



Merry Christmas!!

Please plan to attend the advisor teams meeting today at 1pm. We will have Darren Gibson, SkillsUSA Championship Director, to speak about the national virtual conference.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 304-553-7794,,782771360#](#) United States, Charleston

Phone Conference ID: 782 771 360#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

If you would like to register your school as a total participation plan chapter please email mwilkinson@k12.wv.us OR pduncan@skillsusa.org

- 2020-2021 SkillsUSA Theme: SkillsUSA: Champions at Work, Empowered to Succeed
- 2020-2021 Esthetics Competition theme is “Carnival.”

Important 2020-2021 SkillsUSA WV Dates

December 22, 2020 - Can food drive deadline. 4pm

December 21, 2020 - 2nd Advisor SLSC virtual meeting @ 1:00 pm

January 31, 2021 - Dues must be submitted by midnight.

PLEASE MAIL DUES TO:

14001 SkillsUSA Way
Leesburg, VA 20176

March 1, 2021 - Registration Deadline for SLSC 2021

March 26-27, 2021 - SkillsUSA State Leadership Conference
Fairmont, WV

SkillsUSA National Information



Public Service Student Loan Forgiveness Tools for Advisors

Some SkillsUSA advisors may be eligible for federal assistance in forgiving their federal student loan debt. The Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program forgives the remaining balance on your Direct Loans after you have made 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer. Recently, enhancements were made to two tools related to Federal Student Aid (FSA). The [PSLF Help Tool](#) and Loan Simulator can help borrowers more easily determine their eligibility for the PSLF Program. Completion of the help tool will take roughly 30 minutes and advisors will need their most recent W2 and their employer's Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN). New enhancements also include a single PSLF Form combining the employment certification form and the forgiveness application to make the process easier!

Plan Now for 2021 SkillsUSA Week

SkillsUSA Week is Feb. 7-13, and you can participate in many ways. Honor your community supporters, connect with local business and industry professionals or make a presentation about your CTE program and SkillsUSA chapter at a school board meeting. We encourage you to celebrate all week by planning activities that follow this daily schedule of events created for local chapters nationwide:

Monday, Feb. 8, Recognition Day. Celebrate and honor members, advisors, administrators, business partners, community leaders and supporters who make a meaningful impact on your CTE program and SkillsUSA chapter.

Tuesday, Feb. 9, Give Back Day. Rally around your school and community by focusing on ways for your chapter to give back.

Wednesday, Feb. 10., Partner Day. Invite local business and industry leaders to connect with chapter members as you highlight the importance of developing the career-readiness skills found in the SkillsUSA Framework.

Thursday, Feb. 11, Advocacy Day. Amplify CTE in your community by conducting a local public relations activity, such as presenting to school board members, administrators or community leaders.

Friday, Feb. 12, SkillsUSA Day. Celebrate SkillsUSA by wearing your favorite SkillsUSA shirt, planning a celebration activity or posting your Framework story on social media using the hashtag #SkillsUSAWeek.

For a packet of resources including information on how to request time on a school board meeting agenda, a guide to celebrating SkillsUSA in your chapter, resources to help you engage local

business and industry leaders and a link to send fill-in press releases using the SkillsUSA Advocacy Site, go to: www.skillsusa.org/events-training/skillsusa-week.

Visit the SkillsUSA Store at www.skillsusastore.org to order SkillsUSA Week T-shirts and other logo products to support your week of celebration.

Marsha Daves Memorial Scholarship Opportunity is Now Open

The Marsha Daves Memorial Scholarship is open to current SkillsUSA state officers who are high school seniors or non-senior college/postsecondary students. For more information and to apply, go to:

www.skillsusa.org/membershipresources/scholarships-financial-aid/. The deadline for applications is Feb. 1.

Focus Students on Safety

Once again, CareerSafe will sponsor the National Youth Safety Video Contest. Students across the country are challenged to create a two-minute video demonstrating safety in the workplace. All submissions must be sent to CareerSafe by March 1. The winning students will receive a SkillsUSA prize pack as well as a scholarship worth up to \$2,500. The winning school will receive a prize worth up to \$5,000. For details, visit the CareerSafe website at:

www.careersafeonline.com/scholarships/video-contest.

Looking for High-Quality Online Curriculum?

The *SkillsUSA Career Essentials* suite engages students in defining, implementing and measuring their career-readiness skills along every point in their educational journey, whether it be middle-school, high-school, college/postsecondary, or even adult learners. It is a project-based learning curriculum housed in an online platform and includes the turnkey resources teachers need to be successful, including professional development. The curriculum fosters student engagement and provides the opportunity for students to earn the industry-recognized Career Essentials credential. Watch this [video](#) to hear what instructors are saying about the Career Essentials suite.

To learn more, visit www.careeressentials.org.

To view discounted price models, visit www.careeressentials.org/pricing/.

To register to attend a Career Essentials overview, click [HERE](#).

Amazon Smile Purchases Benefit SkillsUSA

Now you can support SkillsUSA when you do your holiday shopping. Make your order through AmazonSmile and search for "SkillsUSA Inc." as your charity of choice. SkillsUSA receives a percentage of each sale and there is no additional cost to you. The direct link is:

smile.amazon.com/ch/52-0812433.

Apply for a Student Tuition Grant

Saf-Gard Safety Shoe Co. is awarding an education grant for skilled trades students who are just starting out in their field. Three students will be chosen to receive a \$1,000 grant to go toward trade school tuition. Students who apply will respond to a prompt created by Saf-Gard and then send responses and photos to a designated contact for a weekly blog update. The deadline to apply is **Jan. 13**. For more information, visit: www.safgard.com/sole-education.

Cybersecurity Education Award Nominations Sought

The U.S. Department of Education has announced a call for nominations for the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award. Now in its second year, the award is presented annually to one elementary educator and one secondary educator who instill in their students skills, knowledge and passion for cybersecurity. Any educator whose subject matter includes cybersecurity can apply. Recipients of this honor will receive acknowledgement by the President of the United States and the U.S. Secretary of Education, public recognition and professional development opportunities. Anyone may nominate an educator and self-nominations are permitted. The deadline is Jan. 31. For the rules, terms and conditions and specifics on how to apply, please visit www2.ed.gov/documents/presidential-cybersecurity-education-award.pdf.

