



### »» Register for SkillsUSA National Signing Day

SkillsUSA National Signing Day registration is now open! On Signing Day (whether that is on May 6 or another date of your chapter's choosing), students will be recognized by their school administrators, teachers, elected officials, alumni, family and friends for signing letters of intent to pursue a career or further education in the skilled trades. [Download our Signing Day toolkit and learn more about SkillsUSA Signing Day and see how chapters celebrated last year.](#)



Thanks to the generous support of the Lowe's Foundation, 3M, State Farm and NAPA, we're set to make this National Signing Day the **biggest** and **boldest** ever. Let's get ready for an even bigger celebration this May. Signing Day is a wonderful celebratory event that recognizes students as they complete the school year and transition to employment or further education. Registration is now open and early bird registrants have access to free swag while supplies last!

### »» SkillsUSA Hits Record Membership Numbers!

SkillsUSA has surpassed last year's record membership setting a new all-time high of student and teacher members in middle schools, high schools and college/postsecondary institutions nationwide. As of March 1, we topped 438,000 members, which is 25,000 more than last year. The membership number will continue to climb through the remainder of the school year. Achieving the largest membership in SkillsUSA's history is thanks to the hard work and dedication of every staff member, state director, chapter advisor and student member who share the value and impact of membership with friends, family and community. It's also testament to SkillsUSA's collaboration with industry partners that ensures industry-developed standards are integrated in SkillsUSA classrooms and competitions.

SkillsUSA has served over 15 million members since our founding in 1965 when the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America, or VICA, began with 200 students in 14 states.

### »» National T-Shirt and Pin Design Challenge Winners Announced

Congratulations to the talented winners of this year's National Conference Pin and T-shirt Design Challenges! Liliana Romero (advisor: Chris McClantoc) from Baldwin Preparatory Academy in Alabama is the winner of the 2025 National Leadership & Skills Conference T-Shirt Design Challenge. Andrea Molina (advisor: Erin Clark) from Collin College in Texas is the winner of the 2025 National Leadership & Skills Conference Pin Design Challenge. [See the winning designs here.](#)

## »» Hurricane and Food Bank Relief: SkillsUSA Champions Spotlight Story

Check out the [latest inspiring SkillsUSA Champions spotlight story](#) about students at Pamlico County Middle School in Bayboro, N.C. taking action to support others in need. During the school's homecoming football game, students turned their popular shrimp sandwich fundraiser into a force for good. They raised an astounding \$1,100 to aid hurricane relief efforts in Western North Carolina. But their efforts didn't stop there. With an unwavering commitment to service, these young leaders also collected more than 220 pounds of food for the Fishes & Loaves Outreach Food Bank, proving that middle schoolers can make a powerful impact on their community.

## »» Advisor PD Opportunities in March

We encourage you to attend SkillsUSA's last two virtual professional development trainings for this school year. On Thursday, March 20, we will offer SkillsUSA as a solution to the skills gap. On Tuesday, March 25, we will present best practices for creating student-led chapters. [Register](#) and spend an hour with our SkillsUSA professional development team! Participants will earn a Professional Development (PD) certificate. For questions, contact [Karolina Belen](#).

## »» One Day Grad Regalia Sale at the SkillsUSA Store on March 18 🏠

Graduation season is almost here — celebrate in style! Mark your calendar now for our ONE-DAY ONLY graduation regalia sale on Tuesday, March 18. The SkillsUSA Store will offer 20% off on [Tassels, Double Honor Cords, Honor Stoles and the all-in-one Graduation Regalia Kit](#). You must order on **March 18** to receive the 20% discount, no exceptions. SkillsUSA regalia is a great way to honor your graduating members.



## »» NLSC 2025 Courtesy Corps Members

SkillsUSA is recruiting National Courtesy Corps (NCC) members to support the 2025 National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC). This much-appreciated group supports the technical committees and the overall conference experience, and it's a great way for students to network with industry partners and other SkillsUSA students from across the nation. NCC members receive free NLSC registration, housing, local transportation and meals. NCC participants must reside at the assigned Georgia Tech campus housing in Atlanta. For a link to the nomination form and eligibility requirements, visit the [National Courtesy Corps web page](#). For questions, contact [Lauri Domer](#). The deadline for nominations is **April 30**. State directors will receive a list of applicants from their state to approve on May 1. NCC is a great way to bring extra students and teachers to NLSC at a low cost so they can have a national conference experience.

## »» 2025 Ford Auto Tech Scholarships Available

TechForce Foundation, working with Ford Philanthropy and Ford Dealers, is awarding 800 \$5,000 tuition scholarships to students pursuing careers in auto and auto/diesel technology. This need-based scholarship will be applied to a student's school tuition account and may be used for all costs of attendance, including tuition, tools, living expenses and transportation. [Check out this flyer](#) and [visit the website for more information and to apply](#).

## »» Calling Young Social Entrepreneurs for International Opportunity

WorldSkills, along with the HP Foundation and support from UNESCO-UNEVOC, has announced that applications for BeChangeMaker 2025 are open. BeChangeMaker is an online training program for youth between 18 and 35 years old, to design solutions for global challenges and contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals through social entrepreneurship and the power of skills. The team leader must submit the application by **May 31**. Please make sure that each team member has read the Official Rules and created an account on HP LIFE to access the free courses before submitting the application. Thirty teams will be selected to join the program on June 6. The winning teams will receive cash awards plus customized post-program coaching. For questions, contact WorldSkills Partnership Program Manager Oliver Dubois du Bellay.

## »» Apply for the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teacher Excellence

Applications are now open for the [Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence](#). The prize recognizes outstanding instruction in the skilled trades in U.S. public high schools and the teachers who inspire students to learn skills to prepare for life after graduation. In 2025, Harbor Freight will award \$1.5 million in cash prizes to 25 skilled trades teachers and their programs. In 2024, the prize recognized 12 SkillsUSA instructors as winners. Applications must be received by **May 2**. Finalists will be announced June 10 and winners will be announced this fall.

## »» SkillsUSA College/Postsecondary Scholarships Open

SkillsUSA members anticipating tuition expenses for the summer or fall 2025 academic terms can apply for scholarships from SkillsUSA and our generous industry partners. Scholarship applications require a letter of recommendation from a SkillsUSA advisor or another instructor, a resume and a brief essay. Funds for scholarship awards are remitted directly to postsecondary institutions and applied to the student's account balance. These scholarships are competitive and applying for a scholarship does not guarantee your selection. To get started, visit the [scholarships page on the website](#) to see scholarship opportunities, award amounts and application deadlines. For questions, contact our [Customer Care Team](#).



## »» Apply for Presidential Honors by March 31

At the 2025 National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC), SkillsUSA will recognize advisors, students and registered alumni for their community service through the President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA). To qualify, SkillsUSA members must submit a record of their service hours. With SkillsUSA's focus on community service, you may have already met the requirements. For details on how to apply, [visit the website](#). Applications are due by **March 31** for recognition at the 2025 NLSC.

## »» Make48 Innovation Challenge Reminder

SkillsUSA is collaborating with Make48 to bring hands-on innovation challenges to more students in the 2025-26 school year. Beginning in August, teams of students will compete to innovate and prototype a new product during the fall semester. [See their flyer and share it with your students](#). Registrations will be accepted until the brackets are full. To learn more, visit [www.make48.com/curriculum](http://www.make48.com/curriculum).