

FALL 2026

September 15 - October 15 | Nationwide
Hispanic Heritage Month

September 14 | Virtual
Board of Directors Meeting

September 9 @ 8 AM - 1:30 PM | Virtual
Elevate

Elevate is an interactive virtual experience for local chapter officer teams that focuses on building successful chapters by equipping officers with the skills to lead and serve their chapter members. The Elevate experience is open to all SkillsUSA chapter officers. Registration opened on April 13 and closes on September 4.

Pricing: **\$50** per chapter, regardless of the # of attendees

September 13-14 | Southwest Washington
Regional Coordinator Retreat

Regional Coordinators gather annually to plan, align, and prepare for the year ahead. This year's focus: standardizing project rollouts and communication to ensure a fair, unified experience statewide.

September 22 @ 4 PM - 6 PM | Virtual
All Advisor Meeting

Join us for the annual advisor meeting at the start of the new year. We'll review the calendar of events, Program of Work (PoW), upcoming activities, special dates, and organizational updates.

September 26-30 | Washington, D.C.
Washington Leadership Training Institute

Held each September in Washington, D.C., SkillsUSA's WLTi gives students and advisors advanced leadership training and opportunities to advocate for the skilled trades.

October | Nationwide
National Disability Employment Awareness Month

October 6 @ 4 PM - 6 PM | Virtual
NEW! All Regional Host Meeting (Mandatory for Hosts)

If you are interested in hosting a Regional Competition, attendance is required to gain valuable insight into the process and receive important information regarding financial planning and reimbursement, material purchasing, securing judges, best practices, score reporting, and more.

October 14 | Virtual
Washington ONLY Design Challenges Announced

SkillsUSA Washington design students can compete in exclusive, online-only state challenges just for SkillsUSA Washington members.

October 31 | Virtual
Regional Contest Host Deadline

Is your school able to host a regional contest? Please get in touch with your regional coordinator to secure details.

November | Nationwide
American Indian & Alaska Native Heritage Month
National Veterans & Military Families Month

November - January | Virtual
Regional Contest Projects/Details to ALL Registrants

Back Again! All registered regional competitors will receive access to their contest projects and details between November and January. This ensures every participant is prepared and informed ahead of their competitive events, helping create a more equitable and successful regional experience.

November 5 | Puyallup, WA
SkillsUSA Washington Annual Gala: Bowties & Blueprints

Celebrate student success and industry partnerships at our gala! Join us as we honor our members and recognize Washington's skilled workforce at this year's Bowties and Blueprints Gala.

November 11 - December 2 | Virtual
Regional Contest Registration

Pricing: *Varies by Region*

November 16 | Virtual
Board of Directors Meeting

SkillsUSA Recruitment Week

SkillsUSA Recruitment Week is a flexible, chapter-led event designed to grow chapters, engage students, and build excitement around joining SkillsUSA. Learn more at skillsusa.org/events/skillsusa-recruitment-week/.

WINTER 2027

January 11 | Virtual
Board of Directors Meeting

January 31 | Virtual
Washington ONLY Design Challenges Submissions Due

Submissions are due via our website. Winners are recognized on stage at the State Leadership & Skills Conference (SLSC).

January 31 | Statewide
All Regional Contests Concluded

All regional contests must be concluded and scores submitted to ensure ample time for internal processing and the selection of state qualifiers.

February | Nationwide
Black History Month
Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month

February 1-5 | Nationwide
SkillsUSA Week

SkillsUSA Week is celebrated in February each year in chapters nationwide. The event offers state associations, advisors, and student members the opportunity to promote SkillsUSA programs and activities at the local and state levels while highlighting the importance of the skilled trades.

February 2-3 | Olympia, WA
SLSC Prep for State Officers

State Officers plan the State Leadership & Skills Conference while strengthening leadership, communication, and teamwork through hands-on preparation and professional development.

February 3-4 | Olympia, WA
Legislative Advocacy

Legislative Advocacy is open to all students and advisors, offering the chance to learn about CTE and CTSO legislation while meeting with legislators to advocate for policies that shape the future of our programs and students.

Pricing: **Free!** Individual chapters are responsible for any hotel or travel expenses.

February 3 | Virtual
Advisor of the Year Deadline

The Advisor of the Year Award recognizes SkillsUSA's most dedicated and impactful career and technical education instructors.

February 3 | Virtual
Chapter Excellence Program Deadline

Every chapter is encouraged to participate in the Chapter Excellence Program (CEP), which recognizes achievement in leadership development through three award levels. Levels One and Two are acknowledged by our state association, while Level Three is honored at the national level.

February 11 @ 9 AM | Virtual
SLSC Draft

The SkillsUSA Washington SLSC Draft is the official process for assigning competitors to state events, based on regional results and event capacity. Watch the SLSC Draft live to see the full list of selections and celebrate the skilled talent advancing to state!

February 11-18
SLSC Registration

Register and pay for SLSC at skillsusa-register.org/login.aspx. Invoices will be sent to your school's accounts payable, and payment must be received before travel unless other arrangements are made. A \$100 late fee applies after the due date. Late fees are incurred bi-weekly post conference. Online credit card payments via QuickBooks are the preferred method - no merchant fees.

Pricing: **\$225** per student/advisor, **\$100** per school observer, **\$25** for parents + **\$215**/hotel room night.

March | Nationwide
Women's History Month

SPRING 2026

March 25-27 | Tacoma & Lakewood, WA State Leadership & Skills Conference (SLSC)

SLSC is SkillsUSA Washington's premier event, where students, advisors, and industry partners statewide come together for leadership and technical skills competitions. Top winners advance to nationals, and the event wraps up with an awards ceremony honoring all participants.

>> March 25

- > Opening Session @ Clover Park Technical College (CPTC)
- > **NEW** On-site Testing - ALL COMPETITORS @ CPTC

>> March 26

- > Competitions @ CPTC
- > State Officer Elections @ CPTC

>> March 27

- > Annual Advisor Breakfast @ Hotel
- > Annual Advisor Cluster/Program Meetings @ Hotel
- > Awards Ceremony & Closing Session @ CPTC
- > NLSC Registration @ CPTC

March 21 - April 7 | Virtual NLSC Registration

Register for the National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) at skillsusa-register.org/login.aspx. Advisors must register both students and adults, and book hotel rooms using the link provided in the registration system. Invoices will be sent via QuickBooks from state staff. A \$100 late fee applies after the due date. Late fees are incurred bi-weekly post conference. Online credit card payments via QuickBooks are the preferred method - no merchant fees.

Do not use the online fee estimate. On-site registration will also be available after the SLSC awards session.

Pricing: **\$600** per student/advisor + **\$350**/hotel room night.

Following SLSC | Virtual All SLSC Scorecards Released

After SLSC, all scorecards will be released for contestants to review their performance rubrics. These are grading rubrics, not true scoring rubrics, and reflect how each contestant performed relative to others in their event. Scorecards will be available approximately one week after the conference at skillsusawashington.org, following the official review period.

March/April | Everett, WA

Boeing Manufacturing Assembler Competition

Hosted annually by The Boeing Company in Everett, the Manufacturing Assembler competition is open to students in Boeing partner programs on an aerospace career path. Competitors showcase skills like riveting and may be interviewed on-site for potential employment.

Pricing: **\$170** per student/advisor. This price does not include hotel or travel expenses.

April 26 - May 2 | Nationwide National Apprenticeship Week

May 1-31 | Nationwide

Asian American & Pacific Islander Month

May 1-5 | Nationwide

SkillsUSA National Week of Service

Giving back is at the heart of SkillsUSA. Each May, chapters are encouraged to participate in the National Week of Service by completing a community service project in honor of SkillsUSA's founding on May 8, 1965.

May 5 | Nationwide

SkillsUSA National Signing Day

SkillsUSA National Signing Day celebrates the next generation of skilled professionals and the career paths essential to America's future.

May TBD | Silverdale, WA

State Officer Training

State Officer training prepares newly elected officers with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in their leadership roles through the Combined CTSO training program.

June 1-30 | Nationwide

Pride Month

June 7 | Virtual

Board of Directors Meeting

June 21-25 | Atlanta, GA

National Leadership & Skills Conference

SkillsUSA's NLSC is the nation's largest gathering of skilled trade students and career-ready leaders, celebrating excellence in career and technical education each June in Atlanta.

STATE OFFICE CLOSURES

FALL 2026

September 6, 2026

Labor Day

October 12, 2026

Indigenous Peoples' Day

November 11, 2026

Veterans Day

November 22-27, 2026

Thanksgiving Break

December 21, 2026 - January 1, 2027

Winter Break

WINTER 2027

January 18, 2027

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 15, 2027

President's Day

SPRING/SUMMER 2027

May 31, 2027

Memorial Day

June 18, 2027

Juneteenth (*Falls on a Saturday*)

July 5, 2027

Independence Day (*Falls on a Sunday*)

Our Regular Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM

SCHOLARSHIPS

One of the benefits of SkillsUSA membership is the opportunity to apply for scholarships available only to SkillsUSA members.

Central Welding Supply "Weld Onward" Scholarship

\$1,000 (2 Recipients)

Opens: November 1, 2026 | Closes: January 1, 2027

"More Better" Scholarship

\$1,000 (1 Recipient)

Opens: December 2, 2026 | Closes: February 3, 2027

"New Year, New Limits" Scholarship

\$500 (4 Recipients)

Opens: January 1, 2027 | Closes: January 31, 2027

Rhonda Downing Memorial Scholarship

Full SLSC Registration Cost & Accommodation (1 Recipient)

Opens: February 11, 2027 | Closes: February 18, 2027

Road to Atlanta Scholarship

\$1,000 (2 Recipients)

Opens: March 27, 2027 | Closes: April 7, 2027

Visit our website for more information and new scholarship opportunities.

Stay up-to-date on all our events. Sign up for our newsletter.

