

## >>> Save the Date: SkillsUSA National Signing Day!

SkillsUSA National Signing Day in May is when SkillsUSA chapters across the nation give skilled professionals the spotlight they deserve. On Signing Day (whether that is on May 6 or another date of your chapter's choosing), students will be recognized by their school administrators, teachers, elected officials, alumni, family and friends for signing letters of intent to pursue careers or further education in the skilled trades. Look for more information soon on how to register and gain access to our Signing Day toolkit, special offers and more. In the meantime, learn more about



SkillsUSA Signing Day and see how chapters celebrated last year. Let's get ready for an even bigger celebration this May. Signing Day is a wonderful celebratory event that recognizes students as they complete the school year and transition to employment or further education.

## >>> Register by March 1 to Meet Eligibility Requirements

The national SkillsUSA membership deadline is **March 1**. Student members must meet both their state deadline and the March 1 national membership deadline to be eligible for national competitions; to serve as voting delegates; to run for national office; or to apply for national scholarships, awards and honors. See the <u>state dues and deadlines</u>. Teachers, learn how to access your professional membership benefits in this <u>video tutorial</u>.

# >>> ACTE Offers 20% Discount for CTE Learn in February

In honor of Career and Technical Month, the Association for Career & Technical Education (ACTE) is offering 20% off for subscription key purchases for their CTE Learn virtual professional development resources in February. Use VIP code CTEMONTH to access this limited time offer. For questions, contact ACTE.

# >>> February and March Professional Development for Instructors

SkillsUSA is offering free virtual <u>Professional Development Training Sessions</u> in February and March. Check out the <u>Professional Development page</u> on our website where you'll find training topics plus our featured Activity of the Month. Don't miss out on these resources to enhance your chapter's programming! Class size is limited, so be sure to register to secure your place. Participants will earn a Professional Development (PD) certificate. For questions, contact <u>Karolina Belen</u>.

### >>> Register for ACTE's Annual Work-Based Learning Conference

Mark your calendar for **April 2–4** for the ACTE Work-Based Learning (WBL) Conference 2025 at the Hyatt Bellevue on Seattle's Eastside in Bellevue, Washington. The conference will feature professional development tailored for WBL professionals. The keynote will be Christopher R. Nesmith, Superintendent of Elma School District. Nesmith has been honored for his innovative contributions to education and career pathways. <u>Learn more and register here</u>. Key topics will include:

- Partnership engagement and relationship management
- Equitable access to WBL opportunities
- Compliance with insurance and workers' compensation-related laws and regulations
- Internships, job shadows and apprenticeships
- New and innovative WBL initiatives
- WBL advocacy and learning how to market and grow your program

### >>> Take Up the Challenge! NLSC Pin and T-shirt Design

SkillsUSA is offering the 2025 National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) Pin and T-shirt Design Challenge to all dues-paying student members. The winning designs will become the official conference T-shirt and pin design for the 2025 NLSC. Entries must be received by **March 1 at midnight ET**, and winners will be announced on March 7. Rules and submission links can be found on the SkillsUSA Website.

#### >>> Presidential Honors for Selfless Service

At the 2025 National Leadership & Skills Conference (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, you may have already met the requirements. For details on how to apply, visit the website. Applications are due by March 31 for recognition at the 2025 NLSC.

# >>> Hershey Heartwarming Young Heroes Grants Available

In partnership with The Hershey Company and Hershey's Heartwarming Project, Youth Service America (YSA) is looking for the best ideas from young people about how to support their community through acts of awareness, direct service, advocacy and philanthropy for Youth Service Month & Global Youth Service Day 2024. Hershey Heartwarming Young Heroes Grants of \$250 and \$500 will be awarded to young people between the ages of 5 and 25 in the U.S. and Canada to turn their ideas into action! Learn more about the program and share your idea by March 16.

# >>> Make48 Innovation Challenge

SkillsUSA is collaborating with Make48 to bring hands-on innovation challenges to more students in the 2025-26 school year. Beginning in August, teams of students will compete to innovate and prototype a new product during the fall semester. See their flyer and share it with your students. Registrations will be accepted until the brackets are full. To learn more, visit <a href="www.make48.com/curriculum">www.make48.com/curriculum</a>.