

New Jersey SkillsUSA Friday Flash 3/1/24

Message from the Desk of the State Director

I hope everyone had a great week! We are one competition down, with 103 more to go! We had our first competition, Marine Service, yesterday at the Atlantic City Convention Center. Congratulations to all involved in running the competition. It was a huge success. I want to thank Yamaha for their continuous support in running this contest, as they did a fantastic job yesterday.

Starting midnight Friday, there will be no more contestant replacements. They will have to be made on site by filling out an add/drop form once you arrive.

Technical Drafting- Contest Note

The Technical Drafting contest will allow any modeling software to be used. It is only suggested to use Onshape.

Contest Updates

Please continue to check for contest updates.

Travel to Atlanta

Our travel agent is working on securing the best possible prices for our airfare to Atlanta. As soon as he gets me the information we will pass along to you.

Invoices

Remember to please pay as soon as possible. Many of you have already sent them, and we appreciate it!

T-Shirt Sizes

Please get t-shirt sizes in to Courtney ASAP.

Have a great weekend!

Ralph Starace

News from the National Office

May 7 is SkillsUSA National Signing Day!

SkillsUSA National Signing Day is coming in May, a day when SkillsUSA chapters across the nation give skilled professionals the spotlight they deserve. On Signing Day, students will be recognized by their school administrators, teachers, elected officials, advisors, family and friends for signing letters of intent to pursue careers or further education in the skilled trades.

Registration begins March 13, and registered chapters will gain access to the Signing Day Event Toolkit, free swag, chapter grants and scholarships. Look for more information soon! It isn't too early to get your event on the school calendar! In the meantime, [learn more about SkillsUSA National Signing Day](#) and how chapters celebrated last year. We'll have an even bigger celebration this May.

Press Release Template for State Conference Participants

New on the [SkillsUSA Advocacy site](#) is a press release template for state conference participants and their advisors to share competition results with your hometown media. Parents, instructors, students or anyone can send these emails. Please spread the word about SkillsUSA in your community. Share this advocacy resource link at your school and at your state conferences. For questions, email Jane Short.

The SkillsUSA Awards Store Featured Category

Graduation season is just around the corner. Don't miss the opportunity to show off the achievements of your SkillsUSA students. Shop for graduation honor cords, tassels and stoles in our dedicated [Graduation Regalia](#) category. The SkillsUSA Store offers many items that would be wonderful graduation gifts for your seniors, too.

Global Youth Service Day Grants

Youth Service America (YSA) is seeking heartwarming young heroes with creative ideas to foster meaningful connections, promote inclusion and teach empathy. With support from Hershey's Heartwarming Project, YSA will award up to \$50,000 in grants for youth-led service projects and community-building activities during Youth Service Month (April 12-May 12) and Global Youth Service Day (April 26-28). With \$250 and \$500 grant options, youth ages 5-25 are eligible to apply for support for their upcoming community projects. [Learn more and apply](#) by March 10.