



Executive Update 5-22 Nov. 1, 2021

To:

- **State SkillsUSA Directors.**
- **National Corporate Members.**
- **Board of Directors.**
- **National Officers.**

Important Dates:

Nov. 15-21 National Apprenticeship Week
Dec. 1-4 Association for Career and Technical Education CareerTech Vision
Conference, New Orleans, La.
Feb. 7-11 SkillsUSA Week

In This Issue:

- SkillsUSA Instructors Earn Share of “Prize for Teaching Excellence.”
- Two New Hires at SkillsUSA.
- SkillsUSA Store Survey.
- SkillsUSA Shopping Carts to Temporarily Go Offline for Upgrades.
- Career Opportunities at SkillsUSA.
- Celebrate National Apprenticeship Week.
- Due Dates.

SkillsUSA Instructors Earn Share of “Prize for Teaching Excellence”

Harbor Freight Tools for Schools has honored six SkillsUSA instructors with teaching excellence awards in the 2021 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence program. Over \$1 million in prizes were awarded this year to 18 outstanding skilled trades teachers and teacher teams in public high schools across America, with awards shared between the winners’ skilled trades program and the individual teachers.

Two SkillsUSA instructors won first-place awards of \$100,000 and four others won second-place awards of \$50,000. The prize recognizes outstanding instruction in the skilled trades in U.S. public high schools and those teachers who inspire students to learn skills for life after graduation. [Read more here.](#)

Two New Hires at SkillsUSA

Scott Price joined SkillsUSA on Oct. 25 as our new design and digital communications manager in the Office of Communications. A versatile print and interactive graphic designer, Scott also served as a print technology instructor and SkillsUSA advisor for nearly 10 years at Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland. Scott holds a bachelor's degree in Graphic Design, with a focus in art history and public relations. Tracy Whitehead joined SkillsUSA on Oct. 26 as a program manager for career competitions in the Office of Education. Tracy brings extensive experience in event logistics and management, training, budget maintenance and even digital graphic arts. She holds a master's degree in Education Curriculum and Instruction and a bachelor's degree in Education, Math and Visual Arts. Please join us in welcoming both [Scott Price](#) and [Tracy Whitehead](#) to the SkillsUSA team!

SkillsUSA Store Survey

The SkillsUSA Store wants you to have the best shopping experience possible and to bring fresh, exciting, items that allow you to show off what SkillsUSA means to you. Fill out [this quick survey](#) to let them know what products you like, what you want more of and what new product ideas you have.

SkillsUSA Shopping Carts to Temporarily Go Offline

The [SkillsUSA Absorb shopping cart](#) (for "SkillsUSA Career Essentials" curriculum, certification and assessments) and the [SkillsUSA Educational Resource shopping cart](#) (for official SkillsUSA advisor and student materials, contest guides, books, posters and brochures) are undergoing an upgrade and will be offline for approximately 48 hours within the next three weeks. (The exact dates are still to be determined.) Please place any essential orders now to avoid any delays. For questions, contact [Marcia Strickland](#).

Career Opportunities at SkillsUSA

SkillsUSA has several career opportunity openings in the Office of Business Partnerships and Development. [More information is available here.](#)

Celebrate National Apprenticeship Week

This year's National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) is Nov. 15-21. This national celebration, established by the U.S. Department of Labor, brings together business leaders, career seekers, labor, apprentices, educational institutions and others to showcase the positive impact apprenticeship programs have on addressing the skills gap and preparing the

American workforce for the jobs of today and tomorrow. Join the celebration by hosting an event (e.g., an apprenticeship graduation, business open house, high school career fair, skills competition or industry roundtable) or submit a proclamation supporting NAW and apprenticeship. [Learn more here.](#)

Due Dates

November

- Nov. 14 NCCER and BYF Video Contest applications due
- Nov. 15 Deadline for membership registration of at least 15 students and one professional member due to receive a free resource
- Nov. 15 Advisor Challenge contest projects due
- Nov. 15 LAPSEN Scholarship applications due
- Nov. 15 SkillsUSA Week T-shirt designs due

December

- Dec. 1 Student2Student Chapter grant requests due
- Dec. 1 Recruitment Week recognition applications due