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State Director's Flash Friday Report Every 2nd and 4th Friday of the Month

Dear Advisors:

Registration is Open — Enjoy the Benefits of Professional Membership

Why is it important for an advisor to register as a professional member of SkillsUSA? It's one of the best ways to demonstrate to students the importance of the organization and the opportunities that membership will provide.

Professional members receive these great benefits:

- **2017-18 SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards.** The latest edition will be available by Oct. 1. The official competition guide for the SkillsUSA Championships contains rules for all national competitive events, including an overview, lists of technical skills and knowledge required, clothing requirements, eligibility and equipment lists. Note: Because of the constant need for updates, both the latest SkillsUSA Championships contest updates and the official SkillsUSA Championships scorecards are located online here: www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/contest-updates/
- **Jump into STEM!** Curriculum includes middle-school and elementary-school STEM career exploration activities that can be taught by high-school and college/postsecondary members. This is a great opportunity to expose students to STEM careers and recruit for career and technical education programs as well as SkillsUSA.
- **Career Essentials: Foundations.** This complete curriculum includes 29 lesson SkillsUSA plans that support the SkillsUSA Framework and prepare students for workplace success. *Career Essentials: Foundations* is the first building block in the suite of products offered through the *SkillsUSA Career Essentials*.

SkillsUSA professional members receive all of these materials when they submit membership along with a valid email address. The 2017-18 *SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards* and other materials are provided through a digital delivery system. National dues for professional members are \$20 plus state dues, which vary. The complete listing of 2017-18 state dues and deadlines is online or in the mailed membership kits.

Fall Leadership Conference

Registration is open for NY Fall Leadership Conference in November, this is a great opportunity for members and chapters to connect and gain valuable information.

If you haven't already, please mark your calendar for the Fall Leadership Conference. This year the conference will be held November 5-7 at the Desmond Inn Albany, NY. SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference (FLC) focuses on developing leadership, team building, and chapter management skills. The conference has training tracks for students and advisors that teach the skills needed to be champions at work in both our communities and in our personal lives. For more information, please visit; www.nysskillsusa.org

Communication is key

The success of this organization and for us to have successful communication we need the lead advisor's e-Mail address and information. It is also key that the lead advisor communicate with all the advisors in the Chapter. Please complete the Lead advisor form found on the website www.nysskillsusa.org under the forms tab.

Through the Friday Flash, I like to keep in communication with all advisors. We will later be asking for an e-mail list of all your chapter advisors and administration so that we can keep all as up to date as possible with what is happening in the world of SkillsUSA.

Please Note: We change the website look and information regularly so please refresh you web-page. This will help to keep it current with our updates.

New National Awards Showcase CTE Partnerships and Champions

Do you know a school or program that's created a successful partnership with local business, industry or community groups? Or, is there an outspoken supporter in your community who's championed the value of modern, high-quality CTE? Learn more about these new Association for Career and Technical Education awards:

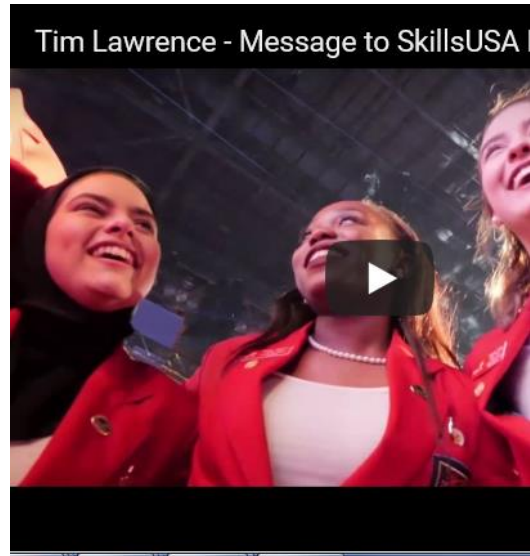
- ACTE Business-Education Partnership Award (see: <https://acte.secure-platform.com/a/page/awards/national/partnership>)
- ACTE Champion for CTE Award (see: <https://acte.secure-platform.com/a/page/awards/national/champion>)

All eligible nominations will be highlighted in a new showcase of best practices and success stories!

Posters, Brochures, Lesson Plans and More — Get Your Membership Kits!

Get outfitted for a new school year with posters, brochures, lesson plans and whole lot more that comes packed into your SkillsUSA membership kit. Kits have been mailed to all chapters that affiliated with SkillsUSA last year, but if you haven't received yours, then call toll-free 844-875-4557 to request a copy.

There are three unique membership kits, each designed for a specific market: middle school, high school or college/postsecondary. Each kit contains three posters, a brochure, membership cards and a chapter management guide. The guide is key to your success and includes information on establishing a chapter, engaging students in chapter activities, tools for recruitment, lesson plans, programs, scholarship and recognition opportunities, and information on educational resources.



All of the membership materials can also be downloaded at: www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/advisors/membership-kit/



Need Help with Your Chapter or Registering Members? Call the SkillsUSA Membership Hotline Toll Free: 844-875-4557

Hotline operators are ready to answer your questions on how to start a new chapter, engage chapter members and strengthen an existing chapter — you name it, they are ready to tackle it! Operators are on call from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (Eastern time) Monday, Wednesday and Friday and from 11 a.m.–7 p.m. (Eastern) Tuesday and Thursday. **Don't have time to call?** Send the operators an **email** at operators@skillsusa.org or **chat** with them online at the membership registration site!

Help SkillsUSA Texas Raise Funds for Hurricane Harvey Victims

SkillsUSA Texas is sponsoring a T-shirt fundraiser for Hurricane Harvey relief.



Purchase of this T-shirt will go directly to the [Food Bank of Corpus Christi](#), which serves 11 counties including the cities of Rockport and Aransas Pass. All of these counties suffered damage from Hurricane Harvey.

Your help refurbishing the food bank is needed and appreciated. The Food Bank of Corpus Christi has a food pantry there, but also reaches out with an air-conditioned truck to make deliveries to those not

able to commute to the pantry. The food bank is affiliated with the Emergency Food Assistance Program through USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture).

Show your support and get your shirt here: www.customink.com/fundraising/skillsusatx-harvey

Disney “Be Inspired” Grants Offered for Service

The Walt Disney Co. and Youth Service America (YSA) want your help in inspiring young people and families to make a positive impact in their community through volunteering.

Disney is awarding \$500 Be Inspired grants to young people implementing service projects in the fall in partnership with nonprofit organizations. Now is your chance to reach out to your network and encourage young change makers to submit a project. For more information, go to: <http://ysa.org/grants/>

Coming Your Way, Surveys in the Mail

The world of education and work continues to shift, just as student perceptions about these areas do. That is why the [Partnership for 21st Century Learning \(P21\)](#), [America's Promise Alliance](#), [SkillsUSA](#) and the [Educational Research Center of America \(ERCA\)](#) are collaborating on a research project focused on high school students' perceptions of career paths and 21st Century Skills. The [Student Research Foundation](#) works closely with the research consortium to analyze and present the resulting data.

[In previous research](#), the consortium found that 77 percent of high school students had started to consider a career pathway to pursue (another 19 percent said “maybe”). However, it is not always clear that students know about the range of possibilities available to them in our changing world, according to the same group. Its ultimate objective is to stimulate a dialogue on career pathways among parents, teachers and students.

By including your students as part of this important research project, you can help them:

- further consider their strengths, interests and the career options open to them
- receive information from colleges, universities, career and technical schools, and other postsecondary institutions seeking to recruit students with their specific interests, talents, skill sets and career goals
- gain more access to postsecondary scholarship opportunities through our partners and sponsors

Please watch your inbox during the back-to-school season for a package from The Research Consortium on Career Pathways and 21st Century Skills. To make sure you receive this package, [please fill out this simple online form](#) or email info@studentresearch.org to make sure you're on the list. Visit the consortium websites for postings about its research and for other useful information.