

>>> Members-Only Benefits

Be sure to register all of your eligible students and advisors as official SkillsUSA members. SkillsUSA scholarships open in January to members who want to further their education, and competitions will be underway at all levels. SkillsUSA also offers instructor professional development, chapter grants, NLSC travel scholarships and many other opportunities throughout the year. However, you must be an official registered member to benefit from these programs. Once registered, professional members will receive all communications and can access a variety of digital classroom resources



<u>and benefits</u> including the Framework Integration Toolkit, Program of Work Toolkit, "Jump into STEM!," SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards and more. Visit the <u>registration site</u> and <u>check for your state</u>'s dues and deadlines.

>>> SkillsUSA Technical Assessments Are Available!

Prepare students for a brighter future with SkillsUSA technical assessments! These assessments provide a reliable way to evaluate students' knowledge and skills in specific trades and subject areas. With a detailed blueprint of standards, competencies and academic skills for each assessment, educators can measure student proficiency across diverse areas such as Carpentry, Welding, Criminal Justice, Graphic Design and more. Available at \$12 per student for SkillsUSA members and \$22 for non-members, they are an affordable tool for assessing industry readiness. Learn more about assessment details, blueprints, cut scores and teacher resources on the SkillsUSA Career Essentials Suite website. For orders or inquiries, contact SkillsUSA's Customer Care Team at 844-875-4557 or by <a href="emailto:emailt

>>> SkillsUSA Store Gift Ideas

'Tis the season for giving! Get into the holiday spirit with SkillsUSA Store's Holiday Gift Ideas. This curated collection has something for everyone from sleek and stylish drinkware and innovative technology to stunning jewelry. With lots of options and quick shipping, you can check off advisors, student leaders and supporters on your gift list and gift it right every time!



>>> Members on the Street Episodes 1 and 2

The 2024-2025 national officer team formed a new Community Engagement Committee. As one of their first projects, they collaborated with the Office of Marketing and Communications and Dr. Ricardo Romanillos, our Chief Diversity Officer, to develop an exciting new initiative called "Members on the Street."

In Episode #1 on You Tube, and in Episode #2, also on You Tube, the officers interviewed other students at the Washington Leadership Training Institute to share the diverse backgrounds, experiences and talents of our SkillsUSA members, while also spotlighting the wide range of opportunities available within the organization. Click on CC to enable closed captioning.

>>> Honorary Life and Outstanding Career and Technical Educator Nominations Open

If you would like to nominate someone for recognition by SkillsUSA as an <u>Honorary Life</u> or <u>Outstanding Educator</u>, please complete the online applications. Be sure to notify those you nominate and provide all of the information that is requested. Learn more about these awards and eligibility by visiting the <u>Awards</u> <u>Programs page</u> on the SkillsUSA website. The deadline is **Feb. 14.** For questions, contact <u>Madison Kraemer</u>.

>>> Free Career Essentials for State Officers and National Officer Candidates

All SkillsUSA state officers and potential national officer candidates are invited to participate in the online SkillsUSA Career Essentials course this 2024-25 academic year. Successful completion of either the advanced or adult learner course culminates in earning the industry-validated SkillsUSA Career Essentials Credential.

- The Career Essentials course will be led under the instruction of the SkillsUSA national office.
- The course fee is waived for all participating students.
- View the spring syllabus here.

Spring term Career Essentials Cohort registration is open through **Jan. 24**. The online course kick-off and orientation will be held on Jan. 29.

>>> SkillsUSA College/Postsecondary Scholarships

Many students are thinking ahead to the cost of college and SkillsUSA offers exclusive scholarship opportunities for members pursuing postsecondary education. Registered SkillsUSA members with upcoming tuition expenses for the Fall 2025 academic term (or the term following high school graduation) can apply for scholarships provided by SkillsUSA and our industry partners.

This year, SkillsUSA is partnering with Kaleidoscope to provide a streamlined and user-friendly application platform. Students are encouraged to explore the <u>SkillsUSA Scholarships webpage</u> now to view available opportunities. For specific scholarship questions or assistance in connecting students with scholarship resources, reach out to <u>Jordan Sewell</u>.

>>> Youth Leadership for Service-Learning Excellence Award

The National Youth Leadership Council Youth Leadership for Service-Learning Excellence Award recognizes K-12 service-learning programs and projects that demonstrate outstanding youth leadership with a focus on high-quality service-learning and having a sustainable impact on the participants and the broader community. Youth teams representing K-12 in which the service-learning is tied to the school curricula may apply.

The winners will receive \$1,000 to support their program And each youth involved in the winning project will receive an award certificate. Apply or nominate a candidate no later than **Jan. 15, 2025**. Award winners are provided free travel, lodging, and registration to attend The National Service-Learning Conference! Apply or nominate here.

Share Your Success with SkillsUSA

The <u>SkillsUSA Champions digital hub</u> provides new content frequently, from inspiring features to stories about the great work chapters and partners are doing. If your students need inspiration for new chapter activities, the online magazine is a great resource for your officer team. To submit a story idea, send us the details through our <u>"Submit a Story"</u> link.