**Dress Standards**

Men are to wear solid color slacks or dockers, and the SkillsUSA polo or other collared, solid color shirt, tucked in with black or brown shoes or a work boot type of shoe in black or brown.

Ladies are to wear a solid color sleeved top (long or short, caps), a solid color skirt or slacks, dress flats or heels.

**Contestant Conduct**

Contestants are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times during the competition. Failure to do so may lead to immediate expulsion from the contest or point deductions.

Contestants are expected to capture their own images for all presentations. During the competition, help from other contestants, advisors or other individuals is unacceptable and will lead to immediate expulsion from the contest.

Contestants are expected to adhere to the schedule and not keep judges or other contestants waiting.

Cell phones and other electronic devices are not allowed at any time during the competition. Even a glance at one of these could be cause for disqualification. This includes during the field assignment.

After the contest begins, contestants are not allowed to communicate with their fellow contestants, advisors, or any observers that may be present.

Any racist, inappropriate, or sexual comments towards anyone will result in immediate removal of competition.

Be sure to bring proper ID.

All concerns shall be addressed to Mr. Dave Mettie (dave@mettie.net), Lead Judge.
SCAPE OF THE CONTEST:

The contest is defined by industry standards and divided into multiple parts. Not necessarily in the following order.

Written Exam: Demonstrate an overall photographic knowledge through multiple-choice questions.
Job Interview: To assess job preparedness.
Troubleshooting: Demonstrate an ability to recognize in an onscreen image, some common problems in the capture, manipulation and printing of digital images.

Skill Performance:

The contest will include the following series of hands-on performance activities assessing overall photographic mechanics, techniques and esthetic judgement:

Display Print

Each student will submit two photographs to be judged and displayed at the competition. These prints may not, in any other year, have been previously submitted to the state Skills contest.
Requirements for prints are as follows:
a. Print size MUST* be an 11x14.
b. All prints MUST* be mounted to a 16x20 BLACK FOAM CORE board with a 16x20 BLACK over matt.
c. Total thickness of the finished piece may be no thinner than 1/8” and no thicker than 1/2”
d. All prints must have a label placed on the back upper middle portion* that includes:
   1. Maker’s name
   2. Instructor’s name
   3. School name and address
   4. High school or college designation
   5. Maker’s cell phone

* This position will be used to indicate the top of the image for correct placement when judged.

Prints will be judged using the Professional Photographers of America guidelines

Note: Specific instructions for the following will be announced during, the competition.

Photo Challenge - Display the knowledge of the relationship between camera settings and results. Challenge may include shutter speed, depth-of-field, flash, etc.

Studio Assignment - Apply the knowledge and skill needed to create a standard studio portrait or commercial still life. Using studio electronic flash and flash meter.

Field Assignment - When given a theme, apply the knowledge and skill needed to complete a photographic field assignment, produce a contact sheet, demonstrate the ability to follow guidelines and theme while using the rules of art and design.

Conceptual Design - Students will use Adobe Photoshop to combine a minimum of three images from their field assignment to produce a creative conceptual piece of art.

Digital Editing - Demonstrate the ability to use a variety of manipulative tools in Adobe Photoshop to correct common color and imaging problems in digital photographs and to combine images into one body of work while demonstrating the ability to follow guidelines and theme for judging.
Equipment Required:
Digital camera with adjustable apertures and shutter speeds
Tripod
Enough battery power to last a few hours
Empty memory card (min. 8GB recommended)
Empty thumb drive (with small blank label for your contestant # only) to transfer images to the judges.
Any necessary cables to transfer images from the camera to a computer.
Two mounted prints for Print Competition (specs as below)
Resumé to be submitted with prints at the Thursday evening orientation. **10 points will be deducted if resumé not provided.**

Optional Equipment:
Computer (laptops OK) loaded with Adobe Photoshop (version 7 or higher)
Pen and tablet
Hand-held light meter
Flash Meter

Prints:
(These prints must not, in any other year, have been previously submitted to the state Skills contest.)

1. Each student will submit two photographs to be judged and displayed at the competition. Requirements for prints are as follows:
   a. Print size **MUST** be an 11x14.
   b. All prints **MUST** be mounted to a 16x20 BLACK foam core board (1/4” pref) with a 16x20 BLACK over matt.
   c. Total thickness of the finished piece may be no thinner than 1/8” and no thicker than 1/2”
   d. All prints must have a label placed on the back **top middle** portion that includes:
      1. Maker’s name
      2. Instructor’s name
      3. School name and address
      4. High school or college designation
      5. Maker’s cell phone
      *Label placement to determine orientation for judging.*

2. These prints must be submitted on or before the evening of the orientation.

3. Following the Thursday night judging, the prints will hang on display in the halls of the convention center.

* Required by the national technical standards committee.