the 2024-2025 SkillsUSA Florida Championships season! This guide provides information on preparing for SkillsUSA regional, state, and national competitions, including competitive events offered at the State Leadership and Skills Conference (SLSC) in Jacksonville, FL, on April 28 - May 1, 2025. Please take time to review this information and reach out to the state office with any questions. We can't wait to see your students' skills in action!

The information contained in this document may be updated throughout the program year, and any updates will be posted online at <https://skillsusafil.org/slsc/updates>.

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CONTESTANT ELIGIBILITY

The criteria listed below apply to regional, state, and national competitions. To be eligible for competition, competitors must be:

- Registered members in the correct division and CTE program before registering for any competitions
- Fully submit membership online through register.skillsusa.org by February 1 of the program year and pay dues by March 1

Middle school competitors must be or have been enrolled in a middle school exploratory course that prepares for future study in a career and technical education pathway.

High school competitors are students enrolled in a coherent program of study, a community training program, and/or a work-based learning experience that prepares the student for further education and/or employment related to career and technical education, including the health industry. Further, a high school competitor must be earning credit toward a high school diploma/certificate or its equivalent during the school year immediately preceding the National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC). **NOTE FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT:** *An individual who has not completed the requirements for, nor received, a high school level diploma must register for membership and compete as a high school student, even though they may be taking advanced placement or college/postsecondary courses.*

College/postsecondary competitors are students enrolled in a coherent program of study, a work-based learning experience, and/or a career major that prepares them for further education and/or employment related to technology, trades or industry, including the health industry. College/postsecondary competitors must be progressing toward a postsecondary credential during the school year immediately preceding the NLSC.

MEMBERSHIP AND ELIGIBILITY FAQ

WHO SHOULD REGISTER FOR MEMBERSHIP?

Schools are always encouraged to register more students for membership than are planning to compete, especially if they plan to participate in team events. Substitutions may only be made with qualified SkillsUSA members who meet the eligibility criteria for the contest AND are registered as members by February 1 of the program year. Remember: the benefits of SkillsUSA participation extend beyond competition! Don't forget to register any Courtesy Corps members or State Officer candidates for membership!

HOW MANY CONTESTS CAN STUDENTS COMPETE IN?

Students can compete in one competition at the state level. They are eligible to compete in the same event at the national competition, provided they win a gold medal in that event or are extended an invitation from the State Office.

WHAT CONTESTS ARE STUDENTS ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE IN?

Leadership and Occupational competitions are open to any trade area or CTE program, provided competitors are joined members by the deadline. For technical contests, students must be enrolled in a coherent series of courses that meet the career objective outlined in the Technical Standards within the current program year. For example, a student competing in Welding must be currently enrolled in a Welding program at their school. If the student took Welding in the previous school year and is currently enrolled in Culinary (or is not enrolled in a CTE course or other eligible activity), they would not qualify for the Welding competition.

Considerations must be made for the required safety and equipment training needed to succeed in a competition. Some contests require specific certifications or safety verifications to be submitted. Details about safety submissions can be found in the Technical Standards for each competition. Reach out to the state office for any specific questions regarding eligibility.

WHAT ABOUT TEAM EVENTS?

Team events require a designated number of team members. In all cases, a full team must be registered for each level of competition, and all team members must be from the same division. Penalties may be assessed for competing with less than a full team. Refer to the State General Rules and Regulations for more information on team requirements and penalties. The [Contest by Cluster](#) document outlines the required number of team members. If a range is listed, it illustrates the minimum and maximum number of team members.

WHAT IS THE MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE?

SkillsUSA student members must be registered as members by February 1 of the program year to be eligible for competition. **This includes any potential substitutions in team events and Courtesy Corps members.** It's important to note that regional competitions also require membership to register for competitions; check with your regional coordinator for your regional deadline.

Rare exceptions to the February 1 deadline are granted on a case-by-case basis and require extensive documentation of the student's involvement with the chapter throughout the program year. Advisors are encouraged to review their membership before the February 1 deadline to ensure no student is missed.

CONTESTS BY CLUSTER (STATE COMPETITIONS LIST)

[This document](#) describes each contest offered at the state level organized by career cluster. The last pages provide an information table with the state-level contests, career cluster, team requirements, divisions offered, and whether the contest is [Florida-only](#), a [Demonstration Contest](#), or a [Special Needs Contest](#). **This document is a guide and does not replace or supersede the official contest technical standards.** Refer to the Technical Standards for official contest rules and requirements.

NOTE: This is an exhaustive list of state-level contests for the 2025 State Leadership and Skills Conference. IF A CONTEST IS NOT LISTED ON THE "CONTESTS BY CLUSTER" DOCUMENT, IT WILL NOT BE OFFERED AT THE STATE LEVEL IN 2025. To request a contest be added, [complete this form](#) no later than December 1 of the program year. Contests will be considered based on a combination of competitor interest and industry support. If a competition is added, an update will be shared through the regular Tuesday Times newsletter, and will be posted to the [State Contest Updates](#) page.

- **Access the Contests by Cluster document here:**

<https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Contests-by-Cluster-2024-2025.pdf>

CONTEST PREPARATION, QUALIFICATION, AND REQUIREMENTS

State and National General Rules and Regulations

The General Regulations provide information for all contests regarding eligibility requirements, tiebreakers, written exams, team policies, hazardous materials policies, and other general contest regulations. There are separate governing documents for each level of competition (state and national). [National General Regulations](#) are available on the [national website](#), and with the Technical Standards at absorb.skillsusa.org. [State General Rules Regulations](#) for state competitions are available on the [Advisor Resources](#) page of our [state website](#).

The State General Regulations also contain our Inclusivity Statement and COVID-19 Acknowledgement form. By registering for state events, participants agree to adhere to these terms. Please ensure you review these sections.

- **Access the State General Regulations here:**

<https://www.skillsusafl.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/State-General-Regulations-2024-2025.pdf>

- **Access the National General Regulations here:**

<https://skillsusa.egnyte.com/dl/cU5nXh93ER>

Technical Standards

The Technical Standards are the primary source of information for contests, including standards and competencies to be measured, uniform requirements, eligibility, tool/supply lists, written exam information, team size, and other details. They are available with Professional membership online at absorb.skillsusa.org. Once you join as a professional member at register.skillsusa.org, you'll receive an email with instructions on creating and accessing your account. If you have issues accessing your account, please contact the Customer Care Team at 844-875-4557.

NEW THIS YEAR: Student members will gain access to the Technical Standards through SkillsUSA Connect. More information coming soon!

Contest Updates

If a contest differs from the national technical standards for a state or regional contest, or if there is advance information that would benefit contestants, a Contest Update will be published or provided to advisors.

- **Regional** - Check with your [Regional Coordinator](#).
- **State** - <https://www.skillsusaf.org/updates> Check regularly for supply lists, contest information, and other details. If no update is posted, refer to the Technical Standards. State Updates will begin posting in September, with the bulk of updates in February and March. Updates posted within two weeks of the competition will be emailed to the advisor who registered for the event.
- **National** - <https://updates.skillsusa.org> Updates will begin posting as early as the fall. Most updates will be posted in March, April, and May. Be sure to check this page regularly. Any updates will be posted by May 31.

Qualifying for Competition

Students must be registered members by the established deadline to be eligible for any competition and must adhere to the registration process for each event.

- **Regional - Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6: Submit an Intent to Enter form by October 15. (Find your region [here](#).)** Register students online at register.skillsusa.org. Not all contests will be facilitated at the regional level, with some students advancing straight to state. Contact your [Regional Coordinator](#) for more information, including school limits on contests.
- **State** - Students can qualify for the state competition during a regional contest. Most state contests are open to 1st through 3rd place. Some contests may not have a regional competition and will advance straight to the state competition. Check with your Regional Coordinator for more information.
- **National** - Gold medalists at the SLSC are invited to participate in the National Championships. To qualify, the top-scoring student must achieve a "cut score" of at least 70%. Scores are reviewed and certified by the State Director and scoring team before the ceremony. No gold medal will be awarded if the "cut score" is not achieved by any contestant; the top-scoring contestant will be awarded a silver medal, and no contestant will be invited to the national competition for that contest. Alternatively, the Technical Committee may opt not to award any medals if minimum skills are not demonstrated.

There are no "straight to nationals" competitions; contestants must register, attend SLSC, and participate in designated competition activities to qualify for the national competition.

During the Closing and Awards Ceremony, winners will be announced in each division and competition and awarded gold, silver, and bronze medals. Gold medalists will receive an Intent to Enter form, which must be completed and submitted before the end of the ceremony to claim their invitation and provide our team with good contact information for the student and advisor. The student risks forfeiting their invitation if a form is not received by the end of the awards ceremony. If a gold medalist cannot attend NLSC, the advisor should alert the SkillsUSA Florida team as soon as possible.

- **View the NLSC Intent to Enter form online: <https://form.jotform.com/212356009919155>.**

Resumes

All contests, including middle school contests, require the submission of a resume.

- For regional competitions, contestants must bring a hard copy of their resume to the contest.
- For state competitions, contestants must upload their resume before the competition. More detailed instructions will be available in November in the SLSC25 Conference Guide. Additional uploads may be required; refer to the Technical Standards and State Contest Updates for more information.
- For national competitions, contestants must upload their resume before the competition. Additional uploads may be required; refer to the Technical Standards and National Contest Updates for more information.

Written Exams

Generally, two written exams are required for each competition: a technical assessment and a professional development test. For online exams in advance, testing credentials and instructions are provided to registered contestants and their advisors. All exams must be proctored and completed within the designated two-week time frame. Failure to complete an exam will result in a zero score.

NOTE: The state office is evaluating testing options for SLSC25, including whether to offer online or in-person testing. More testing information will be available in November in the SLSC25 Conference Guide.

- **Technical Assessments** - Most contests require a technical assessment related to the technical knowledge of the competition. Refer to the Technical Standards for covered topics and/or suggested study materials. A study guide is not provided for technical assessments.
- **Professional Development Test**- The Professional Development Assessment will be counted as a scored portion of each state and national contest. For Action Skills, Community Action Project, and Employment Application Process, the Professional Development test will only be used as a tiebreaker. A study guide is available with the Technical Standards on SkillsUSA Absorb.
- **NEW THIS YEAR:** All contestants must submit a resume and take the Professional Development Assessment, including middle school and special needs contestants. Middle school contestants will complete all testing in person (no online testing required). Check out the SLSC25 Guide in November for more details.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONTESTS

The following contests will be offered at the SLSC for middle school students. Competitors must be registered and paid by the established deadlines to participate. These contests are governed by the same Technical Standards as high school and college/post-secondary competitions, unless otherwise stated in the Technical Standards.

- Action Skills
- Additive Manufacturing (*Team of 3*)
- American Spirit (*Team of 3*)
- Chapter Display (*Team of 3*)
- Community Action Project (*Team of 2*)
- Community Service (*Team of 3*)
- *Engineering Tech and Design (*Team of 3*)
- Extemporaneous Speech
- Job Skill Demo A
- Job Skill Demo Open
- Mobile Robotics (*Team of 2*)
- MRE Challenge (*Florida-only, team of 2*)
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies (*Team of 7*)
- Pin Design
- Prepared Speech
- Promotional Bulletin Board (*Team of 3*)
- Promotional Poster (*Florida-only, team of 2*)
- Robotics Urban Search and Rescue (*Team of 2*)
- Team Engineering Challenge (*Team of 3*)
- T-shirt Design
- Wedding Cake Design (*Florida-only, team of 2*)

* - denotes new middle school offerings for the 2024-2025 school year

FLORIDA-ONLY CONTESTS

Florida-only contests are held at the state level but do not have a corresponding contest at the national level. Students who compete in Florida-only contests enjoy all the benefits of state-level competition, including medals, but do not advance to the national competition. **Technical Standards for each Florida-Only contest are available on the contest updates page at skillsusafl.org/slsc/updates.**

- **Cosmetology Quiz Bowl** – A team of 3-5 students participates in 3 rounds of live knowledge questions, plus a written exam. Topics include general academic, SkillsUSA, and Cosmetology-related knowledge.
- **Culinary Quiz Bowl** – A team of 3-5 students participates in 3 rounds of live knowledge questions, plus a written exam. Topics include general academic, SkillsUSA, and culinary and hospitality knowledge.
- **Hair Weave** – Contestants demonstrate their ability to create an original weave style comparable to industry standards using sewing &/or bonding, cutting, and styling techniques. The style must be original and creative, and show evidence of advanced skill level.
- **MRE Challenge** – A team of 2 students is provided 6-8 various MREs (Meals Ready to Eat) and must create a full meal, including an appetizer, entrée, beverage, and dessert. The only materials permitted are those contained within the MREs and community pantry. **Open to middle school.**
- **Promotional Poster** – A team of 2 students is provided with materials to create a poster to promote a provided theme. The project is produced on-site. Teams adhere to a budget and participate in an interview regarding their creative process. **Open to middle school.**
- **Residential and Commercial Appliance Technology** – Contestants rotate through stations to diagnose common service issues on refrigerators, washers, dryers, ranges, microwave ovens, and dishwashers. Contestants also demonstrate their brazing ability by assembling a copper and steel tubing project per a schematic.
- **Wedding Cake Design** – A team of 2 students design a 3-tiered wedding cake and execute the on-site preparation. Students participate in an interview regarding their creative process and technical abilities. All decorations must be edible. **Open to middle school.**

DEMONSTRATION CONTESTS (NEW COMPETITIONS)

Each year, the SkillsUSA Championships office reviews applications for contests to be added to the National Championships as a Demonstration Contest. Demonstration contests must complete a three-year trial period before achieving Official Contest status. More details about adopting new national contests and evaluating current contest offerings can be found [here](#).

2024-2025 National Demonstration Contests at SLSC

The following Demonstration contests are available at SLSC. Student competitors will register and pay for the SLSC, participate in all conference events, and receive medals and prizes in the same manner as other competitors. Some national demonstrations may be invitation only; more information will be provided to schools who express interest.

The list below is subject to change and will be facilitated at the state level only if enough interest is present and committed. Gold medalists may be invited to participate at the national level and receive medals and prizes in the same manner as official contests. View the contest categories and descriptions of contests offered at the national level [here](#).

- **CNC 5-Axis Milling Programmer** – This competition evaluates the ability to plan independently and program jobs for 5-Axis CNC milling machines and provide instructions for operators to execute. Competitors program part features and generate NC code using CAM software, troubleshoot G-code programming errors, interpret prints (including geometric dimensioning and tolerancing or GD&T), measure/gauge parts, and demonstrate theoretical knowledge of configuration, setup and operation.
- **Commercial Roofing** – Competitors will install the most commonly used roof type, thermoplastic, on the same mockup used for NRCA's ProCertification exam. Participants must don all required safety equipment, roll out a sheet of thermoplastic membrane, mechanically attach it to the deck, flash the perimeter edge wall, and flash around a box and pipe boot. **Extensive support is available to any schools interested in Commercial Roofing. The National Roofing Contractors Association can provide guest instructors, materials, conference registration fees, curriculum, and more.** Contact the State Office to connect with the NRCA.

New Official National Competition

This contest completed its three-year trial period as a National Competition and demonstrated the needed growth and support. They will continue to operate as an official SkillsUSA Career Championships event and will be offered at the state level in the 2024-2025 program year.

- **Facilithon** – This competition tests the student's ability to thrive in a facility management environment through a 50-question common-sense quiz, a 10-minute role-play, and the FM challenge, an emergency scenario that the student must immediately react to. Find out more about the competition and review the materials to prepare for it at <https://fmpipeline.org/>.

SPECIAL NEEDS CONTESTS

The following contests are open to students classified under the provisions of Public Law 105-17.

- **Action Skills**
- **Community Action Project**
- **Employment Application Process**

Students registered in these contests must provide a letter of eligibility at regional, state and national contests. If you are unsure if a student qualifies, consult the Guidance department at your school. Do not send copies of IEPs, 504 plans, or similar documents to the state office or provide them to contest judges.

GRIEVANCES

If a student encounters an issue during a competition that violates the official contest rules or general regulations, they can file a Grievance.

- Check with your Regional Coordinator regarding Grievances at the regional competition.
- A copy of the Grievance form for state contests will be available on [our website](#), and hard copies will be available onsite at the event. Contestants and advisors should review it in advance.
- The grievance policy for national contests will be shared during the NLSC Virtual Orientation Meeting.

SkillsUSA Florida welcomes feedback on our competitive events. In the spirit of continuous improvement, please complete this form at any time to provide constructive feedback. We encourage you to provide your contact information so that we can follow up with any additional questions or clarification.

- **Contest Feedback Form:** <https://form.jotform.com/232214781068152>

COMPETITION ATTIRE EXPECTATIONS

Attire expectations may differ at each level of competition. In general, contestants must adhere to the standards outlined in the official SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards for each competition. Each contest is assigned a clothing classification, available with the Technical Standards on [SkillsUSA Absorb](#). Official contest attire must be purchased from [skillsusastore.org](#).

Exceptions to clothing classifications are provided for regional and state events. Check with your Regional Coordinator for more information about regional contest attire. For the state competition, specific exceptions are outlined in the State General Rules and Regulations. Contest the state office for any additional needs. Sometimes, a t-shirt may be provided as specific contest attire for contestants to wear during the competition, in which case the advisor will be notified in advance.

JUDGING, SCORING AND RESULTS

SkillsUSA Florida judges are volunteers who donate their time and expertise to evaluate students in the competitions and are invaluable to the success of our competitions. Advisors and students must act as professionals and treat our volunteers with respect. Inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated, and offenders may be removed from the event without refund and/or administration notified, as appropriate. Professional behavior from all participants is expected at all regional, state, and national events.

It is at the sole discretion of individual judges whether or not to share their name, contact information, or other specific identifying information. SkillsUSA Florida does not release the names or contact information of judges. In some cases, the names of companies represented may be shared by SkillsUSA Florida. Advisors may not contact the judges to discuss individual competition scores. The judges' decision is final at the conclusion of the awards, and specific individualized feedback may not be available. Contestants are judged against a set of criteria, not each other.

WHEN AND HOW CAN I SEE MY SCORECARD?

Individual scorecards will be made available online 1-2 weeks following the close of the SLSC. Contestants must have their contestant number and date of birth to access their scorecard. Please make a note of contestant numbers. To access scorecards, visit <https://www.skillsusa-register.org/rpts/EventScores.aspx>, click on Detailed Scores, and select the event from the dropdown list. Be sure to select the correct year.

Conference registrants will receive an email once scorecards have been published online. If you believe an error has occurred, complete a Request for Review as the error is discovered.

WHAT IF I DISCOVER A SCORING ERROR?

Reviews will be considered for clerical errors only - for example, a written test score is omitted; a "1" was entered instead of a "100"; etc. Reviews will not be considered to contest the judges' decisions or scores. The electronic scorecard will be compared to the hard copy, and SkillsUSA Florida will contact judges to clarify any discrepancies. Review requests must be received within two weeks of the release of scores.

If a scoring error is discovered and affects the overall medal standings, the correct medalists will be awarded their rightful medal. Under no circumstances will a scoring error result in a medal removed from a student once awarded. In rare circumstances, if the gold medalist is affected, NLSC invitations may be adjusted. The advisors will be notified by phone, and the state office will work cooperatively with the affected advisors to offer alternative experiences at NLSC whenever possible.

- **To request a scoring review, complete this form:** <https://form.jotform.com/223325090009042>.