

Happy Thanksgiving from SkillsUSA South Carolina!

Important Deadlines and Dates

Deadlines

- January 31 - Pin and T-shirt Designs (MUST be paid student member)
- January 31 - SkillsUSA SC Officer Applications (MUST be paid student member)
- January 31 - Advisor of the Year Nominations (MUST be paid Professional member)
- March 1 - State and National SkillsUSA Memberships Due
- March 1 – Late Registration for SC Leadership and Skills Competitions

Important Dates

- February 1-28 - CTE Month
- February 2-8 - SkillsUSA Week
- February 4 - State and Local Leaders, State House Visit, Columbia (Registration required)
- February 14 - Last Day of Regular SLSC Registration Fee
- February 15 - SLSC Registration Late Fee Applies
- March 20 - Graphic Image Sublimation & Screen Printing, Midlands Tech, Airport Campus
- March 21 - Auto Body and Collision Repair, John Harris Collision Repair, Greer
- March 26-28 - SC Leadership and Skills Competitions, Greenville Convention Center, Greenville and several other venues in the Greenville area
- April 3 - Culinary Arts, Commercial Baking & Restaurant Services, Charleston Culinary Institute, Trident Technical College, North Charleston
- April 29 - Diesel Technology, South Carolina Fair Grounds, Columbia

Competition Update

Competition List

There have been some recent questions regarding the State Leadership and Skills Championships for this year. Competition categories are posted on the website. Please note that we anticipate a couple of new competitions this year.

Dates and Locations

We will be limited in space this year due to another event being held at the Greenville Convention Center therefore, the schedule for competitive events may be changed from previous years. We plan to have the draft agenda posted online by mid-January. There will be several competitions held on other dates during March and April. Additional details will be posted online as soon as they are available. What is currently known:

SkillsUSA Welcomes Chelle Travis as Executive Director

On Nov. 4, SkillsUSA welcomed Chelle Travis as its executive director.

She brings 17 years of leadership experience in career and technical education to this role, with a solid understanding and track record of implementing and elevating the mission and program of SkillsUSA.

Travis has collaborated with business and industry, educators, legislators and other leaders to design curricula, develop programs and draft legislation, having served the Tennessee Board of Regents as assistant vice chancellor for the Colleges of Applied Technology and as a state SkillsUSA director. She received an MBA and a bachelor's degree in business from Middle Tennessee State University.

"Chelle Travis, as the fourth-ever leader of SkillsUSA, embodies the dynamic and progressive leadership to expand on the organization's momentum as well as build on critical relationships with industry. Her history with the organization, capabilities as a systems leader, passion for the mission, and her vision for the future, all make her an excellent fit to lead us," says Jen Worth, SkillsUSA board president.

"I'm humbled and honored to serve as the next executive director of SkillsUSA," Travis says. "I have a passion for the mission of our organization, and I am committed to building on SkillsUSA's strong reputation to meet the needs of the future of work with the talents of our students, insights of our teachers, and requirements of our industry partners."

Travis will succeed Tim Lawrence, who has led SkillsUSA as the executive director for the past 19 years. "The board is immeasurably grateful for the service Tim provided over his career," Worth says. "His integrity, thoughtfulness and passion drove the organization to new heights."

Of Travis, Lawrence says, "She is a proven leader in our space who strongly believes in the mission of our work, and cares deeply about students, teachers and partners. She is a champion for career and technical education and a highly skilled workforce

Young Entrepreneurs Eligible for World Series of Innovation

World Series of Innovation is an online, project-based competition sponsored by the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship. Young innovators from across the globe ages 13-24 can enter the competition and compete for cash prizes.

Small teams will create business solutions that align with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Some teams compete independently, while others are affiliated with schools or programs like SkillsUSA. Students can compete on their own or in teams of two or three.

For the current sustainability-themed innovation challenges that close **Dec. 16**, and details on how to compete, visit: <https://innovation.nfte.com/>.

Nominations Open for Inaugural Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award

Nominations are now open for the inaugural Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award. This honor will recognize educators who are doing great work to prepare the next generation of cybersecurity professionals.

The award will be presented to two educators — one at the elementary level and one at the secondary level — who demonstrate superior achievement in instilling skills, knowledge and passion with respect to cybersecurity and cybersecurity-related subjects. Winners will receive a trip to Washington, D.C., as well as public recognition and other professional opportunities.

Nominations close **Jan. 31, 2020**. To apply, visit: www2.ed.gov/documents/presidential-cybersecurity-education-award.pdf.

Order Your SkillsUSA Week T-Shirt

Gear up for SkillsUSA Week 2020! SkillsUSA member Courtney Hand, a junior at Cumberland County Technical Education Center in Vineland, N.J., submitted the winning design that will be featured on the official SkillsUSA Week T-shirt.

The shirt will be available for purchase at the SkillsUSA Store beginning Nov. 15 for \$12 each (\$3 upcharge on sizes 2XL-4XL). Secure yours early at: SkillsUSAStore.Org/products/SkillsUSAWeekTee so you can roll into February prepared.

Did you know the SkillsUSA Store is on social? Connect with the SkillsUSA Store on Instagram by following @SkillsUSAStore for updates, giveaways and more. We're thankful for the support so far, and our first goal is to gain 500 followers by Thanksgiving. Spread the word and help us get there!

Seeking Talented Singers to Open Conference

SkillsUSA is seeking talented student or adult performers to sing the national anthem at the Opening Ceremony for the 2020 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. Audition videos can be submitted via: <https://skillsusa.wufoo.com/forms/national-anthem-auditions/> and must be the singing of the national anthem.

Auditions must be received by Feb. 3. SkillsUSA does not pay any travel expenses for the selected singer to attend the national conference.