

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER



PURPOSE

To evaluate local chapter activities that benefit the student members, the school and the community. The outstanding chapters chosen each year serve as an example of the enthusiasm and careful planning necessary to keep chapters active and to involve as many members in activities as possible.

First, download and review the General Regulations at: <http://updates.skillsusa.org>.

ELIGIBILITY (TEAM OF 3)

All state first-place winners may be entered in national competition.

Deadline

The Outstanding Chapter entry will be brought to the contestant orientation meeting. A card with the name of the state, school and interview student must be taped on the inside of the cover of the notebook.

Exhibit of Entries

Outstanding Chapter entries will be displayed following the judging. Observers will be allowed to view them at designated times during the conference.

Pickup of Entries

Outstanding Chapter entries will be picked up at the contest debriefing meeting by the student(s) or advisor. Entries will not be released to an unauthorized person.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

Class A: SkillsUSA Attire:

- Red SkillsUSA blazer, windbreaker or sweater, or black or red SkillsUSA jacket
- Button-up, collared, white dress shirt (accompanied by a plain, solid black tie), white blouse (collarless or small-collared) or white turtleneck, with any collar not to

extend into the lapel area or the blazer, sweater, windbreaker or jacket

- Black dress slacks (accompanied by black dress socks or black or skin-tone seamless hose) or black dress skirt (knee-length, accompanied by black or skin-tone seamless hose)
- Black dress shoes

These regulations refer to clothing items that are pictured and described at:

www.skillsusastore.org. If you have questions about clothing or other logo items, call 1-888-501-2183.

Note: Contestants must wear their official contest clothing to the contest orientation meeting.

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

All competitors must create a one-page résumé and submit a hard copy to the technical committee chair at orientation. Failure to do so will result in a 10-point penalty.

Note: Your contest may also require a hard copy of your résumé as part of the actual contest. Check the Contest Guidelines and/or the updates page on the SkillsUSA website at: <http://updates.skillsusa.org>.

SCOPE OF THE CONTEST

Knowledge Performance

There is no written knowledge test required for this contest.

Skill Performance

The contest assesses a chapter's ability to effectively plan, organize, implement and record activities related to its annual program of work.

Contest Guidelines

The chapter will organize the year's activities and record them in an official SkillsUSA book with a completed secretary's and treasurer's notebook available from the SkillsUSA Store.

1. Awards will be presented in two categories:
 - a. High-school division will recognize a first-, second- and third-place winner.

- b. College/postsecondary division will recognize a first-, second- and third-place winner.
- 2. The Outstanding Chapter entry will:
 - a. Contain verification, proof or evidence of the activities claimed and the date they were accomplished.
 - b. Be in an official SkillsUSA book from the SkillsUSA Store.

Note: Different pages may be substituted for pages supplied in the official SkillsUSA book or the pages may be covered; however, both front and back covers must be used without alteration.

Penalty: Ten points will be deducted for alteration to either cover.

- c. Number of pages allowed: no more than 75 sheets of paper the size of the official SkillsUSA book paper. Both surfaces of the 75 sheets may be filled for a maximum of 150 surfaces.

Penalty: Five points per surface (10 points per sheet of paper) will be deducted for exceeding these maximums.

Note: A surface is only that material which can be pasted or glued to the basic book paper. Any pockets, fold-out pages, multiple pages or similar features will count as additional surfaces and will be subject to penalty, except where specifically stated otherwise. Pages may be plasticized without affecting the scores.

Note: Any entry omitting an item listed under Scope of the Contest, Parts 1–3, will be automatically disqualified.

- 3. The book must be organized by activity in the same sequence as the rating sheet. Penalty: Ten points will be deducted for each activity that is out of sequence. Points may be claimed only for chapter activities that were accomplished during the year in which the entry is made, except as noted. Summer activities may be included, but a chapter may not claim points for activities that were a result of the previous year's chapter.

- 4. Points used in one section may not be claimed in another section. For example, social meetings may not be counted as both social and professional meetings. However, articles describing chapter activities may still receive publicity credit under Publicity.
- 5. Points will be awarded based on verification and/or documentation of activities described in the following order:
 - a. The first surface of the book will be a title page.
 - b. The table of contents may be on the back surface of the title page or the front of Page 2 (third surface) with page numbers included.
 - c. All surfaces will be numbered.

Elements and Criteria for Judging

Part 1: School-Related Chapter Activities

- A. Chapter Membership
 - 1. 25 points will be awarded for the chapter holding at least one chapter recruitment activity.
 - 2. A written description must be presented to include the following:
 - a. Evidence the event was planned by a committee
 - b. A description of how the activity was conducted
 - c. Number of members participating
 - d. Date, time and place of activity
 - 3. A minimum of one photograph for the activity must be included.
 - 4. Verification: An official letter from the local school administrator verifying enrollment and actual SkillsUSA membership must be submitted in this section of the book. (Note: Where schools participate in the Total Participation Plan or Campus Affiliation Plan, the school administrator must clearly state in the verification letter the actual number of CTE students enrolled and the actual number of active SkillsUSA members.)
 - 5. Copies of an official listing of members from the SkillsUSA Registration website must be placed in the secretary's notebook.

6. If items 3 or 4 are not present, no points will be awarded for this section.

B. Official SkillsUSA Equipment

1. Twenty points will be awarded for having the following official SkillsUSA equipment in the classroom:
 - a. Banner
 - b. SkillsUSA Secretary's notebook
 - c. Ceremonial emblem
 - d. Gavel
 - e. U.S. flag
 - f. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised
 - g. Creed
 - h. Charter

Verification: One photo clearly showing these items must be submitted. The photo must be taken in such a way that all writing can be read on the items displayed.

C. SkillsUSA Program of Work (Secondary)

1. Describe the methods or procedure used to determine the local SkillsUSA program of activities for the year. A minimum of five committees must be established. The description must indicate a minimum of the following items:
 - a. List each committee and the names of members
 - b. Provide the date, time and a list of attendees for all committee meetings
 - c. Copies of the minutes of all committee meetings must be placed in the secretary's book. In the book, reference the page in the secretary's book where each committee meeting is located
2. Consider the following committees:
 - a. Professional Development
 - b. Ways and Means (budget)
 - c. Community Service
 - d. Local SkillsUSA Championships
 - e. Employment
 - f. Public Relations
 - g. Social
3. Points will be awarded based on a written description of the chapter's

program activities, which must include the following for each activity:

- a. Provide written evidence the committee met for planning purposes
- b. Describe each committee's responsibilities
- c. Describe how the planning for each committee function was carried out

Note: The total description of the chapter's program of activities should be no more than three pages in length and will count as only one surface.

D. SkillsUSA Program of Work (Post-Secondary)

1. Describe the methods or procedure used to determine the local SkillsUSA program of activities for the year. A minimum of two committees must be established. The description must indicate a minimum of the following items:
 - a. List each committee and the names of members
 - b. Provide the date, time and a list of attendees for all committee meetings
 - c. Copies of the minutes of all committee meetings must be placed in the secretary's book. In the book, reference the page in the secretary's book where each committee meeting is located
2. Consider the following committees:
 - a. Leadership Development
 - b. Community Service
 - c. Local SkillsUSA Championships
 - d. Employment
 - e. Public Relations
3. Points will be awarded based on a written description of the chapter's program activities, which must include the following for each activity:
 - a. Provide written evidence the committee met for planning purposes
 - b. Describe each committee's responsibilities

- c. Describe how the planning for each committee function was carried out

Note: The total description of the chapter's program of activities should be no more than three pages in length and will count as only one surface.

E. Leadership Training for Officers and Members

1. Describe how chapter officers were prepared to conduct chapter meetings and provide leadership for the chapter.
2. Describe how chapter members were taught to effectively use parliamentary procedure in conducting their business meetings. This description should include classroom type procedures taught by chapter advisors in addition to any workshops attended by members for learning parliamentary procedure.
3. Describe your installation of chapter officers. Points will be awarded for a written description of activities, which must include:
 - a. Evidence of planning (Describe how the installation ceremony was planned.)
 - b. Schedule of activities (Where did the installation ceremony take place? Who participated in the installation process? How many members were in attendance?)
 - c. Method of implementation (Provide a description of how the ceremony was conducted. The description must include reference to the installation ceremony as found in the SkillsUSA Leadership Handbook.)

F. Chapter Meetings

1. The chapter must hold a minimum of 6 meetings between the months of July 1 and June 1st of the current school year. No meetings relative to activities conducted the previous year may be counted.
2. Credit will be given for one meeting per month (two or more meetings in the same month will count only as one monthly meeting).

3. A minimum of three meetings must include one or more of the following: a guest speaker, field trip, leadership development or professional development activities. A written report of each meeting must be provided. The report shall include the planning for each meeting, how the planning was carried out, and number of members participating in each meeting. Reference should be made in this section to the page number of the minutes of each meeting in the secretary's notebook.

G. SkillsUSA Framework

1. The SkillsUSA Framework illustrates how students fulfill the mission of the organization "to empower members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens."
2. The chapter must conduct at least one activity within each of the three framework components: Personal Skills, Workplace Skills, Technical Skills Grounded in Academics
3. A written description must be presented to include the following:
 - a. Objective of the activity
 - b. Evidence the event was planned by a committee
 - c. A description of how the activity was conducted
 - d. Number of members participating
 - e. Date, time and place of activity
4. A minimum of one photograph for each activity must be included.

H. SkillsUSA Publicity

1. Zero to 20 points will be given for each public relations activity of the local chapter designed to promote SkillsUSA membership, class enrollment, career and technical education, or community awareness of SkillsUSA. SkillsUSA must be mentioned in the publicity article or credit will not be given.
2. At least three activities must have been publicized. This can include newspaper or online media. Original copies of newspaper must be submitted — no photocopies. Newspaper articles must have the date within the article, or a letter of verification from the editor

must be submitted. If online media, the article or screenshot must be printed with a link to the article and date printed on the header or footer of the page. TV and radio media are acceptable. A picture showing SkillsUSA members performing the activity along with a description of the activity must be included. A signed letter from the media station stating the name of the show, date and topics discussed must also be included.

- a. News articles from newspapers are accepted.
 - b. Online media will include official school, county and SkillsUSA chapter websites.
 - c. Online media will include official newspaper, radio station or TV websites.
 - d. Online media will include official school, county or SkillsUSA chapter Facebook accounts.
 - e. All articles must include a photo of the activity.
 - f. Online media such as blogs, Twitter, Instagram or other social media sites will not be accepted.
3. At least three or more members must be involved in each activity. Names must be listed in the description.
 4. A description of each activity must be written. The description will include the following:
 - a. Objective of the activity
 - b. Evidence that the activity was planned by a committee
 - c. Description of how the activity was conducted
 - d. Number of members who participated in each activity

I. Awards and Recognition Program

1. The awards and recognition program should be designed to recognize the contributions of program advisory committee members, chapter members, SkillsUSA chapter achievements, employer or advisory committee banquets, assembly programs for recognition or special occasions (must be related to accomplishments of the SkillsUSA chapter or members).

2. Credit will be given for only one program.
3. A written description of the activity must be presented. Points will be awarded as follows:
 - a. Indicate the objective of the activity
 - b. Provide evidence that a committee planned the activity
 - c. Describe how the activity was conducted
 - d. List in the description the number of members participating
4. A minimum of one photograph must be submitted.

J. Local SkillsUSA Championships

1. Points are based on 20 points for each of five SkillsUSA Championships contests conducted on the local level in which the chapter members participated. Credit will be given only for those contests of leadership or occupational preparation offered in the SkillsUSA Technical Standards. At least one of the five contests must involve occupational skills.
2. Points will be awarded for:
 - a. Evidence that a committee planned the local event
 - b. A written description of each contest to include date, time and location of contest; names of contest technical committees; names of judges for each event; and names of contestants in each contest

Verification: The local school administrator must sign a statement verifying that the local SkillsUSA Championships events were held. Pictures of each contest must be submitted. (The photographs must show the contestant[s], judges and contest area.)

K. SkillsUSA Career Essentials

1. Two points will be awarded for each member that completes the SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Foundations Curriculum and Resources, up to the maximum amount of points.

Verification: Letter from the school's administration verifying that the student has completed the SkillsUSA Career Essentials Foundations: Curriculum and Resources.

Part 2: Community Activities

These activities should benefit the community. (Examples: project to help a needy family, cleanup or painting campaign, health promotion activity, safety program, blood drive, project to assist special populations, voter registration drive.) Pictures must show some SkillsUSA members in SkillsUSA official attire while participating in the event.

- A. Credit will be given for three activities (70 points each).
- B. Points will be awarded by writing a description of each activity to include the following:
 1. Objective of the activity
 2. Evidence the activity was planned by a committee
 3. Written description as to how the activity was conducted
 4. Names of all participants in the activity
 5. List of place, time and date for each activity
 6. Evidence of students dressed in SkillsUSA official attire
- C. A list of community activities included in the previous year's Outstanding Chapter contest must be submitted. No credit will be given during the current year for any activity that occurred in the previous year. There must be a one-year absence before any activity is repeated.
- D. A minimum of one photograph for each activity must be submitted. The photograph must show students involved in the activity as it took place.

Part 3: Business and Industry Relations

In this section, the chapter must include a written description of at least two business and industry related activities (70 points each). A list of suggested activities may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Business and industry tour
- Business and industry shadowing program
- Business and industry work-based (co-op) program
- Service learning activity/community service activity
- Partners in progress
- Job fair

A detailed description of each activity must be included. The description should indicate how the chapter and the business community work together for the benefit of the students enrolled in the SkillsUSA chapter. The following information must be included in the description:

- A. Name of the committee and committee members who planned the activity (reference to the page number in the secretary's minutes for the committee meeting minutes)
- B. How the activity was carried out
 1. List the names of all participants in the activity
 2. List the date of the activity and a description of the day's events
 3. Describe the benefit received by participants
 4. Describe the benefit to the host business/industry

A minimum of one photo for each activity showing students involved must be presented. This activity should include an opportunity for all chapter members to be involved. Photos must show some SkillsUSA members in SkillsUSA official attire while participating in the event. The local business/industry must provide a letter of verification for the activity. Only one event per business/industry is allowed. The second event must be conducted with another business/industry.

Part 4: General Appearance and Overall Layout

Points will be awarded on the basis of the overall quality of the Outstanding Chapter entry. The uniformity of presentation, neatness, clarity of material, quality of pictures and printed material will be considered.

Part 5: Secretary/Treasurer Notebook

Thirty-Five points will be awarded for the Secretary's/Treasurer's notebook based on:

- A. Membership and attendance rosters
- B. Chapter yearly calendar of activities
- C. Names of committee members and complete minutes of all committees
- D. Minutes of all business and professional Meetings
- E. Each meeting minutes should also include:
 1. Monthly income record
 2. Monthly expense record
- F. Names of local and state officers and national presidents
- G. Local, state and national constitutions.
- H. Projected budget
- I. Dues payment record for local, state and national dues
- J. Year beginning and ending balance

Note: The secretary's/treasurer's notebook is one notebook that must contain the above requirements.

Part 6: Student Interview

Each team will be interviewed. All three team members must be present during the interview. Students will have an opportunity to explain how they approached various activities and how the Outstanding Chapter project benefited their class and/or school. The interview will be used to help verify points awarded by the judges and to answer any questions they may have.

Standards and Competencies

OUT 1.0 — Plan and conduct meaningful and effective activities related to SkillsUSA program of work

- 1.1 List components of SkillsUSA program of work
- 1.2 Identify chapter activities to meet expectations of program of work
- 1.3 Design and plan activities
- 1.4 Conduct activities
- 1.5 Record and publicize activities
- 1.6 Evaluate success of activities for future planning

OUT 2.0 — Communicate the activities of a SkillsUSA chapter effectively in a book in the sequence provided by the technical committee's rating sheet

- 2.1 Identify appropriate activities to meet each of the required items in contest guidelines
- 2.2 Design visual and written components to communicate identified activities
- 2.3 Show participation in chapter standards
- 2.4 Provide verification, proof or evidence of the activities claimed and the date they were accomplished
- 2.5 Design a book with no more than 75 pages or 150 surfaces following contest guidelines

OUT 3.0 — Describe activities and respond to inquiries about activities in an interview setting

- 3.1 Introduce self professionally
- 3.2 Display good posture and appropriate dress and grooming
- 3.3 Demonstrate knowledge of book and chapter activities
- 3.4 Respond to four to six questions from the judging panel
- 3.5 Explain personal involvement in chapter and book concisely, when applicable

OUT 4.0 — SkillsUSA Framework



The SkillsUSA Framework is used to pinpoint the Essential Elements found in Personal Skills, Workplace Skills, and Technical Skills Grounded in Academics. Students will be expected to display or explain how they used some of these Essential Elements. Please reference the graphic above, as you may be scored on specific elements applied to your project. For more, visit: www.skillsusa.org/about/skillsusa-framework/.

Committee Identified Academic Skills

The technical committee has identified that the following academic skills are embedded in this contest.

Math Skills

- Solve practical problems involving percentages

Science Skills

None Identified

Language Arts Skills

- Provide information in conversations and in group discussions
- Provide information in oral presentations
- Demonstrate use of verbal communication skills, such as word choice, pitch, feeling, tone and voice
- Demonstrate use of nonverbal communication skills, such as eye contact, posture and gestures using interviewing techniques to gain information
- Demonstrate comprehension of a variety of informational texts
- Organize and synthesize information for use in written and oral presentations
- Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate reference materials
- Use print, electronic databases and online resources to access information in books and articles
- Demonstrate narrative writing
- Demonstrate persuasive writing
- Demonstrate informational writing
- Edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure and paragraphing

Connections to National Standards

State-level academic curriculum specialists identified the following connections to national academic standards.

Math Standards

None Identified

Source: NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics. For more information, visit: www.nctm.org.

Science Standards

- Understands the nature of scientific inquiry

Source: McREL compendium of national science standards. To view and search the compendium, visit: <http://www2.mcrel.org/compendium/browse.asp>.

Language Arts Standards

- Students apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate and appreciate texts. They draw on their prior experience, their interactions with other readers and writers, their knowledge of word meaning and of other texts, their word identification strategies, and their understanding of textual features (e.g., sound-letter correspondence, sentence structure, context, graphics)
- Students adjust their use of spoken, written and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.
- Students employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes
- Students apply knowledge of language structure, language conventions (e.g., spelling and punctuation), media techniques, figurative language and genre to create, critique and discuss print and nonprint texts
- Students conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions and by posing problems. They gather, evaluate and synthesize data from a variety of sources (e.g., print and nonprint texts, artifacts, people) to communicate their discoveries in ways that suit their purpose and audience
- Students use a variety of technological and information resources (e.g., libraries, databases, computer networks, video) to gather and synthesize information and to create and communicate knowledge
- Students use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion and the exchange of information)

Source: IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts. To view the standards, visit: www.ncte.org/standards.