

# SkillsUSA Announcements 10-19-17

**Registration is open for SkillsUSA Washington CISPUS leadership camp** for your chapter officers and leaders. CISPUS 2017 is limited to the first 50 students who sign up and up to 8 students from your school. If you have numerous sections in your school and need to bring additional officers, please contact [tlufkin@comcast.net](mailto:tlufkin@comcast.net). Come kick off your SkillsUSA year at this wonderful, rustic location in Randle, WA. Student activities will be lead by SkillsUSA advisors as we continue to search for a state officer trainer. Registration is at [www.skillsusa.org](http://www.skillsusa.org) and instructions are attached. The cost is \$100 for advisors & \$100 for students. Registration includes fun activities and information about how to develop and run your chapter, a ropes course, meals and sleeping accommodations. There is no fee for state officers. Events begin 11/2 at 4pm and end 11/4 at 10:30 am with a sack lunch for the road. Space is limited. **Registration extended to by Monday, October 23rd.**

Training for advisors will be available by SkillsUSA Washington Certified trainer Adam Scroggins November 3rd. We'll cover SkillsUSA Framework, Career Essentials Foundations Curriculum, Chapter Management and Chapter of Excellence, TPEP incorporation and running local contests. Training will be conducted this year by SkillsUSA Washington certified trainers. Advisors may come to training and bring no students on Friday and stay for meals or may stay for the whole time. The fee is the same. Clock hours will be available. There will also be a state conference planning meeting 11/2 after dinner.

After registered, email [tlufkin@comcast.net](mailto:tlufkin@comcast.net) your anticipated arrival and departure times – this will help us keep the cost of this event low and will allow us to give CISPUS accurate numbers for meals and overnight fees. There are limited gluten free meal options available. If you would like to request vegetarian or gluten free options, email [tlufkin@comcast.net](mailto:tlufkin@comcast.net). There are no vegan options available. If you have any questions, contact [tlufkin@comcast.net](mailto:tlufkin@comcast.net).

**Technical Standards** for SkillsUSA Washington state only contests are now available at [www.skillsusawashington.org](http://www.skillsusawashington.org).

## The Best Way to Build a Successful SkillsUSA Chapter

SkillsUSA's Chapter Excellence Program (CEP) recognizes your achievement in integrating the SkillsUSA Framework in chapter activities related to the program of work. As a chapter's yearly action plan, the SkillsUSA program of work is at the heart of student learning and employability development. By using our framework as a guide, chapters have a blueprint for creating relevant activities that encourage participation and help students understand what they're learning.



The SkillsUSA Framework's focus on intentional learning turns the program of work into more than just a planning tool. Using the framework, the program of work becomes the vital conduit that links students to the application of **personal, workplace and technical skills** demanded by industry — the SkillsUSA trifecta for student success.

Within the personal, workplace and technical skills areas, there are specific Essential Elements tied to each. The Essential Elements are high-demand employability skills as defined by industry, and the benchmark for measuring student success during an activity. For example, if students learn the Essential Element of responsibility during a personal skills activity, the SkillsUSA Framework requires that a chapter be specific regarding the how and why students learned responsibility. This conscientious approach gives added meaning to the valuable experience students gain in while planning, organizing and implementing activities. Most importantly, this approach actualizes SkillsUSA's mission to "empower members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens" on the chapter level.

Every chapter is encouraged to participate in CEP, and there are three award levels to recognize program involvement. The first two levels are acknowledged by a chapter's state SkillsUSA association, and the third level is recognized nationally through Models of Excellence. Each level is designed to give chapters a benchmark for success and future improvement, leading to stronger chapters and better prepared students. The more a chapter applies the SkillsUSA Framework, the greater the chance for CEP honors.

## Start Your CEP Application Today

Start your Chapter Excellence Program application today and begin to recognition for your chapter! The online application is on the main page membership registration site once you have logged into your school account ([www.skillsusa-register.org/Login.aspx](http://www.skillsusa-register.org/Login.aspx)). Questions? Use the resources below to introduce students to CEP:

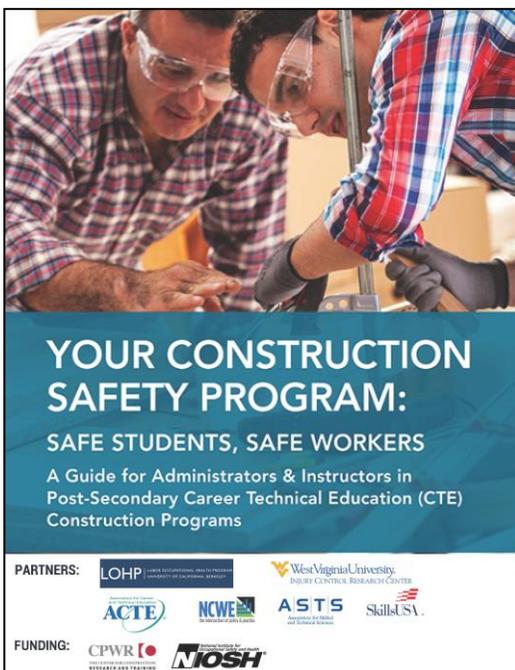


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- Get your students ready to succeed with CEP by using these quick and fun lesson plans: <https://www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CEP-Mini-Lessons-2015.pdf>
- Everything you need to know about implementing the CEP can be found here: <http://www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CEP-Teachers-Guide.pdf>

Additional help is only a phone call or email away: 844-875-4557 or [operators@skillsusa.org](mailto:operators@skillsusa.org).

## Free Occupational Safety Resources Available for Postsecondary Educators



Every day, two to three workers die on construction sites in the United States. New and young workers are at high risk for injury. But through quality safety and health education, career and technical programs can help keep future workers safe.

Free resources are now available at: <http://bit.ly/cte-guide>. These will help postsecondary instructors and administrators to:

- Assess your program using the online assessment tools to determine how it's doing in the areas of Safety and Health Management Systems, Instructor Qualifications and Support, Effective Teaching and Learning, and Offsite Learning
- Learn how to better prepare your students to work safely in changing, hazard-filled environments
- Spread the news about these resources by downloading an informational handout that can be used at your meetings

SkillsUSA has advised and supported this effort, based on research conducted in 2015-16 by the University of California Berkeley's Labor Occupational Health Program and West Virginia

University's Injury Control Research Center. Other supporters include the Association for Career and Technical Education, the Association for Skilled and Technical Sciences, and the National Council for Workforce Education. Funding came from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), through CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training.

## This Video Contest is in the Bank

To encourage financial responsibility, the American Bankers Association Foundation has a "Lights, Camera, Save!" video contest that calls on students to educate themselves and their peers about saving and using money wisely. Contest judges are looking for creative, innovative concepts — your students' imaginations are the only limit to coming up with unique savings scenarios. Winning videos will be posted on YouTube and viewed across the globe. The contest is free and open to all students age 13-18, with the videos of local winners moving on to the national competition.

The entry period is Oct. 1-Dec. 1. The top three national winners will receive awards of \$1,000, \$2,500 or \$5,000 to fund their saving goals. Equally rewarding, if one of your students is a top-three national winner, your school will win a scholarship to attend the 2018 Jump\$tart National Educator Conference. Winners will be announced in March. Visit [www.LightsCameraSave.com](http://www.LightsCameraSave.com) for additional contest information and to locate a participating bank in your area.

### **Lesson Plans Bring *SkillsUSA Champions Magazine* into the Classroom**

Fall is a great time to get plugged into the digitized *SkillsUSA Champions* magazine for an interactive classroom experience! Have students read the Fall 2017 issue's "National Officers: Prepared and Focused on Serving Members" as homework or during class individually, in small groups or aloud as an entire class. Then quickly discuss the article.

Finally, use the discussion questions to help students apply the article to their own SkillsUSA experience.

Activities are provided for practice and extended learning. Enjoy the connectivity with the magazine, but most of all, enjoy the integral linkage that SkillsUSA creates to your classroom. Quick link:



help

for

all,

[http://read.nxtbook.com/mercury/skillsusa/champions\\_fall\\_2017/index.html#national\\_officers\\_prepared\\_and\\_focused\\_on\\_serving\\_members](http://read.nxtbook.com/mercury/skillsusa/champions_fall_2017/index.html#national_officers_prepared_and_focused_on_serving_members)

#### **"National Officers: Prepared and Focused on Serving Members"**

##### *Content Discussion Questions*

1. What are some common trends among the national officers?
2. What impact do national officers have on individual members? On the organization?
3. What are the responsibilities of a SkillsUSA national officer?
4. What traits and qualities should a national officer possess?
5. How do you provide leadership at home? In school? In SkillsUSA? In the workplace?

##### *In-Class Activity*

12 minutes

Workplace Skills: Teamwork, All Behaviors

Materials needed: Disposable plastic cups (six per small group of students), rubber band tools — made by tying 8 inches of string/yarn to one rubber band (one tool per small group), permanent markers (one per small group)

Prior to the session, assemble the rubber band tools. Students will work in groups of four to six. There will be one tool per group, and each person in the group needs one string attached to the rubber band. Divide students into small groups of four to six. Give each group six plastic cups and one marker. Give these instructions:

1. As a group, discuss the qualities and traits of a successful team.
2. Select six traits and write one on each cup.
3. You have two minutes to discuss and write.
4. What questions are there?

After two minutes, bring the class back together and provide each group one rubber band tool. Give these instructions:

1. You will create a pyramid with the cups, but you may not touch the cups with your hands at any time.
2. You may only use the rubber band tool to move and stack the cups.
3. Each member of your group must hold one of the strings at all times.

4. You have four minutes.
5. Questions?

After four minutes or when groups are ready to move on, bring the class back together. Facilitate a discussion by asking questions including:

- What words did you choose to describe a successful team? Why?
- What was challenging about this activity? What did your team do well?
- When do you demonstrate the behaviors of teamwork at home? In school? In SkillsUSA? In the workplace?

#### *Extended Learning Opportunity*

Workplace Skills: Leadership, Foster hope

Have the class put together student highlights of the chapter officer team. This can be displayed on a bulletin board, website, newsletter or other media source.

## **ESAB Student Contest Supports Schools**

ESAB supports education and careers in the welding, cutting and manufacturing industries. Its WeldItForward student contest supports high schools and postsecondary institutions with a technical, vocational or engineering focus.

As the grant prize, ESAB is awarding its equipment filler metals and cash prizes — a retail value exceeding \$20,000 to two schools. The first deadline is **Oct. 9**. For more information, go to: <http://info.esabna.com/weld-it-forward-student-contest>

## **Showcase Your Program's Amazing Work**

Think you have one of the best CTE programs in the nation? Apply for Advance CTE's 2018 Excellence in Action award to showcase the amazing work of your students, instructors, faculty and partners at the national level. In its fifth year, this award honors innovative and high-impact programs across the 16 Career Clusters that prepare students for the real world.

Not only will your program be featured in the media and at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., in the spring, you'll also be contributing to a positive image of CTE programs. And, you'll help show policymakers, employers and education leaders how CTE really is for all students and prepares them for a lifetime of college and career success. Applications are open to high schools and postsecondary institutions.

Apply at: <https://careertech.org/excellence-action-award>. If you have questions, email Katie Fitzgerald: [atawards@careertech.org](mailto:atawards@careertech.org).

## **Help is Only a Call, Email or Chat Away!**

Everyone needs a little help now and then. Let the SkillsUSA Membership Hotline operators help you solve your problems. Hotline operators are ready to answer your questions on how to start a new chapter, engage chapter members and strengthen an existing chapter. Operators are on call from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (Eastern time) Monday, Wednesday and Friday and from 11 a.m.–7 p.m. (Eastern) Tuesday and Thursday. Call the hotline toll free: **844-875-4557**.

**Don't have time to call?** Send the operators an **email** at [operators@skillsusa.org](mailto:operators@skillsusa.org) or **chat** with them online at the membership registration site.