



SkillsUSA is showing everyone how vital career and technical education is to America's future.



SkillsUSA is a national student organization serving individuals enrolled in career and technical education programs at our nation's high schools and colleges. SkillsUSA's mission is to develop our members into world-class workers and entrepreneurs as well as responsible American citizens. SkillsUSA complements technical skill training with the development of employability skills that make a well-rounded worker and citizen. Founded in 1965, the organization has developed more than 13 million workers through active partnerships between employers and educators. SkillsUSA is endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education and state departments of education and is cited in federal legislation as an integral part of the career and technical curriculum.

SkillsUSA makes a difference in student performance.

State and national data supports the fact that participation in career and technical education and SkillsUSA makes a difference in student performance. State and national data collected through the Carl D. Perkins Act of 2006 consistently demonstrates the outstanding performance of students who concentrate in career and technical education. Recent data analyzed in Nebraska illustrates the impact of career and technical education (CTE) on student performance and engagement.

Area	CTE Concentrators	CTE Non-Concentrators
Graduation Rate	99%	82%
Dropout Rate	0.4%	3%
Percent Taking AP/Honors	31%	25%

Further data analysis documents that participation in career and technical education and SkillsUSA erase the differences in student academic and technical performance based on socio-economic and racial factors. Nebraska data can be found at: www.education.ne.gov/nce/cte-data-research/

Our Membership

SkillsUSA has more than 18,000 school sections in 53 state and territorial associations, and serves more than 335,000 members annually. Combining alumni and lifetime membership, the total number served this year is nearly 400,000. More than 19,500 instructors and administrators are professional members of SkillsUSA. Our members are known in their schools and communities as leaders and skilled professionals in training.

A Real-World Laboratory for Learning

SkillsUSA provides a real-world laboratory where students practice skills and build self-confidence while serving their schools and communities. SkillsUSA provides experiences in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. All SkillsUSA programs emphasize high ethical standards, superior work skills, lifelong education, responsibility, and pride in accomplishment. These are qualities employers value when hiring or promoting workers. Champions Serving Others is a national community service program that engages SkillsUSA in community improvement and development. An award-winning magazine, *SkillsUSA Champions*, unites and inspires members nationwide by showcasing successful students, teachers, alumni and programs.

Engaging Programs

SkillsUSA offers many resources for educators and students. The **Chapter Excellence Program** honors local chapter achievement around the SkillsUSA Framework of personal, workplace and technical skills. The **SkillsUSA Career Essentials suite** is a solution to industry and education needs in preparing career-ready students who are productive and promotable. Including **Foundations, Experiences** and **Assessments**, the suite helps students develop the skills, attitudes and values that allow them stand out from other applicants in the skilled labor marketplace.

Jump into STEM! provides tools and activities for SkillsUSA members to help both elementary- and middle-school students take part in interactive career experiences. **Student2Student Mentoring** gives high school students opportunity to mentor younger students around career exploration. **CareerSafe** is a 10-hour online OSHA safety-training program that provides students with a workplace credential. The **SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards** is the official competition guide, with a full list of competencies as well as embedded academic skills.

Our Partners

Nationally, SkillsUSA has garnered support from more than 1,000 corporations, businesses, associations and labor unions. These sponsors support SkillsUSA financially and with in-kind contributions because they believe in our mission. The SkillsUSA Foundation is our philanthropic arm. The foundation seeks to involve representatives of business, industry, organized labor, alumni and others in the active financial and volunteer support of SkillsUSA programs and activities.

SkillsUSA Championships

The SkillsUSA Championships begin at the local level with contests in classrooms nationwide. Winners advance through district, regional and state competition, and only the best make it to the national event. Students benefit no matter how they place in their contests. They test their skills, frequently make job contacts and have a chance for recognition. State and national winners receive gold, silver and bronze medals; scholarships; tools; leadership development material and other awards. The SkillsUSA Championships event requires more than 787,482 square feet of floor space, with more than 6,500 competitors in 102 different events. Business and industry contributes more than \$36 million in equipment, supplies and personnel to support the SkillsUSA Championships, which is considered the largest single-day commitment of corporate volunteerism in America. Every other year, a select few are chosen to compete on an international level in the WorldSkills Competition.



SkillsUSA Framework

The SkillsUSA Framework illustrates how students fulfill the mission of the organization “to empower members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens.”

- Includes personal, workplace and technical skills
- Builds a foundation for relevant learning
- Provides a common language for students to articulate what they gain from SkillsUSA participation

SkillsUSA benefits students by:

- Teaching teamwork and leadership
- Reinforcing employability skills
- Offering a national contest program
- Providing ways to serve the local community
- Offering \$1 million in scholarships annually
- Connecting students with potential employers

SkillsUSA benefits teachers by:

- Enhancing the technical curriculum
- Helping improve class attitudes
- Giving students a way to test their skills
- Providing avenues for local industry support
- Helping showcase training programs
- Gaining greater administrator support
- Providing opportunities to network

SkillsUSA benefits schools by:

- Showcasing the school to the community
- Helping instructors meet educational standards
- Improving the quality of training programs
- Providing opportunities for recognition
- Helping to produce more qualified graduates
- Assisting with recruitment and enrollment

SkillsUSA benefits industry by:

- Ensuring that programs meet industry needs
- Providing opportunities for employment
- Helping to promote specific industries
- Offering a way to support local programs

For the latest SkillsUSA information, visit: www.skillsusa.org