



# Judges Responsibility

Thank you for giving your time and expertise to evaluate our students. Your contribution in volunteering to assist the contest chairs in evaluating a student's skill is vital to the Career Technical Education programs in the State. We value your input and expertise as we try our best in preparing students for the workforce. Here are a few rules that all judges must follow during the SkillsUSA Championships Conference:

1. Judges must be completely familiar with the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards, particularly the General Regulations, Instructions to Technical Committee Chairs, and the specific rules of the contest they have been asked to judge.
2. Judges should receive copies of the contest project and judges' rating sheet(s), along with complete instructions from the SkillsUSA Contest Chair prior to the competition.
3. Members of the SkillsUSA Contest Chairs may not serve as judges unless approved by the SkillsUSA Championships director.
4. Judges must give careful attention to each rule, and each contestant or entry must be judged in exactly the same manner and under the same conditions as every other contestant or entry.
5. Judges will meet prior to the SkillsUSA Championships, at a time and place announced by the SkillsUSA Contest Chair, to confer on:
  - a. Rule meanings and interpretations
  - b. Room arrangements
  - c. Materials and equipment
  - d. Last-minute details
  - e. Rating sheets
6. Judges will evaluate the performance of each contestant according to the criteria listed in each contest.
7. Judges will identify contestants by number only. Judges will not use contestants' names, schools, or states unless otherwise specified in individual contest rules.
8. Judges may attend the contest orientation meeting held prior to the opening of the SkillsUSA Championships. However, only the Contest Chairs may instruct the contestants and verify attendance.
9. Judges are selected because of their recognized expertise in the trade or skill that they are being asked to judge and are asked to follow the official SkillsUSA rules without inserting personal opinions. Such things as length of hair, length of dress and style of shoe, unless specifically covered in the contest regulations, are not to be considered by the judges except where safety is considered.

10. In no instance are judges or contest chairs authorized to change the contest rules. If an interpretation is required, the chair should contact the SkillsUSA Championships Director.

11. Judges are to evaluate all items related to safety. Contestants not meeting safety requirements in clothing and/or devices may be disqualified from competition if, in the judges' opinions, the safety of the contestants or those around them is endangered.

12. Judges should rate contestants on the basis of entry-level job skills. Judges should rate each contestant independently and not compare rating sheets with those of other judges.

13. Judges should rate contestants against a standard of performance rather than automatically awarding first; second; or third place medals to the highest-ranking competitors. It is not necessary to award a medal if the standard of performance does not justify such recognition.

14. After the judging is completed, judges should total their own rating sheets and return them, along with any notes and other pertinent information, to the SkillsUSA Contest Chair or SkillsUSA Contest Score Keeper.

15. The judges, contest chair and contest score keeper members will keep all results confidential until the general announcement of winners is made at the Awards Ceremony. Under no circumstances may the judges discuss contest results or contestants' performance with contestants, chapter advisors or any observers.

16. Judges should refer all contest inquiries or problems that arise to the SkillsUSA Contest Chair. In keeping with the tradition of respect for the individuality of our members and our role in workforce development, SkillsUSA strives to ensure inclusive participation in all of our programs, partnerships, and employment opportunities.

Thank you for volunteering your time and expertise to assist with our annual SkillsUSA Championship Conference. Please feel free to display your business banner during the competitions. We want to showcase the companies that support us.