

Dear SkillsUSA Advisor, (2018-2019 #7)

Item #1: Membership Reminder - Deadline is January 31, 2019

This is a reminder that you must submit your SkillsUSA Maryland membership information by January 31, 2019. The instructions provided by SkillsUSA are listed below. When you finish the online membership process be sure to press the “Submit” button and delete any previous year’s membership information before logging out.

For schools using block (fall/spring semester) schedules ONLY:

Chapters currently welcoming new spring semester members will have until February 8, 2019, to add new members to the 2018-19 membership rosters. Chapters using a block (semester) schedule must submit Fall semester membership information by the regular January 31 deadline.

How to Register Members Electronically

Register students and professional members quickly and easily on the SkillsUSA National website. Using online registration makes it easier to register for state or national conferences later in the year.

To register electronically, follow these steps:

1. Before you begin, obtain a purchase order number, a credit card (MasterCard or VISA) or a check number in order to pay for your membership.
2. Prepare your list of students and professional members.
3. **Login at www.skillsusa-register.org**. Type in e-mail address and password, then go to the Membership tab. If you are a New User: Click Create Login. Select your state, select your school and answer the questions to create your password.

Registration Support Resources (Steps to register individual members or multiple members in a batch upload):

Quick tip registration videos: <https://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/join/>
Quick Start Guide for registering members: <https://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/membership-kit-2/> (step #5)

New Chapter (school): If you are a new chapter and your school is not shown in the drop-down list of schools for your state, complete the new school form at: <https://www.skillsusa-register.org/rpts/CreateNewSchool.aspx>. (Provide advisor name, school name, address and telephone number).

Note: Once you click the *Join Now* button on the confirmation and accept to pay page an automated invoice will generate for traditional membership. Print and submit to your accounting department for payment. Total Participation Schools will not receive invoices for individual members.

Payment Requirements & Options

By submitting membership online, you are agreeing to pay SkillsUSA membership fees. The current year membership registration begins August 01st, and services will begin

when members are registered. You may pay for membership by using a credit card, check or purchase order.

If paying by check, send a copy of your roster with your check. If using a purchase order, enter the PO number in the Payment Option box on the Web site. If paying by VISA or MasterCard, click the link on the invoice for credit cards or the pay now link found on the screen you registered members; invoice button. No additional action is need if paying by credit card.

For assistance or questions regarding the registration process contact SkillsUSA Hotline Operators at [\(844\) 875-4557](tel:8448754557) or e-mail Hotline Operators at operators@skillsusa.org.

Item #2: State Officer Fundraising Challenge Reminder!

This year, the SkillsUSA Maryland State Officer Team selected “Coastal Conservation Association Maryland” (CCA) as the official state fundraising challenge for the 2018-2019 school year.

Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) is a non-profit organization comprised of 19 state chapters spanning the Gulf of Mexico, Pacific and Atlantic seaboard. CCA’s strength is drawn from the tens of thousands of recreational saltwater anglers who make up its membership. From Puget Sound to South Texas to the upper reaches of Maine, CCA’s grassroots influence is felt through state capitals, U.S. Congress and, most importantly, in the conservation and restoration of our coastal marine resources. To learn more about CCA Maryland visit the following link: <https://www.ccamd.org/>

The State Officer Team challenges every local chapter to collect CCA Maryland donations on behalf of SkillsUSA Maryland. The fundraising challenge deadline is **March 15, 2019**. A combined donation from SkillsUSA Maryland will then be forwarded to Coastal Conservation Association Maryland. Please send chapter donation checks, made payable to ‘SkillsUSA Maryland,’ to Robin Mearman, Financial Officer, SkillsUSA Maryland at the following address. Be sure to include “CCA Maryland” on the memo line:

Robin Mearman
Financial Officer, SkillsUSA Maryland
301 West Pasadena Road
Millersville, MD 21108

The chapter submitting the largest donation will be recognized at the State Championship Awards Ceremony!

Item #3: Regional Competition Online Registration Opening Soon!

It’s almost time to register students for SkillsUSA Regional competitions! Be sure to contact the coordinator in your region for important information, including, registration fees, deadlines

and contest details. Regional coordinator contact information is available via this link: <http://mdskillsusa.org/regionals.html>

Item #4: 2019 SkillsUSA Maryland State Championship

The 46th Annual SkillsUSA Maryland State Championship is April 12-13, 2019. We are pleased to be returning to the Center of Applied Technology North (CATN) and extend a special thank you to Principal Dan Schaffhauser and the entire CATN staff for continuing to support Maryland's premier CTSO event.

SkillsUSA Maryland will also be returning to the Conference Center at the Maritime Institute of Technology (CCMIT) for Friday afternoon and evening competitions, activities and overnight accommodations.

Important! As in previous years, conference registration materials (name badges, programs, etc.) will only be available at CCMIT, Friday, April 12, 2019, 2:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Plan for the chapter lead advisor or designee to pick-up this important information. Registration materials will not be available Saturday morning, April 13, 2019.

Additional State Championship details will be released soon.

Item #5: Seeking Talented Singers to Open SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC)

SkillsUSA is seeking talented student or adult performers to sing the national anthem at the Opening Ceremony for the 2019 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC). Audition videos can be submitted via this web link and must be the singing of the national anthem: <https://skillsusa.wufoo.com/forms/national-anthem-auditions/>

Auditions must be received by February 4, 2019. SkillsUSA does not pay any travel expenses for the selected singer to attend the national conference. Questions may be directed to Heidi Walsh at 703-737-0615 or hwalsh@skillsusa.org

Item #6: Enter the SkillsUSA/CareerSafe Video Contest

National SkillsUSA is partnering with CareerSafe for a safety video competition. Teens across the country are challenged to create a video demonstrating safety in the workplace.

CareerSafe, Safety Education for America's Future, is sponsoring the 2018-19 National Youth Safety Video Contest. The competition kicked off Oct. 16, and all submissions need to be sent into CareerSafe by March 1, 2019. The winning students will receive a SkillsUSA prize package as well as a scholarship up to \$2,500. The winning school will receive a prize up to \$5,000.

Every seven minutes, a teen is hospitalized because of a workplace injury. Every two minutes, a teen is injured in the workplace. Every five days, a teen is killed in the workplace. The competition helps raise awareness about this important issue.

Note: This is not part of the SkillsUSA State or National Championships competitions and has no impact on a student's eligibility to compete.

See contest details at this link: <http://www.careersafeonline.com/index.php/teacher-tools/497-video-contest>

Item #7: 2019 National Conference Pin and T-shirt Design Challenge Opens

SkillsUSA is sponsoring a national conference pin and T-shirt design challenge that is open to all dues-paying student members of the organization. The winning designs will become the official pin or T-shirt for the 2019 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. The pin and T-shirt will be produced by the SkillsUSA Store.

Two designs will be selected. One will be used for the pin and one for the T-shirt. All designs submitted should be appropriate for use on a pin or T-shirt. All entries must be submitted to SkillsUSA exactly as directed in the rules below, and all entries become the property of SkillsUSA once submitted. Only one entry/design per SkillsUSA member is permitted. Please read all of the following information carefully before beginning so as not to be disqualified. Deadline to submit designs is February 5, 2019.

Visit this link for more information: <https://www.skillsusa.org/events/nlsc-pin-and-t-shirt-design-challenge-deadline/>

Item #8: Help is Only a Call, Email or Chat Away!

Hotline operators are ready to answer your questions on how to start a new chapter, engage chapter members and strengthen an existing chapter. 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. Call the hotline toll free: 844-875-4557.

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.

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