



State Updates

January 2023

SkillsUSA Week

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CEP Applications

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State Leadership & Skills Conference (SLSC) Updates

REGISTRATION OPEN!!!

SkillsUSA Week

SkillsUSA Week this year is February 6 – 10, 2023. This is a great time to celebrate the work of your students and your SkillsUSA Chapter. It can also be a great time to rally your students, co-workers, industry, and your community around the opportunities afforded by Career & Technical Education and SkillsUSA. Each day has a recommended representation.

Monday → Recognition Day

Recognize and honor members, advisors, administrators, business partners, community leaders and supporters who make a meaningful impact on your CTE program and SkillsUSA Chapter.

Tuesday → Give Back Day

Rally around your school community by focusing on ways for your chapter to give back.

Wednesday → Partner Day

Invite local business and industry leaders to connect with members, highlighting the importance of developing career-readiness skills found in the SkillsUSA Framework.

Thursday → Advocacy Day

Amplify CTE in your community by conducting a local public relations activity such as presenting to school board members, administrators and community group leaders.

Friday → SkillsUSA Day

Celebrate SkillsUSA by wearing your favorite SkillsUSA T-shirt, planning a celebration activity or by posting your SkillsUSA Framework story on social media.

You can find a comprehensive guide to SkillsUSA Week, including activities and ideas [HERE!](#)

State House Visit

Annually, SkillsUSA South Carolina has visited the State House for a tour of the capital, meeting some state congressional members, and taking photos on the State House steps. It is also encouraged that students contact their local representatives and set up meetings at their on-site offices to meet and encourage them to support or continue supporting Career & Technical Education.

Due to COVID, the past few years have seen state officers only at this event, but this year, it is open to all members or potential members. Space is limited to 100 visitors, so the first 100 to sign up can attend. A waitlist will be created in case any school cancels coming. **Each school that signs up will be limited to 15 students and 5 advisors, not including current state officers or board members.** This trip is great for your student leaders, future student leaders, advisors, or any other student. Attire is Official SkillsUSA Attire (Class A) Professional Attire may be worn if Class A is not available.

We meet the morning of February 7, 2023 at the State house steps. We should be done with any state related activities by lunch. Schools are responsible for their own lunch. Any meetings they wish to have with representatives should be set up by the students and scheduled for after lunch. This visit has no fee associated to it.

While we had hoped to have a service event set up this year following our tour, we were unable to set this up at this time. If there are any changes, it will appear online.

Sign up using our google form [HERE](#). Remember, we are limited on space and this is first come first serve!!!

Any further details, agenda, number of spots left, etc. will be posted online [HERE](#). There will be major updates this coming week.



State Officer Applications

Applications for state officers are being accepted. Please visit our website for an application and more information [HERE](#).

State Officers represent SkillsUSA South Carolina throughout the upcoming school year. They get to help plan and execute at conferences and events, advocate for SkillsUSA, receive development opportunities, and more. They will be required to attend the 2023 State Leadership & Skills Conference, the 2023 National Leadership & Skills Conference, the Washington Leadership & Training Institute (Washington D.C.), state officer training, the 2024 State Leadership & Skills Conference, and more. This is a great opportunity for growth!

Application Deadline → February 15, 2023

Advisor of the Year Applications

Applications for Advisor of the Year are being accepted. Please visit our website for an application and more information [HERE](#).

Each year, we celebrate the work of an Advisor in our state. This can be someone who applies themselves or has someone nominate them for the award. This is a great way to show your support for a local advisor who exemplifies leadership, selfless service, and dedication to their program and students.

Advisor of the Year winners, if their chapter is also named a CEP Chapter of Distinction (level 2), is eligible for the Region 2 Advisor of the Year and beyond!

Application Deadline → February 15, 2023

Chapter Excellence Program Applications

The application portal for the Chapter Excellence Program (CEP) is open. There are 3 levels within the CEP: Level 1 (Quality Chapter), Level 2 (Chapter of Distinction), Level 3 (National Model of Excellence). Every chapter in our state, with just a little work, can become a Quality Chapter and be celebrated at the State Leadership & Skills Conference. Through projects and additional work, chapters can complete a Level 2 application and be scored based on their articulation of student growth within the SkillsUSA Framework. Those scoring at a Gold Level are then submitted to the national level to try and earn National Model of Excellence and be celebrated at the National Leadership & Skills Conference.

We would love for every chapter to reach one of these levels in the future! For more information, check out the national website [HERE](#) or our state tab [HERE](#).

Application Deadline → February 28, 2023

Important Dates Upcoming

SkillsUSA Week → Feb. 6-10, 2023

State House Visit → Feb. 7, 2023

State Officer & Advisor of the Year Application Deadlines → Feb. 15, 2023

***State Leadership & Skills Conference Registration Deadline → Feb. 15, 2023**

***State Leadership & Skills Conference Late Registration Period → Feb. 16-24, 2023**

CEP Application Deadline → Feb. 28, 2023

State Leadership & Skills Conference → March 16-18, 2023

***Conference Registration is OPEN!**

State Leadership & Skills Conference (SLSC) Updates

[Conference Webpage Link](#)

Conference Dates

March 16-18, 2023

Nearly all competitions will occur on March 17th and March 18th (am). TeamWorks will begin on March 16, 2023. Depending on the number of contestants in some competitions, they may occur on both the 17th and 18th with the potential for preliminary rounds. Plan to be in Greenville for the Opening Ceremonies on the 17th through the Closing Ceremonies on the 18th unless your competition is not close to Greenville, you have a state officer or state officer candidate, or you have students competing starting on the 16th.

Conference Location

The majority of competitions will occur at the Greenville Convention Center. Those occurring off campus, with the exception of a few, are still in the Greenville area. Locations are updated on the conference webpage as they are 100% confirmed. Some competitions have changed or are changing locations this year, so be sure to check the status of them.

Greenville Convention Center
1 Exposition Drive
Greenville, SC 29607

Contests

Our conference offers 99 contest options with nearly all of those being open to both High School and Post-Secondary/College level students. There are 14 contests open to Middle School, 4 contests specifically for those meeting ADA requirements, and 27 contests new to the state of South Carolina. There are also 22 contests that are non-program and non-career cluster specific, meaning any member can participate in them and some are team events where students can be from different programs. Our goal is to provide opportunities to students in all career clusters and give our student members every chance to find a contest that fits them. We have also increased the number of students allowed under a single advisor or chapter in most all competitions, once again, with the goal of providing opportunities to as many students as possible to showcase their skills.

A full list of contests and contest limits can be found on the conference webpage. We also have a new tab on the conference webpage that provides descriptions of all contests. It is highly recommended that ALL advisors read through these, as you can find multiple contests that you can enter students into.

Now that nearly all contests are open to Post-Secondary/College level, we encourage any advisors with former students still involved in CTE programs at the college level to reach out and inform them that they can continue their SkillsUSA journey and showcase their skills further.

If you have questions about contests or want help finding a contest that fits your student(s) please reach out to the state director for assistance. There is a contest for everyone.

Contest Updates

We once again have a contest updates page, which can be reached through the conference webpage. Updates to contests will begin showing this coming week and are updated on the same day that updates are known. It is important to check this frequently, especially the closer we get to competition.

Technical Standards

All technical standards are accessible through the conference webpage. They have a new look to them, but most are unchanged from previous years. Any alterations to these standards will be provided on the Contest Updates page or elsewhere on the conference webpage.

Testing & Resumes

This year, our state is following suit with nationals as it pertains to testing. All contests, unless otherwise noted online, will take their written tests (both contest related and professional development / SkillsUSA assessment) online using a portal. Information regarding this process, access, links, etc. will be provided through the “Testing, Resumes, & Forms” tab on the conference website and by email. It is extremely important that advisors use a student’s PERSONAL email when registering them for the conference. Most school servers will block outside emails, which can cause a student to lose points from not completing their test.

The contest testing window is from March 2-10, 2023.

Resumes will be submitted for ALL competitions (unless noted otherwise on the “Testing, Resumes, & Forms” tab) online, similar to last year. Some competitions will require a hard copy for certain reasons, but those will be listed online in the contest updates tab and/or the “Testing, Resumes, & Forms” tab.

Resumes will be due by March 10, 2023.

Registration

Registration is OPEN!

Directions for registering are located through a tab on the conference webpage. Please ensure you use the student's PERSONAL email address when registering.

Some competitions have limits on how many competitors can enter total for the contest. This is a first come, first serve bases based off of initial registration (not based on those that have clicked the "submit registration" for their school/chapter yet. If you have a student that wishes to compete, but the competition fills up, contact the state director to discuss a wait list option or other contests that may fit the student.

Review all contest options for students prior to clicking the "submit registration" for your school/chapter. There are so many opportunities for students to compete from all programs. For those that usually only register upperclassmen, other competitions are a great way to involve underclassmen and give them an opportunity to experience the state conference and potentially the national conference, setting them up for further success in following years.

Registration types are listed within the registration directions provided on the conference webpage.

Parents and the General Public may attend the conference as well and are encouraged to do so, especially the closing ceremonies on March 18th. If the parent is not a chaperone, they can come on the day of for entry. Free entry for the general public and parents are provided on the day of, but they do not get any special access, shirt, pin, or other items that registered guests receive.

Advisors, students, and other chaperones must be registered for the conference.

Additional Information

There are other exciting pieces of news about the conference that will be posted under the Experiences & Techspo tab on the conference webpage soon. This will include a list of vendors, speakers, and other areas or events.