

New Jersey SkillsUSA Friday Flash 10/13/23

Message from the Desk of the State Director

Good Morning. I hope you all had an enjoyable and productive week. We had a terrific SkillsUSA Day at the East Brunswick Magnet School on Thursday. Our state officers from GCIT, Somerset and East Brunswick did a fantastic job facilitating the 42 students in attendance, and I was very proud of them!

Competition Dates and Locations: We are updating our competition calendar and we will have it updated by next week, with all the changes.

Competition Booklet: The competition booklet will be available online within the next few weeks. We will send out information as soon as it is available.

The Carpenter's Cluster Meeting: It was set for November 13th at the NJPSA in Monroe Twp. It is canceled until Jan. 2024. The new date and time TBA.

Corporate Sponsors: NJ SkillsUSA is looking for Corporate Sponsors. If you know someone would like to sponsor a competition please let us know. Thank you!

Have a good weekend,
Ralph Starace

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

New Docuseries Showcases SkillsUSA Students and Advisors

The new episodic docuseries "SKILLS JAM" premieres Oct. 17 on the [SKILLS JAM YouTube channel](#). The show follows the journeys of SkillsUSA students from their state competitions to the national SkillsUSA Championships, and it's packed full of heart, inspiration and validation for the positive effect SkillsUSA and career and technical education can have on a student's career and life journey. Look for the first three 20-minute episodes to drop on Oct. 17. SKILLS JAM is produced by the [Skilled Careers Coalition](#) in cooperation with SkillsUSA.

Registration is Open for Pour the IndusTEA

On Wednesday, Nov. 15, at 2 p.m. ET, SkillsUSA will host [Pour the IndusTEA](#), an event that allows classrooms and chapters to engage directly with industry professionals. This high-energy, informative experience will connect students with business and industry panelists in your career cluster right from your classroom — and, best of all, it's free for everyone! Register your chapter leaders or your whole classroom and participate as a group. Registration closes Nov. 10.

Register for the “Your Place in Space Challenge”

The U.S. Department of Education launched the [Your Place in Space Challenge](#) in March 2023. This is the first challenge in [CTE Momentum](#), an annual series of events to prepare high school students for rewarding careers and increase access to career and technical education (CTE). The “Your Place in Space Challenge” invites high schools to submit designs for a product or service that will contribute to space missions and exploration. Submissions are due by 6 p.m. ET on Oct. 30, and up to 10 winners will receive at least \$5,000 each. The winners will be announced — and the next challenge launched — in early 2024. Learn more [on the website](#). For updates on all challenges, [sign up for the series newsletter](#).

New “SKILLS JAM” Docuseries Offers Chance to Win \$500 and More!

To celebrate the upcoming release of “SKILLS JAM,” the all-new docuseries inspired by — and featuring — SkillsUSA members, the Skills Jam crew invites you to participate in SKILLS JAM BINGO! All you have to do to sign up is [like this post on the SKILLS JAM Instagram page](#). Two challenges will be released each week. Complete all the challenges by Nov. 27 and be entered for a chance to win \$500 plus other fun prizes! The docuseries releases Oct. 17 on the [SKILLS JAM YouTube channel!](#)

The SkillsUSA Store – Featured Product

Looking for a unique gift or recognition item? The RocketBook flip notebook from the [SkillsUSA Store](#) provides a classic pen and paper experience that is endlessly reusable. It is perfect for the classroom, office or day-to-day notetaking! With the RocketBook app, you can easily upload your notes, plans, lists, drawings and other big ideas to your favorite cloud service. The synthetic paper allows you to write smoothly with an included Pilot FriXion pen, upload your work and then wipe clean with a damp cloth and reuse the pages again and again. The compact size is 9”H x 6”W to fit in your bag or backpack.

Fall Professional Development Offerings

Take your SkillsUSA knowledge to the next level with SkillsUSA’s Fall Professional Development offerings. Sessions include new advisor training, SkillsUSA Framework integration, the SkillsUSA Advantage report, local career competition guides and more. Visit our [training website](#) and [use this form to sign up](#) for your selected sessions.

Apply Now for ACTE Teacher and Lifetime Achievement Awards

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), in partnership with SkillsUSA, is seeking nominations for the National Trade and Industrial Education Division Awards to be presented during the ACTE CareerTech VISION conference scheduled for Nov. 29 – Dec. 2 in Phoenix. The deadline for nominations is Nov. 1. Note: the Trade and Industrial VISION Awards are completely separate from the ACTE Excellence Awards. Qualified individuals may be

nominated for Teacher of the Year, New Teacher of the Year or Lifetime Achievement. You may nominate yourself or someone else. (If you nominate someone, be sure to notify them.) [Make your nominations online](#). For additional conference information, visit [ACTE CareerTech VISION](#).

National Apprenticeship Week in November

This year's National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) is Nov. 13-19. This national celebration established by the U.S. Department of Labor brings together business leaders, career seekers, labor, apprentices, educational institutions and others to showcase the positive impact apprenticeship programs have on addressing the skills gap and preparing the American workforce for the jobs of today and tomorrow. Join the celebration by hosting an event, such as an apprenticeship graduation, business open house, high school career fair, skills competition or industry roundtable. You can also submit a proclamation supporting NAW and apprenticeship. [Learn more about NAW](#).