Orientation:

Welcome to the 2021 Skills USA Electronics Technology “Virtual” Competition orientation. In years past, I would be looking at the faces of the most talented competitors from around the United States. This year will be a little different in that we may not physically see each other, but the competition will be equally exciting. With that understanding, let me try to answer as many of your questions as we can. The format is easy to follow. I will pose a typical question, then provide the best answer I can. After you read through all the questions and answers, it may be possible that we did not answer your specific question. If that is the case, there is a phone number and email address provided so you can contact us directly. As we receive new questions the orientation Q & A will be updated with those questions so, check in regularly. Let’s get started!

General Competition Overview:

The Electronics Technology Competition is divided between Theory Tests and Performance Tests. There are 5 Theory categories, which include: Customer Service/Interview, Electronics Knowledge, Soldering Theory, Breadboarding Theory, and Troubleshooting Theory. There are 3 Performance categories, which include: Multimeter Measurements, Oscilloscope Measurements, and System Troubleshooting. Each of the 8 competitions are separate events, and each competition is limited by time.

Event Times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theory</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Customer Service/Interview</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics Knowledge</td>
<td>120 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldering Theory</td>
<td>90 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breadboarding Theory</td>
<td>90 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troubleshooting Theory</td>
<td>120 min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multimeter Measurements</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oscilloscope Measurements</td>
<td>60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System Troubleshooting</td>
<td>120 min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Theory Competitions:

The 5 theory competitions must be completed between June 7th and 11th, 2021. They can be administered daily between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm EST. Theory test can be taken at the Host School, or any suitable location. Tests must be scheduled with Nida, and administered by a designated proctor for monitoring. The Contestant must complete each test in a single sitting and abide by the event times.

Performance Competitions:

The 3 performance competitions must be completed on June 14th, June 16th, and June 18th, 2021. These 3 events will be scheduled between Nida, Proctor, Contestant, and Host for specific times. All three performance events will be taken together, with a 20 minute break between each, if required. Equipment required for performance events should be in place and tested prior to event start times. Advisors are not allowed to assist Contestants.

Significant Milestones:

May – State Skills Competitions end, and Contestants are identified.

May – Electronics Technology (ET), receives the names of Contestants.

May – ET will provide Contestant with Login and Passwords.

June – ET and Contestant will schedule both Theory and Performance test times.

June – Theory Test will run between 7 June and 11 June.

June – Performance Tests will run 14 June, 16 June, and 18 June.

June – All final scores will be submitted to Skills USA no later than 20 June.

Summary:

Read through the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) that follow to see if all your questions have been answered. If we missed something, send us an email at SkillsHelp@nida.com or call at 1-800-327-6432 and identify yourself as a Skills Contestant.
Frequently Ask Questions

Question: When does the competition start?
Answer: June 7th is the first scheduled day of competition however, since Contestants must register for a testing time, some start dates may be later.

Question: What equipment do I need to bring with me?
Answer: Download or read the “Equipment List” located on the Skills Hub under Electronics Technology.

Question: How much time do I get for the competition?
Answer: Refer to “Event Times” in this document.

Question: Do I need a computer, tablet, or phone?
Answer: Yes. You will need a desktop, laptop, or compatible Tablet. Smart phones are not supported.

Question: Is there anything I can review prior to the competition?
Answer: Yes. Download or read the “Skills Contest Breakdown” located on the Skills Hub under Electronics Technology.

Question: Will I need a soldering station?
Answer: No. There is only a Theory component to soldering this year.
# Frequently Ask Questions

**Question:** Can I bring a calculator?

**Answer:** Yes. Really good idea.

**Question:** Will my Advisor be able to help during the contest?

**Answer:** No. They may be your Proctor or observer, but they cannot assist.

**Question:** Can I take breaks during a competition?

**Answer:** Yes, if it is required; however, the time clock will not stop.

**Question:** Can I write in the booklets?

**Answer:** Yes, but all booklets will be picked up at the end of the event.

**Question:** Can I keep the materials from the competition?

**Answer:** No.

**Question:** Do I need a “User Name” and “Password”?

**Answer:** Yes. User Name and Password will be assigned in late May when we receive the Contestant names.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When do we know how we did?</td>
<td>You need to ask Skills Management. Scores are provided to them June 20th.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will we be on-line during the competition?</td>
<td>Yes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What if we lose our Internet connection?</td>
<td>In this unlikely event we will adjust the time accordingly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will the competition be on a Zoom or GoToMeeting Call?</td>
<td>GoToMeeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What if I have a question during an event?</td>
<td>You can ask the Proctor; however, they cannot provide information to help you obtain an answer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do we need to wear COVID masks?</td>
<td>Ask this question to the Host School. Follow their requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Frequently Ask Questions**

**Question:** What if I forget my Log-in or password?
**Answer:** We will email a replacement immediately.

**Question:** Can I use my smart phone when taking tests?
**Answer:** No. Smart phones are not compatible.

**Question:** Can I use my tablet (Apple or Android)
**Answer:** Yes if it works. Try running the Sample Test to be sure

**Question:** What computer interface device is recommended?
**Answer:** Any that work. Try running the Sample Test to be sure.

Call Nida Skills: 1-800-327-6432

Email: SkillsHelp@nida.com