

JUNE 1-5, 2026 | ATLANTA, GA | CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

19,000+ TOTAL ATTENDEES

Conference Experiences - New Mexico

- **260** students and advisors from **24** different Chapters across New Mexico
- **161** student members competed in **70** career and leadership competitions led by industry's top experts
- **1** Gold medalist; **16** Silver medalists; **8** Bronze medalists; **33** Top 10 Finalists:

Gold Medalists

- **Welding Sculpture** (College), Central New Mexico Community College

Silver Medalists

- **Baking & Pastry Arts** (High School) - Carlsbad High School
- **Chapter Business Procedure** (High School team of 6) - Carlsbad High School
- **Community Service** (College team of 3) - New Mexico Junior College
- **Culinary Arts** (College) - Central New Mexico Community College
- **Medical Terminology** (College) - New Mexico Junior College
- **Nurse Assisting** (College) - University of New Mexico, Gallup
- **Outstanding Chapter** (High School team of 3) - Hobbs High School

Bronze Medalists

- **Aviation Maintenance Technology** (College) - Central New Mexico Community College
- **Career Pathways - Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources** (High School team of 3) - Bernalillo High School
- **Entrepreneurship** (College team of 4) - University of New Mexico, Gallup

Top 10 Finalists

- 4th: **Career Pathways - Human Services** (High School team of 3) - Hot Springs High School
- 4th: **Job Interview** (High School) - Dexter High School
- 4th: **Job Skill Demonstration A** (College) - University of New Mexico, Gallup
- 4th: **Sheet Metal** (College) - Dona Ana Community College
- 4th: **Welding** (College) - Central New Mexico Community College
- 5th: **Technical Computer Applications** (College) - Dona Ana Community College
- 6th: **Prepared Speech** (College) - New Mexico Junior College
- 7th: **Nurse Assisting** (High School) - University of New Mexico, Gallup
- 7th: **Related Technical Math** (High School) - Rio Rancho High School
- 8th: **Cabinetmaking** (College) - Central New Mexico Community College
- 8th: **Community Service** (High School team of 3) - Dexter High School
- 8th: **Computer Programming** (College) - Dona Ana Community College
- 8th: **Information Technology Services** (College) - Dona Ana Community College
- 8th: **Medical Math** (College) - New Mexico Junior College
- 8th: **Welding Fabrication** (College team of 3) - Central New Mexico Community College
- 9th: **American Spirit** (High School team of 3) - Lovington High School
- 9th: **Digital Cinema Production** (College team of 2) - New Mexico Junior College
- 10th: **Commercial sUAS Drone** (High School team of 2) - Goddard High School
- 10th: **Cyber Security** (College team of 2) - Dona Ana Community College
- 10th: **Internetworking** (College) - Dona Ana Community College
- 10th: **Medical Math** (High School) - Rio Rancho High School



JUNE 1-5, 2026 | ATLANTA, GA | CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



Conference Experiences - Leverage (May 30-June 1)

- Leverage is an intensive leadership conference for **SkillsUSA state officers**, held just before the National Leadership conference. It is focused on developing SkillsUSA framework skills in preparation of their year of service: **personal skills**, **workplace skills**, and **technical skills** grounded in academics.
- At Leverage, student state officers establish their role within their respective team, learn how to communicate effectively on behalf of SkillsUSA and dig deeper into the role of a state officer
- New Mexico welcomed **7** new state officers, **5** high school and **2** college/post-secondary
- New Mexico also had **one** student from **New Mexico Junior College** elected by voting delegates to join the 2026-2027 **National State Officer** team

Conference Experiences - National Numbers

- Over **19,000** students, educators, and volunteers attended the 2026 National Leadership & Skills Conference
- **6,754** total students from across the country competed in **114** competitions
- Of those students attending, **74%** are high school, **23%** college/postsecondary, and **3%** middle school
- Student attendance is **54%** male, **43%** female, and **3%** not specified



Conference Experiences - Industry

- **231** business and industry partners (including **Aerotek**, **Coca-Cola**, **Pathful**, **Snap-on**, **Lowe's Foundation**, **Ford**, **Lincoln Electric**, **Bosch**, **Gene Haas Foundation**, **3M**, **American Airlines**, **Honda**, **John Deere**, **IBM**, **NCCER**, **Miller**, **US Navy**, **US Army**, and more) supported SkillsUSA through **TECHSPO** to directly network with students and educators
- **Over 850 committee members** from industry help plan and run the **114** SkillsUSA Championship competitions
- Over **400+** industry-recognized credentialing opportunities available, many offered at no cost, from leading partners **Autodesk**, **FANUC**, **iCEV**, **Mitutoyo**, **NOCTI**, and more



Conference Experiences - Community Service

- **120** beds were built by volunteer students and educators plus new mattresses and bedding were donated to **Sleep in Heavenly Peace**
- **10 custom art pieces** (6 panels each) were created with the help of hundreds of students to donate to the **Foundation for Hospital Art**
- **Hundreds** of hygiene items were donated to the **City of Refuge** for those in need

