

**ARTICLE I—NAME**

The official name of this organization shall be the “SkillsUSA Middle School Division.”

**ARTICLE II—PURPOSES**

The purposes of this organization are:

- To unite in a common bond without regard to race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, creed, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, students who are enrolled in classes with career trade, industrial, STEM and health science objectives.
- To provide leadership for the state associations.
- To provide a clearinghouse for information and activities.
- To provide national recognition and prestige through an association and affiliated organizations.
- To provide a vehicle, national in scope, for organizations to work articulately with trade, industrial, STEM and health science student groups.
- To develop leadership abilities through participation in educational, occupational, civic, recreational and social activities.
- To foster a deep respect for the dignity of work.
- To assist students in establishing realistic career goals.
- To help students attain a purposeful life.
- To create enthusiasm for learning.
- To promote high standards in trade ethics, workmanship, scholarship and safety.
- To develop the ability of students to plan together, organize and carry out worthy activities and projects through the use of the democratic process.
- To foster a wholesome understanding of the functions of labor and management organizations and a recognition of their mutual interdependence.
- To create among students, faculty members, patrons of the school and persons in industry a sincere interest in and esteem for trade, industrial, STEM and health science education.
- To develop patriotism through a knowledge of our nation’s heritage and the practice of democracy.

**ARTICLE III—ORGANIZATION**

Section 1. SkillsUSA is an organization of state associations, each operating in accordance with a charter granted by SkillsUSA Inc.

Section 2. The administration and authority in SkillsUSA affairs will be vested in the SkillsUSA board of directors.

Section 3. The national executive director is the administrator of the national headquarters. The executive director shall be appointed by and responsible to the board of directors for conducting the work of the national program.

**ARTICLE IV—MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership of SkillsUSA Middle School Division shall consist of the total eligible Middle School Division members of the chartered state association, territorial or U.S. possession, and members shall hold the same membership status as in their respective state and local organizations.

Section 2. A state association must have at least four local chapters and all members of the state association must be members of the national organization to qualify for a charter.

Section 3. Each local chapter and state association shall unite in a common bond without regard to race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, creed, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

Section 4. SkillsUSA will recognize members only through a state association.

Section 5. A membership year shall be from Aug. 1 through July 31.

Classes of membership which will be recognized are:

**Active**—Students who have been or are currently enrolled in a middle school exploratory course that prepares for future study in a career trade, industrial, STEM and health science.

**Professional**—Persons associated with or participating in the professional development of SkillsUSA as approved by a state association. Such members shall include but not be limited to, chapter advisors, teacher educators and supervisors. Professional members will pay dues as established by SkillsUSA, but members will be ineligible to serve as national voting delegates, hold national office or otherwise represent the state association in SkillsUSA.

**Honorary Life**— Individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of SkillsUSA and trade, industrial, STEM and health science education whose membership has been approved by the SkillsUSA board of directors, upon the recommendations of a state association. Such membership shall not require payment of national dues.

**ARTICLE V—NATIONAL OFFICERS**

Section 1. Middle school members are not allowed to campaign for a national office.

**ARTICLE VI—HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

Section 1. The Middle School Division House of Delegates shall consist of two voting delegates from each chartered state association plus an additional delegate for each 1,000 Middle School Division members or major fraction thereof. Each delegate shall have one vote and must be present to vote. It shall be the duties and functions of the House of Delegates to:

- Enact bylaws, rules and regulations necessary for carrying out the affairs and activities of the organization as they relate to middle school business.
- Act upon items of business as requested by the National Executive Council and the board of directors.

Section 2. Student delegates or participants at the national meeting shall be recognized and seated only if they are accompanied by one or more adult advisors from their respective state, territory or U.S. possession who is a registered participant.

**ARTICLE VII—MEETINGS**

Section 1. An annual meeting of SkillsUSA shall be held at such time and place as the National Executive Council and board of directors may decide.

Section 2. The National Executive Council, with approval of the board of directors, shall be empowered to call special meetings.

Section 3. Parliamentary procedures at all meetings will be governed by the current version of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

**ARTICLE VIII—VOTING**

Section 1. Members shall exercise their franchise at national meetings or conferences through duly elected representatives or delegates of the chartered state associations.

Section 2. All official delegates and alternates must be certified by the respective SkillsUSA director of each state, territory or U.S. possession to the national executive director not later than June 1 prior to national meeting.

**ARTICLE IX—FINANCES**

Section 1. State associations shall be responsible for annual national dues according to the number of individual members claimed in each membership classification.

Section 2. All organization monies from the state associations shall be deposited with the corporate treasurer of the board of directors.

Section 3. Annual dues shall be established and determined by the board of directors, in consultation with the state association directors' executive board and documented by actual "proof of need."

Section 4. Upon final dissolution or liquidation of SkillsUSA, and after the discharge or satisfaction of all outstanding obligations and liabilities, the remaining assets shall be used by the board of directors for the benefit of students of trade, industrial, STEM and health science education, or be transferred to some recognized educational foundation.

Section 5. The fiscal year of SkillsUSA shall be Sept. 1 through Aug. 31.

**ARTICLE X—AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. The bylaws may be amended as follows:

- A proposed amendment must be presented in writing to the national executive director 150 days prior to a national meeting.
- The amendments shall be reviewed by the National Executive Council and the board of directors.
- Amendments must be submitted to each state association as soon as possible, but not less than 60 days before the annual meeting of the National Executive Council at the time of the national meeting.
- Amendments must be presented for vote at an official business meeting of the House of Delegates at the national meeting. Amendments to the bylaws shall be adopted upon two-thirds affirmative vote of the House of Delegates.

**ARTICLE XI—OPERATING POLICIES**

Section 1. Operating policies shall be adopted as determined by the National Executive Council and with final approval by the SkillsUSA board of directors.

Section 2. All business to be brought before the House of Delegates must first be reviewed by the National Executive Council before presentation to the House of Delegates.

**ARTICLE XII—COMMITTEES**

Section 1. It shall be the responsibility of the national president to appoint national committees and delegates their duties.

Section 2. The national president shall appoint each year, at the national meeting, the following committees:

- Administration
- Training and Program Development
- SkillsUSA Championships and Industrial Relations
- Publications and Public Information
- Conference Management and Support Services

The national president shall appoint ad hoc committees as necessary to conduct the work of the national organization.