



## SkillsUSA Fact Sheet

**Overview:** SkillsUSA is a national organization serving high school and college students who are preparing for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations, including health occupations, and for further education.

**SkillsUSA's mission** is to empower its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens.

**Membership:** More than 360,000 students and advisors join SkillsUSA each year, organized into more than 19,000 local chapters and 52 state and territorial associations. In 2016, 20,365 teachers served as professional members and SkillsUSA advisors. Combining alumni membership, the total number impacted annually is over 420,000. SkillsUSA has served more than 12.5 million members since its founding in 1965.

**Mission:** SkillsUSA empowers its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. SkillsUSA improves the quality of America's skilled workforce through a structured program of citizenship, leadership, employability, technical and professional skills training. SkillsUSA enhances the lives and careers of students, instructors and industry representatives as they strive to be champions at work.

**Partners:** More than 600 business, industry and labor organizations actively support SkillsUSA at the national level through financial aid, in-kind contributions, and involvement of their people in SkillsUSA activities. Many more work directly with state associations and local chapters. Commitment by industry to the annual national SkillsUSA Championships is valued at more than \$36 million.

**Programs:** SkillsUSA offers local, state and national opportunities in which students can demonstrate their personal, workplace and technical skills. These three components comprise the organizational framework of SkillsUSA. This framework serves as a blueprint for career readiness. Local chapters conduct a full program of work and many students also attend a district or state conference. At the national-level SkillsUSA Championships, more than 6,500 students compete in 102 occupational and leadership skill areas each June in Louisville, Ky. These national technical competitions help establish industry standards for job skill training. SkillsUSA is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and is cited as a successful model of employer-driven youth development training program by the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Resources:** SkillsUSA offers many resources for educators. The Chapter Excellence Program honors local chapter achievement around SkillsUSA's framework of personal, workplace and technical skills. The Work Force Ready System assessments help students document entry-level job skills, with 40 employability assessments offered in 10 cluster areas. The Career Readiness Curriculum helps SkillsUSA advisors introduce workplace skills through 27 classroom lessons. The Professional Development Program builds on mastery of those skills through a series of 76 self-paced activities. Student2Student Mentoring gives high school students opportunity to mentor younger students around career exploration. CareerSafe is a 10-hour online OSHA safety-training program that provides students with a workplace credential. The SkillsUSA Technical Standards is the official competition guide, with a full list of competencies as well as embedded academic skills.

**For More Information about Tennessee SkillsUSA Postsecondary contact:**

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