

SkillsUSA Friday Flash 11.20.20

2021 National Leadership and Skills Conference and SkillsUSA Championships to be Held Virtually

After careful consideration and research, SkillsUSA has decided that the 2021 National Leadership and Skills Conference and SkillsUSA Championships will be held virtually in 2021, with localized hands-on elements for select competitions.

For the full video announcement from SkillsUSA executive director Chelle Travis and SkillsUSA board president and Chief Marketing Officer for Snap-on Incorporated Sam Bottum, please go to npsc.skillsusa.org. The video goes into great detail on the reasoning behind our decision and what we're working on for the format of the event. There you'll also find a FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section offering even more answers to your questions. The FAQ will be regularly updated as more information becomes available.



Although we know the first reaction to this news will be disappointment, we want to assure all of our members and stakeholders that we WILL be holding an engaging and inspiring event they can all be proud of, including ALL of our SkillsUSA Championships competitions, SkillsUSA TECHSPO, delegate sessions, national officer elections and many opportunities for leadership development, professional development and member/chapter recognition.

We will be working with a company specializing in virtual conferences to create an EVENT, not “just another Zoom conference.” Our partners are offering more support than ever, and the bronze, silver and gold medals earned there — while not presented in-person — will offer the same life-changing career and educational opportunities they always have. SkillsUSA will also be working closely with all of our state associations to support their efforts in conducting their own successful state leadership and skills conferences, which the national conference is so dependent on.

We encourage all our members and stakeholders to once again tap into the resilience that's a hallmark of our organization as we commit ourselves to hosting an engaging, inspiring and ultimately life-changing national conference. “We've all had to leap a lot of hurdles this year, and there are still a few more to come,” says Travis. “But that finish line is getting closer, and we'll cross it together as SkillsUSA, one united and empowered organization.” Specific dates, times and details are still being finalized and will be made available soon through all available channels.

SkillsUSA Advisor Trainings – Monday **3:00-5:00**. Below link will work each Monday there is not a holiday. Topics have been selected but there is time for questions!

There is so much new with SkillsUSA, Connect, Absorb and virtual contests! Attend trainings to help navigate it all.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bethelsd.zoom.us/j/87339034933?pwd=SSStONXR0Zk5oS3hGWXk1aVNGU3Jjdz09>

Meeting ID: 873 3903 4933

Passcode: 682462

November 30: Career Readiness/Essentials Curriculum

Revised Technical Standards Now Available

The SkillsUSA Championships technical standards are the official competition guides for the SkillsUSA Championships, and they've been newly revised for 2021. The standards feature all the rules for each national competition, including an overview, lists of technical skills and knowledge required, clothing requirements, eligibility, and equipment lists. They also list the embedded academic skills in math, English and science for each competition.

In light of the recent announcement that the national conference will be held virtually in 2021, the standards have also been updated to reflect what will be needed in the virtual environment. Rules for state and local events may vary from the national guidelines, but most competitive events are modeled after the national technical standards.

SkillsUSA professional members receive access to all the SkillsUSA Championships technical standards as a free member benefit when they have submitted a current and accurate email address with their membership details. They're also available online to professional members as part of their paid membership. Watch this [video](#) to learn how to access the *SkillsUSA Championship technical standards*.

CHARGE — Now Streaming!

CHARGE is a weekly chapter officer video series that covers topics that chapter officers will find useful in the day-to-day management of their local SkillsUSA chapters. Each CHARGE video features an activity guide to encourage chapter officer growth and development. The series highlights individual growth and team bonding to effectively run a SkillsUSA chapter as a leader. Find a new episode every Friday in SkillsUSA CONNECT!



Black Friday Deals on the SkillsUSA Store

All November, you can enjoy **deep discounts** on a **wide selection of products** from the SkillsUSA Store. Find inspiration for your next gift or giveaway by shopping the "Black Friday" category. With most products discounted at **50% or more**, don't miss your chance to score great deals on apparel, bags, drinkware and more. Even better, if you shop on Black Friday, you can enjoy free shipping on any size order! If shopping on Black Friday, make sure to use code "**BlackFriday2020**" at checkout to take advantage of free ground shipping. Visit SkillsUSAStore.org today!

Looking for High-Quality, Online Curriculum?

The SkillsUSA Career Essentials suite engages students in defining, implementing and measuring their career-readiness skills along every point in their educational journey, whether it be middle-school, high-school, college/postsecondary, or even adult learners. It is a project-based learning curriculum housed in an online platform and includes the turnkey resources teachers need to be successful, including professional development. The curriculum generates high levels of student engagement and provides the opportunity for students to earn the industry-recognized Career Essentials credential. Watch this [video](#) to hear what instructors are saying about the Career Essentials suite.



To learn more, visit www.careeressentials.org.

To view discounted price models, visit <https://www.careeressentials.org/pricing/>.

To register to attend a Career Essentials overview, click [HERE](#).

Attend ACTE's CareerTech VISION Virtual Conference

ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2020 has moved to a fully online, virtual experience this year. The Nov. 30-Dec. 4 event can be attended from the comfort and convenience of your school, office or home and features enhanced programming and immersive professional development to address timely topics impacting career and technical education. The week-long conference allows flexibility to tailor session times to your availability. All attendees will receive access to over 300 sessions following the event. Attendees will have opportunities to network and participate in interactive experiences through a dynamic virtual platform at this flagship event.

For conference rates, speakers and program details, go to: www.careertechvision.com.

#SkillsUSAGivingHopeDay Doubles Up on Hope

The SkillsUSA Hope Fund was founded in 2019 to provide scholarships or support for individual students and SkillsUSA chapters in crisis. Contribute to the 2020 campaign and join us as a SkillsUSA member or supporter who makes a difference. Between now and Dec. 1, participate in #SkillsUSAGivingHopeDay and know that every donation you make to SkillsUSA will be doubled, because, once again this year, contributions will be matched by CareerSafe. Thanks to the generosity of CareerSafe in supporting the campaign, every donation doubles up to help SkillsUSA, up to \$10,000. Follow the 2020 campaign on social media and share the #SkillsUSAGivingHopeDay posts to help spread the word.

Visit: www.skillsusa.org/get-involved/donate/skillsusa-hope-fund/.

Showcase Value of Membership

In these challenging times, SkillsUSA is striving to increase the value of membership for every member and supporter. Share the value of SkillsUSA membership with administrators, partners or parents:

<http://bit.ly/SkillsUSA-Value>.

State-wide WASTS (Washington Association of Skilled and Technical Sciences) Zoom call on Thursday, Dec 3 at 4pm. This is an important meeting as we will be discussing the future of the WASTS organization. Currently WASTS has 74 members. For WA-ACTE 75 is the magic number to remain as a section within WA-ACTE. So, the question is, should WASTS remain a section by growing membership and adding additional professional development or would merging with WITEA be beneficial. Additionally, we will have 2-3 short classroom demonstrations on lessons in the classroom using some innovative technology. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84229495592>

Any questions please call or email Doug Meyer, 360-481-1732, doujan712@gmail.com

New Contact Information: Brandon Hirst, SkillsUSA Contest Coordinator, Eastern Regional Coordinator and Board President, can now be reached at coordinator@skillsusawashington.org

HOLIDAY SHOPPING! Shop and Support SkillsUSA Washington

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping from Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. When you shop through AmazonSmile, **select Skills USA Inc (Location: Olympia, WA – Education & Youth)** to contribute. Once this is set up, just login to Amazon, click on the Amazon Smile tab, shop and SkillsUSA Washington will get 5%. We appreciate your support! Here is the link, <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7017160>.

Share this link with your advisory committees. We are looking for volunteers to help judge regional and state competitions. Volunteer form for Brandon Hirst:

<https://skillsusawashington.org/2021>

We Build Washington Contest

Students are invited to share the projects they built at home or another safe environment during 2020. From a birdhouse to a shed to a bathroom remodel, students are encouraged to show how they put their craftsmanship into practice anywhere! The Construction Center for Excellence is awarding three great scholarships to high school students studying the construction craft trades:

- First prize: \$2,000 scholarship
- Runner-up: \$1,000 scholarship
- People's choice: \$500 scholarship

Please share this fun [contest information](#) with any Washington high school student. Entries will be accepted until December 9.

Please remember you cannot reply to this email. If you have questions, my email is below!

Terri Lufkin, tlufkin@comcast.net

Executive Director, SkillsUSA Washington HS & MS

SkillsUSA Hotline: 844-875-4557 customer@skillsusa.org