



SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards

PURPOSE

To evaluate a competitor's creative, technical, and oral presentation skills and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism.

First, download and review the General Regulations at: <http://updates.skillsusa.org>.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in career and technical education programs. Each state may send one middle school, one high school, and one college/postsecondary competitor.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

Class A: SkillsUSA Official Attire

- Official SkillsUSA red blazer or official SkillsUSA red jacket
- Button-up, collared, white dress shirt (accompanied by a plain, solid black tie or SkillsUSA black tie), white shirt (collarless or small-collared) or white turtleneck, with any collar not to extend into the lapel area of the blazer, sweater, windbreaker or jacket
- Black dress slacks or black dress skirt (knee-length at minimum)
- Black closed-toe dress shoes

Note: The official SkillsUSA windbreaker, sweater and black Carhartt jacket are no longer available for purchase in the SkillsUSA Store. However, these clothing items are grandfathered in as previous official SkillsUSA clothing and can be worn in SkillsUSA competitions as directed in this document.

OR:

Class E: Competition Specific — Business Casual

- Official SkillsUSA white polo shirt
- Black dress slacks or black dress skirt (knee-length minimum)
- Black closed-toe dress shoes

Note: Wearing socks or hose is no longer required. If worn, socks must be black dress socks and hose must be either black or skin-tone and seamless/nonpattern.

These regulations refer to clothing items that are pictured and described at www.skillsusastore.org. If you have questions about clothing or other logo items, call 1-888-501-2183.

Note: Competitors must wear their official competition clothing to the competition orientation meeting.

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the technical committee:
 - a. Minimum 28" x 28" table space for each display
 - b. Timekeeper and judges
 - c. All necessary information for the judges and technical committee
2. Supplied by the competitor:
 - a. 8.5" x 11" rendering of pin design (must follow points in Competition Guidelines, including attribution for fair use and proof of creative commons content, or permission to use copyrighted content).
 - b. Tabletop display to promote the pin design to the public
 - c. Means of presentation: computer, tablet, notebook, poster, or other media of the competitor's choice, if desired to make the presentation to the judges.
 - d. All competitors must create a one-page resume. See "Resume Requirement" below for guidelines. Middle school students are exempt from the resume requirement.

RESUME REQUIREMENT

Competitors must create a one-page resume to submit online. SkillsUSA national competitors should submit their resume by the deadline published on the competition updates page of our website. The deadline and link for resume submission will be published on <http://updates.skillsusa.org>. Failure to submit a resume will result in a 10-point penalty.

Your resume must be saved as a PDF file type using file name format of "Last Name_First Name." For example, "Amanda Smith" would save her resume as **Smith_Amanda**. If you need assistance with saving your file as a PDF, visit [the Adobe website](http://the.adobe.com) for more information.

Note: Check the Competition Guidelines and/or the updates page on the SkillsUSA website at <http://updates.skillsusa.org>.

PROHIBITED DEVICES

Cellphones, electronic watches and/or other electronic devices not approved by a competition's national technical committee are **NOT** allowed in the competition area. Please follow the guidelines in each technical standard for approved exceptions. Technical committee members may also approve exceptions onsite during the SkillsUSA Championships if deemed appropriate.

Penalties for Prohibited Devices

If a competitor's electronic device makes noise or if the competitor is seen using it at any time during the competition, an official report will be documented for review by the Director of the SkillsUSA Championships. If confirmed that the competitor used the device in a manner which compromised the integrity of the competition, the competitor's scores may be removed.

SCOPE OF THE COMPETITION

The competition consists of the following:

1. Evaluation of the state pin design
2. Oral presentation and question-and-answer session. All competitors will be asked the same questions, which judges will determine before the start of the competition.
3. Evaluation of the tabletop display.

KNOWLEDGE PERFORMANCE

There will be no skill-related written test. Competitors are required to take the SkillsUSA Professional Development Test. Middle school competitors are exempt from testing requirements.

SKILL PERFORMANCE

The competition is designed to assess the competitor's ability to design and produce a trading pin concept for their state SkillsUSA association. In addition, competitors must create an informative, educational, and promotional tabletop display and deliver a presentation regarding all aspects of their state pin design.

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. All entries must be rendered in color. Preferably, entries will be created in a design software package. Entries may also be hand-drawn, painted, or rendered in colored pencils or markers.
2. All entries should be submitted on a single 8.5"x11" page with two sizes: 7" and 1½". Both sizes must be identical. A copy for judging must be turned in at orientation. The larger 7" version is for showing greater detail. The smaller 1½" version is to show what the actual pin will look like at production. The larger version must be 7" wide or 7" tall on its largest dimension for judging.

The smaller version should be 1½" wide or 1½" tall on its largest dimension to show how

the pin will look at production. Deductions will be taken for each size version as follows: five (5) points for every $\frac{1}{4}$ " over or under on the 7" version and five (5) points for every $\frac{1}{8}$ " over or under on the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " version. Wording on the pin must reference the name of the state, the year, and SkillsUSA. Note that both sizes should be readable, but especially the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " size. The competitor number for the national conference must be placed on the back of the submitted artwork. The SkillsUSA emblem or SkillsUSA logo (or elements of either) should not appear on the pin or display. The name SkillsUSA must be used and the proper spelling must be as shown (SkillsUSA is one word; accurate use of capitalization is required to represent the brand's standards.) Learn more about SkillsUSA's editorial and graphic style guidelines at <https://brandguide.brandfolder.com/skillsusa-brand-guide/>

3. The design must be the original concept of the student. Use of the students' own original photos, drawings, or digital art is highly recommended. Designs may be constructed of small amounts of Creative Commons licensed material, material in the public domain, or commercial stock images. These materials must be accompanied by proof of license and must provide attribution to credit the originator.
4. Designs that violate copyright laws are subject to disqualification.
5. Competitors will deliver a five- to seven- minute presentation regarding their design. Competitors are encouraged to memorize their presentation and use their display or visual aid only for quick reference. Competitors should always aim for good eye contact and good rapport with the judges. Strong presentations have a commanding introduction, a series of strong supporting points, and a conclusion which summarizes the topic. Talking points should include:
 - a. How the competitor came up with the concept
 - b. The process in which the competitor designed the pin
 - c. Why the competitor feels it represents their state
 - d. What its unique qualities are
 - e. Why the pin would be desirable to wear, collect, or trade at NLSC
6. Presenter substitutions are not permitted. However, a language translator may be allowed for students with this need. To receive this accommodation, the proper form must be submitted by the established deadline. Please check with the State Director for more details on submitting this form.
7. After the presentation, the judges will ask questions related to Pin Design, SkillsUSA, production process, professional development, workplace, technical, and leadership skills.
8. A space will be provided for a tabletop display to promote the pin design/state to the public, for viewing at the national conference. The competitor will have no more than 28" x 28" table space for this display. The display should be no taller than 48" from the tabletop. The entry submitted for judging will also be in this space. This display can be used in the presentation.

This display must be set up by the time listed in the competition schedule and remain up until the debriefing. There will be no electricity or security for the display, so be careful not

to leave valuable items on the display. The display will be judged separate from the interview. Displays should be informative and educational and must also be crafted independently by the competitor. Decorative items and craft supplies such as stickers, lettering, etc., are permitted in the display. Advisors are not permitted to set up displays. (Exceptions or modifications allowed to comply with ADA for competitors with applicable disabilities.)

9. Displays may not include hazardous or flammable materials or generate noise.
10. Displays will be judged on:
 - a. Neatness
 - b. Overall aesthetic appeal
 - c. Informative/educational value
 - d. Cohesiveness
 - e. Grammar/spelling
 - f. Size
 - g. Originality and creativity
 - h. Overall effort

STANDARDS AND COMPETENCIES

PD 1.0 — Understand general design industry terminology and concepts.

- 1.1. Define, explain and describe various concepts related to typography, elements of design, digital images, artwork and the printing process.

PD 2.0 — Demonstrate mechanical skills by creating a design on the computer within a specified amount of time.

- 2.1. Recall understanding and skills necessary to prepare art electronically.
 - 2.1.1. Implement correct size and orientation of design.
- 2.2. Recall knowledge and appropriate use of industry standard hardware and software.
 - 2.2.1. Implement correct size and placement of elements.
 - 2.2.2. Implement correct use of typography.
 - 2.2.3. Implement assignment of proper color to elements.

PD 3.0 — Administer creative skills by solving a graphic design problem relevant to the skill set required for the design industry.

- 3.1. Apply understanding and skills necessary to create a variety of thumbnails and ideas for a given design problem.
 - 3.1.1. Implement correct number, size, scaling and color requirements of thumbnails as defined by the technical committee.
 - 3.1.2. Implement media (markers, color pencils, etc.) in the creation of thumbnails.
 - 3.1.3. Demonstrate professional presentation and technical execution of thumbnails.
- 3.2. Apply understanding and skills necessary to create roughs developed from thumbnails for the given design problem.
 - 3.2.1. Implement correct number, size, scaling and color requirements of thumbnails as defined by the technical committee.
 - 3.2.2. Exhibit the development of ideas from the thumbnail stage.

- 3.2.3. Implement media (markers, color pencils, etc.) in the creation of roughs.
- 3.2.4. Demonstrate professional presentation and technical execution of roughs.
- 3.3. Administer industry standard hardware and software in the creation of the project.
 - 3.3.1. Implement correct size and format for the design of the comprehensive portion of the competition.
 - 3.3.2. Exhibit the development of ideas from the rough stage.
 - 3.3.3. Implement clip art, original art and designs in the creation of the comprehensive.
 - 3.3.4. Demonstrate professional presentation and technical execution of the comprehensive.

PD 4.0 — Complete an oral professional assessment in a simulated customer situation.

- 4.1. Perform customer-service-related activities when relating to a customer.
 - 4.1.1. Explain the function of the customer service representative.
- 4.2. Communicate professionally with technical knowledge.
 - 4.2.1. Describe the workings of a production environment.
 - 4.2.2. Explain the nature of work performed and requirements of customers.
- 4.3. Respond quickly, accurately and professionally in a customer situation.

PD 5.0 — Demonstrate an understanding of the SkillsUSA Framework in the presentation.

- 5.1. Apply job specific skills to the project.
 - 5.1.1. Explaining the research done for the state the pin is representing.
 - 5.1.2. Explain the design rationale; why this design was chosen based on research done.
- 5.2. Presenting personal skills
 - 5.2.1. Explain the integrity of the design.
 - 5.2.2. Share some of the hardships that came with executing the pin, and how those were overcome.
- 5.3. Apply workplace skills.
 - 5.3.1. Explain the process of communicating, organizing, and managing the process in which this pin was created.
 - 5.3.2. Provide examples of the commitment to leadership to complete this project.

PD 6.0 — SkillsUSA Framework

The SkillsUSA Framework is used to pinpoint the Essential Elements found in Personal Skills, Workplace Skills, and Technical Skills Grounded in Academics. Students will be expected to display or explain how they used some of these Essential Elements. Please reference the graphic, as you may be scored on specific elements applied to your project. For more, visit: www.skillsusa.org/who-we-are/skillsusa-framework/.



COMMITTEE IDENTIFIED ACADEMIC SKILLS

The technical committee has identified that the following academic skills are embedded in this competition.

Math Skills

- Use fractions to solve practical problems.
- Use proportions and ratios to solve practical problems.
- Simplify numerical expressions.
- Solve practical problems involving percentages.
- Solve single variable algebraic expressions.
- Solve multiple variable algebraic expressions.
- Measure angles.
- Find surface area and perimeter of two-dimensional objects.
- Find volume and surface area of three-dimensional objects.
- Apply transformations (rotate or turn, reflect or flip, translate or slide, and dilate or scale) to geometric figures.
- Construct three-dimensional models.
- Solve problems using proportions, formulas and functions.
- Take measurements with a ruler.

Science Skills

None Identified

Language Arts Skills

- Analyze mass media messages.
- Demonstrate comprehension of a variety of informational texts.
- Use print, electronic databases and online resources to access information in books and articles.
- Demonstrate narrative writing.
- Demonstrate expository writing.
- Demonstrate persuasive writing.
- Demonstrate informational writing.
- Edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure and paragraphing.

CONNECTIONS TO NATIONAL STANDARDS

State-level academic curriculum specialists identified the following connections to national academic standards.

Math Standards

- Numbers and operations
- Algebra

- Geometry
- Measurement
- Data analysis and probability
- Problem-solving
- Communication
- Connections
- Representation

Source: NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics. For more information, visit: www.nctm.org.

Science Standards

None Identified

Language Arts Standards

- Students read a wide range of print and nonprint texts to build an understanding of texts, of themselves and of the cultures of the United States and the world; to acquire new information; to respond to the needs and demands of society and the workplace; and for personal fulfillment. Among these texts are fiction and nonfiction, classic and contemporary works.
- Students apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate and appreciate texts. They draw on their prior experience, their interactions with other readers and writers, their knowledge of word meaning and of other texts, their word identification strategies and their understanding of textual features (e.g., sound-letter correspondence, sentence structure, context, graphics).
- Students adjust their use of spoken, written and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.
- Students apply knowledge of language structure, language conventions (e.g., spelling and punctuation), media techniques, figurative language and genre to create, critique and discuss print and nonprint texts.
- Students conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions and by posing problems. They gather, evaluate and synthesize data from a variety of sources (e.g., print and nonprint texts, artifacts, people) to communicate their discoveries in ways that suit their purpose and audience.
- Students use a variety of technological and information resources (e.g., libraries, databases, computer networks and video) to gather and synthesize information and to create and communicate knowledge.
- Students participate as knowledgeable, reflective, creative and critical members of a variety of literacy communities.
- Students use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion and the exchange of information).

Source: IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts. To view the standards, visit: www.ncte.org/standards.