

New Jersey SkillsUSA Friday Flash 5/10/24

Message from the Desk of the State Director

Hope you all had a great week!

Requesting Scores

Advisors: We would like to ask that you please reach out to us if you would like to request scores for your students, and do not have the students contact us themselves. We are doing our best to get all score requests done in a timely manner.

State Officer Applications

Last call for State Officer Applications. Please return to this office by May 15th.

Kickoff to Atlanta

Please email your forms to our office by May 15th so that I can give Forest Lodge an accurate headcount. All National Delegates must attend the Kickoff, and there we will go over their duties and choose our head delegate.

SkillsUSA Days

If any school is interested in doing a SkillsDay for the upcoming school year, please contact this office to schedule a date.

Need for Competitors

The following competitions are in desperate need of more competitors:

- Power Equipment
- Opening and Closing
- Ocean Marine
- Chapter Business Procedure
- Cabinetmaking
- Health Knowledge Portfolio
- Carpentry

Please encourage your chapter to try and get more students involved in these competitions. Their numbers have dropped and we would like to increase them so that they can continue. If we work together, I know we can make this happen.

Have a great weekend...and remember to spoil your mothers!

Ralph Starace

Industry Certification Opportunities at NLSC

There will be an opportunity at NLSC 2024 for both advisors and students that register for NLSC to sit for certification exams, at no cost! See below and attached for more information.

- **Student Opportunity**

- The Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC), in partnership with SkillsUSA, will be offering complimentary testing for the MSSC Certified Production Technician (CPT 4.0) Safety Assessment on Tuesday, June 25. There will be three different testing windows.
- **Space is limited to the first 15 students per session.**
- This opportunity is open to all students, but students in the Manufacturing Career Cluster may see the most benefit from this opportunity.
- Please see the attached flyer (SkillsUSA 2024 CPT Safety 4.0 PDF Info Guide for more details and the registration link.

- **Advisor Opportunity**

- The National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3), in partnership with SkillsUSA, will be offering three separate Train-the-Trainer events on Tuesday, June 25 and Wednesday, June 26. The three trainings are: Data Analytics, Snap-On Multimeter, and Festo Fundamentals of Industry 4.0.
- **Space is limited to the first 20 advisors for Multimeter and Industry 4.0 and the first 15 advisors for Data Analytics.**
- Advisors will be able to get certified at NLSC and then, upon returning to their home institution, will be able to assess and certify students in these areas.
- Please visit this [link](#) for more information and the registration link.

News from the National Office *(Check out some of these new and exciting opportunities for your students!)*

TechForce Awarding \$4 Million in Scholarships!

The TechForce Foundation awards scholarships and grants year-round to help students obtain their technical education. From tuition scholarships to relocation and emergency grants, TechForce helps students stay in school, get trained and become workforce ready. TechForce is committed to the career exploration and development of professional technicians across all sectors, including (but not limited to) automotive, aviation, collision, diesel (trucking, agriculture, construction, heavy-duty, stationary engines, and rentals), fleets, marine, motorcycle, motorsports, restoration, welding and emerging technologies. TechForce Foundation will award \$4 million in scholarships this year. [Create a free account in TechForce™](#), then click “Scholarships” to apply.

TechForce Foundation is also conducting a survey to better understand the perceptions of Gen Z future techs and working techs in their first two years of employment as aviation, automotive, collision repair, diesel and welding technicians. Ever wanted to tell your boss, instructor, parent

or co-worker something but felt they wouldn't understand? Please submit your anonymous feedback on [this survey](#) no later than June 14.

Spotlight Your Community Service to the Nation

SkillsUSA's [National Week of Service](#) was May 5-11. If your chapter conducted a community service project, we'd love to hear about it. Please provide a brief description [using this form](#). In return, we'll send a SkillsUSA logo gift item valued at \$15 to say thanks (while supplies last). We encourage chapters to publicize their projects locally. To locate contact information for your local newspapers, [use our SkillsUSA Advocacy Site](#). On the site, click on "Media," enter your ZIP code, and choose up to six outlets at a time. Then, click on "Send a Message." At "Compose Your Own Message," fill in your contact information and your message and click send. To see the full contact information for each outlet, click on the name of the newspaper.

SkillsUSA Scholarship Application Deadlines Coming Soon

Please encourage your SkillsUSA students to take advantage of our incredible scholarships! Exploring and applying for these scholarships is an easy process. SkillsUSA student members can review eligibility criteria, scholarship amounts and applications in one location: [SkillsUSA Scholarship Application Hub](#).

NLSC travel scholarship closing on May 22: Harbor Freight Tools for Schools (applicants can receive up to \$1,500 to attend the 2024 National Leadership & Skills Conference)

Closing May 31: The Bob Westphal Memorial Scholarship

To learn more about these scholarships and how to submit a quality application, visit the [SkillsUSA Scholarships and Grants webpage](#). If you have questions, contact [Jordan Sewell](#).

EXTENSION: Skills Jam Casting Submissions!

The 2023 Skills Jam cast and docu-series were amazing! Now, we're ready to do it again, bigger and even better, with Skills Jam 2024! Skills Jam needs your help to find the best student stories around the country — and you don't need to be an NLSC competitor. Skills Jam is offering two chapter grants of \$2,500 just for entering a video. Even if your students aren't cast for Skills Jam, entering a video gives your chapter a chance to win a grant. Find the details in the [Skills Jam Casting Overview](#) and the [student flyer](#) and [presentation slide](#). If you missed the 2023 docu-series, you can still [catch last season's Skills Jam episodes on YouTube](#). The tide is turning when it comes to the perception of skilled trades across the nation. Don't miss this great opportunity to build that momentum for your program and your students! For questions, contact Maria@SkilledCareers.org.

Volunteers and Judges Needed at NLSC

The National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) — the largest gathering of America's future skilled workforce — will be held in Atlanta from June 24-28, 2024. The Office of the

SkillsUSA Championships is looking for unpaid volunteers who can serve as competition judges or assist the management team to support various NLSC programs and experiences.

Volunteers should be available to serve at the Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC) in Atlanta on both Wednesday, June 26 and Thursday, June 27 (schedule TBD). Some of the areas where volunteers are needed include judging Leadership and Occupationally Related competitions including:

- Chapter Business Procedure
- Chapter Display
- Community Service
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- Job Skill Demonstration A & Open
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies
- Promotional Bulletin Board
- Quiz Bowl

If you are an educator or partner who will be at NLSC but you do not have student competitors and would like to assist, please complete the [SkillsUSA Volunteer Interest Form](#) and indicate the area(s) in which you are interested in volunteering. If you have questions, contact [Brandon Hudson](#). Thank you for your interest and support of SkillsUSA!

The SkillsUSA Store – Official Red Jacket

The [official SkillsUSA red jacket](#) was created with members in mind. Its design is stylish and professional, and the vibrant red is an exact color match to the official SkillsUSA blazer. The lightweight and durable fabric make this jacket a staple for SkillsUSA events and cooler summer evenings. Get yours now and wear it with pride at NLSC! The red jacket also makes a wonderful gift for new chapter officers as they are elected and inducted.