



Welcome Back to School! From SkillsUSA-Iowa! Where All Your Students Are Champions at Work!



Welcome back to another school year. The SkillsUSA-Iowa Board of Directors is here to assist you in your efforts to offer enriching opportunities that make a difference in students' lives. As you kick off the school year, we encourage each advisor to take a look at the [SkillsUSA-Iowa website](#) to learn about the resources and activities that will introduce and engage students to be Champions at Work.



In 2017 – 2018, chapters can look forward to programming focused on showcasing CTE programs and SkillsUSA through the use of the SkillsUSA Framework. The SkillsUSA Framework, which impacts the lives of America's future workforce through the development of personal, workplace, and technical skills grounded in academics, reveals how career and technical education programs and SkillsUSA are relevant in today's economy. The pillars of the framework include innovative programming, quality instruction, and industry partnerships, focused on preparing students to succeed at work and in life.

SkillsUSA membership will unlock valuable resources for you and your students. Just a few include:

- The 2017-2018 SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards - As a free member benefit, SkillsUSA professional members receive the 2017-2018 SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards.
- Career Readiness Curriculum, and
- Jump into STEM!

These resources will assist you in implementing great opportunities for your students' professional growth.

Visit: www.skillsusa-register.org/Login.aspx to register. We also encourage you to visit the [Advisory Checklist – Basic Steps to a Successful Chapter](#).

You'll want to mark your calendars for some exciting statewide activities this year, including:

- Fall Leadership Training (Oct 8th – 9th-see two options below), sponsored by the Army National Guard at Camp Dodge, in Johnston - a day and a half of leadership instruction and fun field activities that allow students to put into practice what they learn from professional leadership trainers. (Only \$15 registration covers overnight - barracks, meals, and activities). There are two options (Registration is same for both):
 - Arrive Sunday afternoon, depart Monday afternoon. 1 ½ days of activities (Overnight in barracks).
 - Arrive by 9:45AM on Monday, depart Monday afternoon. 1 abbreviated day of activities.



- SkillsUSA-Iowa State Conference/Contests; (Tentative dates: April 26th – April 27th) at DMACC. The contests offer students the opportunity to showcase their skills, and qualify to compete in the SkillsUSA NLSC. April 26th begins with professional development contests starting at 4:00PM, followed by the Opening Ceremony. April 27th consists of technical contests all day, followed by the Awards and Closing Ceremony.
- National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC); June 25, 2018 through June 29, 2018 in Louisville, KY. NLSC is a showcase of our career and technical education students, what they've accomplished, and future career opportunities that are obtainable. The NLSC involves more than 16,000 people — including students, teachers and business partners. Before the conference technically begins, experiences for students and advisors include Activate, Leverage and Engage. Intense and rewarding, these three events cover individual, group and interactive leadership training. A SkillsUSA University program of professional development seminars is also available to all participants Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

State Officer opportunities. SkillsUSA-Iowa is recruiting secondary and postsecondary state officers, with a focus on expanding the current geographical barrier to participation to include students from throughout the state. Our goal is to minimize current state officer training travel issues by utilizing ZOOM video conferencing to conduct state officer training. Please consider involving a student in being a state officer. Contact Steve Brinton, State Officer Trainer (quicklp@aim.com), for more information.

The [SkillsUSA-Iowa website](#) is your connection to the many resources SkillsUSA offers to you, your program and your students. Check it often to stay up-to-date on opportunities and resources.

We thank you for your work and continued support, and wish you all the best as we work together to continue to lift up students through Career and Technical Education and SkillsUSA. Please let us know if we can do anything for you and your chapter members.

Sincerely,

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