



# SLSC25 Orientation

JANUARY 13 and 14, 2025

# WELCOME!

- Turn your camera on, if you can
- Please keep your microphone muted
- Use the chat feature
- Ask lots of questions
- Stay adaptable, flexible, and open minded



# AGENDA

- The Basics
- Registration and Payment Information
- Agenda, Hotel and Logistics
  - Hotel, Parking, Conference Transportation, Meals
- Onsite Registration
- Opening and Closing Ceremony
- Other Activities
  - For students and advisors
- Inclusivity Statement
- General Rules and Regulations
- Other Reminders



**What:** State Leadership and Skills Conference

**When:** April 28 to May 1, 2025

**Where:** Jacksonville, FL

**Conference Hotels:** Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, Doubletree Jacksonville Riverfront

**Contest Locations:** Hyatt Regency, Florida State College at Jacksonville Downtown Campus, Prime Osborn Convention Center, FSCJ Nassau Center, FSCJ Deerwood Center

**Registration Deadline:** March 10

**Hotel Reservation Deadline:** March 17

**Payment Deadline:** March 24



# AGENDA

## MONDAY, APRIL 28

- 2 PM to 6 PM Registration and Packet Pickup
- 4 PM Glam Squad and Social Media Ambassadors Report
- 7 PM to 9 PM Opening Ceremony (Florida Theatre)



# AGENDA

## TUESDAY, APRIL 29

- 7 AM to 4 PM Advisor Lounge - Advisors Only
- 7 AM to 4 PM Transportation to offsite venues
- 8 AM to 4 PM Skill and Leadership competitions
- 9 AM to 3 PM CareerEXPO
- 10 AM to 12 PM Give and Grow Community Service
- TBD Professional Development Sessions
- 3 PM to 5 PM Delegate Sessions and Meet the Candidates
- 5 PM to 8 PM Meet the Employer Career Fair



# AGENDA

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

- 7 AM to 4 PM Advisor Lounge - Advisors Only
- 7 AM to 4 PM Transportation to offsite venues
- 8 AM to 4 PM Skill and Leadership competitions
- 9 AM to 3 PM CareerEXPO
- 10 AM to 12 PM Give and Grow Community Service
- TBD Professional Development Sessions
- 12 PM to 2 PM Framework Luncheon & Advisor Business Meeting
- 3 PM to 5 PM Delegate Sessions
- 6 PM to 10 PM Champions Festival & Advisor Social



# AGENDA

## THURSDAY, MAY 1

- 7:30 AM Doors open for Closing Ceremony
- 8:30 AM to 12 PM Closing Ceremony
- 12 PM to 1 PM NLSC Delegation Meeting -  
Required for Gold Medalists and their advisors

***The full contest schedule will be posted in early March!***





# REGISTRATION

- \$150 per person (competitor, advisor, observer, etc.)
- Register online at [register.skillsusa.org](https://register.skillsusa.org) following regional conferences
- Submit registration to generate an invoice. Detailed instructions in the conference guide.
- Visitor Passes:
  - \$35 – Competition Day Pass
  - \$25 – Closing Ceremony Ticket
  - \$150 – Full conference registration
  - [Info sheet download](#) linked in guide
  - Sales open April 1, online and in person available
- AICE Testing: Select option on registration form. Information will be sent to AICE schools to review onsite testing options.



# SUBSTITUTIONS

- To substitute a registrant after registration closes:
  - Submit online form by April 18:  
<https://form.jotform.com/240994041296158>
  - Competitors must be registered member by Feb 1, and meet eligibility requirements of competition\
  - May substitute an observer or advisor for a dropped contestant
  - Bring completed [Personal and Liability Release Form](#) to onsite registration
    - Only required for registrants after the registration deadline. Form is auto-completed for anyone entered online prior to the deadline.
    - Out of respect for our business and industry partners, please let us know if a contestant drops.



# SUPERVISION

- Primary supervision is the responsibility of the school.
  - If designated Lead Advisor is not attending, provide contact info at onsite check in.
- All students require school-designated supervision, including postsecondary adults.
- Each school must register and pay for at least one advisor/chaperone for the conference.
- [Approved Chaperone Form](#) – submit once per program year. Your school's approved chaperone list for overnight trips.



# PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Payment due by March 24, 2025
- Check payment is preferred
- To pay by credit card, visit <https://square.link/u/D0gKSQZj>
  - A 2.5% administrative fee is automatically added to each credit card transaction.
- Be sure to include invoice number(s) on the payment!
- Double check vendor numbers before processing – payment to state office in Jacksonville is required
- Alert us of any delays to payment.
- [Bookkeeper Information Sheet](#)





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**QUESTIONS?**

# HOTEL AND LOGISTICS

## CONFERENCE HOTELS:

### • **Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront**

- Room rate: \$190/night, up to 4 people per room
- Parking: \$20/vehicle (overnight); Garage clearance: 6'7"
- Address: 225 E Coastline Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32202
- Phone: (904) 588-1234

### • **Hilton Doubletree Jacksonville Riverfront**

- Room rate: \$149/night, up to 4 people per room
- Parking: \$20/vehicle (overnight); Garage clearance: 6'4"
- Address: 1201 Riverplace Blvd  
Jacksonville, FL 32207
- Phone: (904) 398-8800



# HOTEL AND LOGISTICS

***Each school will make their own reservations and payment arrangements with the hotel, including required tax exemption paperwork.***

- Hyatt: [SLSC25 Rooming List – Hyatt](#)
  - Complete the rooming list on the second tab
  - Select whether your school is tax exempt on the third tab
  - Submit to Alyssa at [alyssa.stern@hyatt.com](mailto:alyssa.stern@hyatt.com) by March 17
- Doubletree: [SLSC25 Rooming List – DOUBLETREE](#)
  - Complete the rooming list
  - Submit to Karen at [KPadgett@doubletreejax.com](mailto:KPadgett@doubletreejax.com) by March 17
  - Or book online:  
<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=JAXJRDT&groupCode=CDTSKL&arrivaldate=2025-04-28&departuredate=2025-05-01&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>



# HOTEL AND LOGISTICS

## COMMUTERS

- Schools located in close proximity who do not stay at the hotel are subject to a Commuter Fee of \$25 per person.
- Invoices for commuter fees will be sent by March 20, once hotel reservations are confirmed, and payment is due no later than onsite check in.
- Commuters must attend onsite check in on Monday, April 28 to receive registration materials for their school.
- Commuter students must be supervised by the school and must arrive on time to competitions. Commuter students are not provided exceptions for late arrivals due to traffic or other unforeseen circumstances.





# HOTEL AND LOGISTICS

## TRAVEL AGENTS

- If your school or district requires the use of the travel agent, provide the state office with contact information for the travel agent so we can work with them ensure you are registered properly.
- Travel agents may not book rooms outside of the official hotel block on behalf of a school and must follow the same processes and procedures for schools.
- Schools are also responsible for providing the travel agent with SkillsUSA Florida's contact information and the SLSC25 Conference Guide.



# PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

- Bus transportation is provided between hotels and all offsite venues
- Hyatt:
  - \$20 per vehicle (overnight guests)
  - \$10 per vehicle (non hotel guests, no overnight)
- Doubletree:
  - \$20 per vehicle (overnight guests)
  - May required purchase of parking at the Hyatt
- Buses and Oversized Vehicles:
  - \$100 per vehicle for April 28-May 1 (\$25 per day) at the Prime Osborn
  - Complete Oversized Vehicle Parking form by March 17:  
<https://form.jotform.com/213625465474056>
  - Includes rideshare voucher for two trips for bus driver
- All contest venues:
  - Ample free parking at all offsite locations



# FOOD AND MEALS

- Included for all registrants:
  - Lunch for contestants on contest day(s)
  - Lunch for advisors during Framework Luncheon and Business Meeting
  - Coffee and light snacks for advisors in Advisor Lounge
  - Dinner for all during Champions' Festival
- **Onsite purchase options:**
  - Hyatt: food truck style options (\$13-\$17)
  - Doubletree: discounted options at regular outlets
  - Prime Osborn: concessions stand
  - FSCJ: No onsite purchase options
  - Food delivery (i.e., DoorDash) available at all locations
- No outside food in hotel meeting/convention spaces



# ONSITE REGISTRATION

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- Packet Pickup – Monday, April 28 from 2 PM to 6 PM
- Check in at the Hyatt, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor skybridge between the hotel and the parking garage.
  - If you are not staying at the hotel, you can purchase a parking pass at the C.H.A.D. if needed.
- Check in at the front desk for hotel room keys.
  - Check with your hotel about early check in needs in advance (currently 3 PM)
- Only 1-2 advisors in this area, please.
- Bring completed [Code of Conduct](#) forms (signature required for under 18) and any outstanding payments.



# CONTEST PREPARATION

## TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND CONTEST UPDATES

- Available with professional membership. Contact Customer Care for help in accessing – 844-875-4557
- Changes to the Technical Standards are published as an update at [skillsusaf.org/slsc/updates](https://skillsusaf.org/slsc/updates). Not all contests will have an update.
- Students should be prepared with the skills outlined. The way skills are tested may vary; significant changes will be announced whenever possible.
- In most cases, the specific contest outline, stations, schedule, or scoring is not provided in advance.

## STATE GENERAL REGULATIONS

- General rules for all competitions, including teams, eligibility, substitutions, and more.
- <https://www.skillsusaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/State-General-Regulations-2024-2025.pdf>



# CONTEST LOCATIONS

## **FSCJ DOWNTOWN CAMPUS**

- Welding
- Welding Fabrication
- Internetworking
- Information Technology
- Auto Refinishing
- Collision Repair

## **FSCJ DEERWOOD CENTER**

- Video News Production

## **FSCJ BETTY P COOK NASSAU CENTER**

- Baking and Pastry Arts

# CONTEST LOCATIONS

## **PRIME OSBORN CONVENTION CENTER**

- All other construction
- All other transportation
- Culinary Arts
- Residential Commercial  
Appliance Technology

## **HYATT REGENCY**

- Everything else



**QUESTIONS?**



# UNIFORMS/ATTIRE

- Official SkillsUSA contest attire is the preferred attire for all events.
- **T-shirts will be provided to Construction, Manufacturing, and Transportation contestants** to wear with khaki, black, or navy work pants.
  - New official SkillsUSA uniforms roll-out
- Other uniform exceptions for state contests are outlined in the State General Regulations.
- For other exceptions, contact the state office.



# WRITTEN EXAMS

- ***NEW PROCESS FOR 2025***
- All contestants will complete the Professional Development Assessment online in advance of the conference. (JotForm)
- Penalties will be assessed for failure to complete the exam.
- Study guide is available on the Contest Updates page.
- PD test scores will be used as a tie-breaker.
- Advisors may request a copy of their school's scores after the conference.



# WRITTEN EXAMS

- **Testing Window:** April 7 at 8 AM to April 18 at 5 PM
- Exams must be proctored. Proctor instructions will be provided to registered schools.
- **Action Skills, Community Action Project, Employment Application:** Complete online PD test
- **Models:** Exempt from testing
- **Middle school students:** Complete PD test onsite
- Technical Knowledge Assessments will be administered onsite. Not all contests will have a technical assessment.



# ACCOMMODATIONS REQUESTS

- SkillsUSA FL is dedicated to providing an equitable experience for all members to the greatest extent possible.
- Request accommodations for special needs, dietary restrictions, or other related needs.
- Submit request by March 17, 2025. Request may be submitted by any attendee or their advisor.
  - <https://form.jotform.com/212435080058045>
  - Requests received after March 17 will be accepted on a case by case basis.



# ADVANCING TO NLSC

- Competitors must be verified by state office to advance
- 70% “cut score” to earn gold medal
  - If no student achieves the cut score, only silver medal will be awarded, and no student will advance to NLSC in that contest.
- All medalist scores are reviewed and verified prior to Closing Ceremony. If a gold medal is awarded, the student has qualified – even if the scorecard later shows less than 70% overall.
- Intent to Enter form due by the end of Closing Ceremony
- Mandatory meeting after Closing Ceremony
- Virtual NLSC25 Delegation Meeting – May 6 at 6 PM
- NLSC Registration Due: **May 9, 2025**



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# OPENING CEREMONY

- April 28, 7 PM to 9 PM
  - Venue doors open at 6 PM, theatre doors open at 6:30 PM.
- The Florida Theatre, 128 E Forsyth Street
- The theatre is expected to reach capacity this year! Arrive early (especially larger groups).
- No food or drink in the theatre.
- State level awards, entertainment, and last-minute updates
- Official attire not required – chapter t-shirts encouraged!



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# STATE AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Recognition during Opening Ceremony
  - Membership Increase Awards
  - Branding Design Contest Winner
  - Regional Leader Award
  - Submit nominations by February 28 for:
    - Advisor of the Year
    - Cornerstone Award (*admin*)
    - Distinguished Service Award (*business partners*)
    - Hall of Champions Award
    - Pillars of Success Award (*volunteers*)
    - Rookie Educator of the Year (*educator*)
    - Todd Mann Service Award (*students*)



# CLOSING CEREMONY

- Hyatt Regency Grand Ballroom
- Thursday, May 1 at 8:30 AM
- Doors open at 7:30 AM (no entry prior)
- Will be streamed live (free) for public viewing
- Medalists announced in three sections with two breaks:
  - State Officer installation
  - National Courtesy Corps Team announcement
- Plan to stay for the duration – medalists at the end deserve the same cheers as the medalists at the beginning!
- Closing Ceremony Ticket holders will use designated seating areas. Five minutes before the start of the show, seating will open for ticket holders to fill any available seats. Please avoid holding seats for parents and other supporters to ensure all of our students and teachers have prime access to the ceremony. No entry without name badge or ticket!!!! Prepurchase tickets are encouraged to avoid delayed entry.





# CLOSING CEREMONY

- Contests are announced in random order by division and medalist names projected onscreen
- Students proceed to the medalist corral, stage left.
  - Leave personal belongings at your seat
  - Official attire or contest attire is required to go onstage
- The group is escorted onstage and announced together
- Medalists will proceed outside the ballroom to the prize area to receive any prizes or Intent to Enter forms before returning to their seats.
  - Please be patient as we distribute prizes.
  - Prizes are not guaranteed for any competition.
  - Advisors, observers, parents, and other students are NOT permitted in the prize area at any time!
  - The step and repeat backdrop will remain in place for photos after the ceremony





**QUESTIONS?**

# LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## STATE OFFICER CANDIDATES

- Student leaders who develop their leadership, communication, and service orientation skills through a variety of opportunities and training during their year of service.
- Facilitation, advocacy, public speaking, competition and conference support, and many other roles
- Expenses are paid to SkillsUSA events
- Applications due by February 1 – [Review the Program Guide](#) or contact State Office Trainer Tyler Sahlin at [leadership@skillsusaf1.org](mailto:leadership@skillsusaf1.org) for more information.



# LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## DELEGATE SESSIONS

- Delegate representatives from each chapter elect a group of students to serve as State Officers and conduct official business of the organization. (Bylaw amendment)
- Schools receive allocation based on the number of members registered in the chapter.
- Tuesday and Wednesday, April 29-30, 3 PM, Hyatt Regency
- Delegates may also be contestants – be mindful of contest duration
- Additional professional development sessions and suggested activities – Parliamentary procedure
- [Delegate Information Sheet](#) – counts and schedule
- Delegate Passport
- Bylaw Amendment



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# LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## COURTESY CORPS

- Team responsible for the behind-the-scenes logistics and event management at the State Leadership and Skills Conference.
  - Deliver lunches, set up/ break down contest areas, assist with registration, manage medalists at Closing Ceremony, escort VIPs and other stakeholders, etc.
- \$50 registration per person (students AND advisors)
  - Includes meals while working, t-shirts, all-access conference pass, and all other conference benefits and activities
- Register and stay at hotel with own school
- Competition – students are evaluated at SLSC for a place on the National Courtesy Corps team, traveling to NLSC all expenses paid, accommodations at Georgia Tech University.
- Application due by March 3! All Courtesy Corps participants must complete the required application to participate.



# LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## GLAM SQUAD

- Cosmetology students who help get the State Officer team stage-ready for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.
  - Selected students will receive a small stipend at the conclusion of the event to offset the cost of materials
- Receive complimentary conference registration, dinner Monday, and breakfast Thursday.
  - Does not interfere with any competitions – contestants are encouraged to apply!
- Applications due by March 3 – must include photos showcasing their work
- <https://form.jotform.com/213633520145042>



# LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## SOCIAL MEDIA AMBASSADORS

- Student members who are responsible for posting and monitoring content on our social media channels during SLSC
- Receive training on responsible social media posting and brand standards, complimentary conference registration, dinner Monday, and breakfast on Thursday.
  - Does not interfere with competition – contestants are encouraged to apply!
- Applications due by March 3
- <https://form.jotform.com/213634493960158>



# CAREER READINESS ACTIVITIES

## CAREEREXPO

- Prime Osborn Convention Center
- Tuesday and Wednesday, April 29-30, 9 AM to 3 PM
- All business and industry partners
- Interactive exhibits to experience career opportunities
- Bus transportation provided between venues
- Expedition: SLSC – virtual scavenger hunt for students to engage with components of the conference, partner booths and other activities to collect points. Winners announced at Closing Ceremonies

## GIVE AND GROW COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Project to give back to the Jacksonville community
- Prime Osborn Convention Center
- 10 AM to 12 PM, Tuesday and Wednesday
- Sign up required – link coming soon!





# CAREER READINESS ACTIVITIES

## MEET THE EMPLOYER CAREER FAIR

- Newly redesigned networking event for college students and graduating high school students
- Students should arrive with resumes in professional attire – all clusters represented
- Tuesday, April 29, 5 PM to 8 PM

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR STUDENTS

- Sessions facilitated by current and past State Officers
- At least 3 sessions per day at various times – more info coming soon!



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# SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

## CHAMPIONS FESTIVAL

- Wednesday, April 30, 6 PM to 10 PM
- Coastline Drive and Hyatt River decks, Conference Center AB
- Food trucks (dinner included with conference registration)
- DJ
- Live art
- Photo booth
- Advisor social (and raffle!)
- Giant games, board games, friendship bracelet making/ trading
- Speed puzzling competition
- And more!



# ADVISOR EVENTS

## ADVISOR LOUNGE

- Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 AM to 4 PM
- Hyatt Regency AND Prime Osborn
- Coffee and light snacks, space to rest and recharge

## ADVISOR SOCIAL

- Champions Festival, Wednesday, April 30, 6-10 PM
- Dessert and coffee for advisors
- Raffle for live art piece
- Door prizes



# ADVISOR EVENTS

## FRAMEWORK LUNCHEON AND ADVISOR BUSINESS MEETING

- Wednesday, April 30, 12 PM to 2 PM at the Hyatt
- Lunch provided to all registered advisors
- Informational updates, keynote address, door prizes
- Discussion to move the Business Meeting to the fall each year.
- Advisor at Large election – advisor representatives to the Florida SkillsUSA Inc Board of Directors
  - Two seats on the ballot
  - Nominations in advance:  
<https://form.jotform.com/213636519031047>



# GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Advisors and competitors should be familiar with these guiding rules and regulations for state competitions
- Topics:
  - General Rules
  - Eligibility
  - Team Contests
  - Grievances and Contest Feedback
  - Contest Information
  - Clothing and Tools
  - Results, Awards, and Prizes
  - Observers



# INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT

- **EXPECTED BEHAVIOR**

- Act with integrity, respect, and self-awareness

- **UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

- Anything racist, sexist, derogatory, demeaning, or otherwise offensive speech, image, or action

- **REPORTING UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

- Notify any member of State Staff immediately
- Call/ Text/ Email/ otherwise notify State Director – 850-284-8534, [jgraber@skillsusaf.org](mailto:jgraber@skillsusaf.org)
- Online submission form - <https://form.jotform.com/223326176041044>

- **CONSEQUENCES**

- Penalties, disqualification, removal, permanent ban, legal action



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# OTHER REMINDERS

- Please check your email regularly – you will receive emails at least once a week from the State Office after registration closes.
- Contest Updates page – check regularly!
- The use of scooters (Lime, Bird, etc.) and water activities (swimming, boating, etc.) are expressly prohibited.
- Chapter advisors must register and attend with students. Students may not stay at the hotel without direct school supervision.
- Registration deadline is March 10. Invoices are final after that date.
- Payment is due by March 24. If you need an extension, contact me. Payment must be received by onsite check-in.





# QUESTIONS?

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