

SkillsUSA Announcements January 18 2018

WASHINGTON CTE / CTSO - Civic Engagement Day February 15, 2018 - Washington State Capitol Building

This is a great event for your students and is a valuable way for us to show Olympia the importance of our programs and why CTE must be funded at an enhanced level. Please join us on this day as we help our students understand the legislative process and share their stories with members of our State Legislature. There will be no tables for schools this year at the capital based on feedback of traffic in those areas. If you would like to come the night before, there are a limited number of discounted (\$129) hotel rooms at the Hotel Red Lion in Olympia, 2300 Evergreen Park Drive SW, 98502. The discounted block is called "WA CTSO Council". The cut off date for discounted rooms is January 24, 2018. There is no training provided before sessions with advisors but I am sending additional materials to help you locate your legislator and prepare for your meetings with legislators.

STAY ON TOP OF WORKFORCE BILLS WITH LEGISLATIVE TRACKER

Follow workforce bills throughout the 2018 Legislative session. View bills the Workforce Board staff are tracking, along with presentations and materials at: <http://www.wtb.wa.gov/LegislativeUpdates.asp>. Check out this site for important CTE bills: <http://wa-acte.org/woveupdate.php>

SkillsUSA Week and CTE Month Fill-in Press Release on the Advocacy Site

We encourage you to use the fill-in press release template on the SkillsUSA advocacy site to let your congressman, senators and local media outlets know about SkillsUSA Week and Career and Technical Education Month. Personalize and use the parts of the template that work for you. You can send an email to up to five media outlets at a time. After the release is submitted, follow up with media outlets by email or phone. To use the SkillsUSA advocacy site, go to: www.cqrcengage.com/skillsusa/, click on the "Sample Press Release for SkillsUSA Week" heading, and fill in your ZIP code; the rest is self-explanatory.

Get the SkillsUSA Week Digital Toolkit

Plan now to celebrate SkillsUSA Week Feb. 4-10. The digital toolkit offers all of the resources that your chapter will need to plan a great week.

Follow the calendar of events below, which also shows additional resources and related activities at: www.skillsusa.org/events-training/skillsusa-week.



ADVISOR OF THE YEAR APPLICATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 23, 2018

<http://www.skillsusawashington.org/advisor-information/state-advisor-of-the-year/>

CHAPTER OF EXCELLENCE SUBMISSIONS DUE FEBRUARY 23, 2018

Go to <http://www.skillsusa-register.org/Login.aspx>

The Chapter Excellence Program honors SkillsUSA chapters in the areas of personal, workplace and technical skills. It aligns with the SkillsUSA Framework and establishes a baseline for quality chapters, with incentives for top performers.

The program consists of three award levels. The first level of the program honors chapters for meeting standards as a "Quality Chapter." The second level recognizes chapters that go beyond the basic requirements with bronze, silver and gold "Chapters of Distinction" awards. This recognition is awarded by the state association. All chapters receiving a gold award will be invited to the National Leadership and Skills Conference and recognized alongside the program sponsor at a reception. The third level will honor the best chapters in the nation with a "Models of Excellence" award at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. These chapters define excellence and best practices will be shared to serve as models for other chapters to strengthen their local programs.

In the Chapter of Excellence Program, the focus is on the achievement of students as a result of chapter involvement, not on the number of activities completed or participation in competitions. The emphasis is on student efforts in assuming personal responsibility, integrity, work ethic and organization in chapter activities. For more information on how to participate, see the membership kits or go to: www.skillsusa.org/programs/chapter-excellence-program

SkillsUSA Week Toolkit

Application of SkillsUSA Framework	+
SkillsUSA Week Digital Image Pack	+
Appreciation Day - Monday, Feb. 5	+
Advocacy Day - Tuesday, Feb. 6	+
Member Outreach Day - Wednesday, Feb. 7	+
SkillsUSA Service Day - Thursday, Feb. 8	+
SkillsUSA Day - Friday, Feb. 9	+
Enter the SkillsUSA Week Video Contest	+
Order SkillsUSA Week T-shirt	+
Issue a SkillsUSA Week Press Release	+
Share Your SkillsUSA Week Pictures	+
Report Your SkillsUSA Week News	+

One of America's most respected workwear brands, Carhartt Inc., is the official sponsor of SkillsUSA Week and supports these efforts to showcase SkillsUSA and career and technical education.



Regional Competition Results

Please send your competition scores and results to your regional coordinator ASAP. Regional results are due to our contest coordinator by February 1st so advisors need to results to REGIONAL COORDINATORS before that! Our selection meeting is February 8th and the invitation to state will be available February 26 at www.skillsusawashington.org.

Scholarship Spotlight — Sharon Melton Myers

An active member of the McMinn County (Tenn.) Vocational Center, Sharon Ruth Melton Myers was totally committed and dedicated to the ideals and mission of SkillsUSA and actively worked toward the advancement of its role as a youth leadership organization. Myers participated in local, state and national activities, serving as a local officer in 1986-87, Tennessee state secretary in 1986-87 and national president in 1987-88. She was also part of her chapter's Opening and Closing Ceremonies team from 1986-88. Following her graduation from McMinn High, she was instrumental in establishing an alumni chapter at David Lipscomb College in Nashville.



The Sharon Melton Myers Scholarship memorializes her active role in promoting SkillsUSA's mission by awarding two \$500 scholarships annually in her honor, providing SkillsUSA students the opportunity to continue their education on the college/postsecondary level. Priority for one of the

awards will go to a McMinn County Vocational Center student, should any apply. SkillsUSA members who are high school seniors or non-senior college/postsecondary students can apply here:

<https://skillsusa.wufoo.com/forms/sharon-melton-myers-memorial-scholarship/>. Deadline is **April 15**. *Incomplete applications will not be accepted.*

Collision School Makeover Grants Offer \$50,000 Top Award

The Collision Repair Education Foundation is offering Ultimate Collision Education Makeover school grants for high school and postsecondary collision programs. Schools can win up to \$50,000, with the winners announced at October's SEMA show in Las Vegas.

The grant program incorporates the foundation's "Collision School Career Readiness Benchmark" launched in 2016. Under the new program, schools are classified into three tiers: advanced, proficient or developing. The criteria for each level includes the number of hours of instruction and curriculum in place, along with what tools, equipment and supplies a school uses to prepare its students for employment. The goal is to help every school acquire the resources to eventually achieve designation as advanced.

To be eligible for a grant, schools must complete a Collision Repair School Solutions online survey. The application deadline is **June 1**, but schools are encouraged to apply early and to seek industry support and involvement with their application process. Email makeovergrant@ed-foundation.org for a link to that survey or to request more information.

Don't Miss Out! Register Yourself and Students as SkillsUSA Members to Receive Valuable Benefits

The national membership deadline is **March 1**. Students must meet both state and national deadlines to be eligible for national competition, serve as voting delegates or run for national office. If you have questions or need assistance with online membership registration, hotline operators can help. Call 844-875-4557 between 8 a.m.–5 p.m. EST Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 11 a.m.–7 p.m. EST Tuesday and Thursday, or email operators@skillsusa.org.

Why is it important to register yourself as a professional member of SkillsUSA? It's one of the best ways you can demonstrate to your students the importance of the organization and the opportunities that membership will provide. As a professional member, you will receive online access to the following:

- *2018 SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards*
- *Jump into STEM!* curriculum
- *SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Foundations*

SkillsUSA professional members, as a free member benefit, receive the aforementioned items when they have submitted a current and accurate email address along with their membership details. The *2018 SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards* is available online to professional members as part of their paid membership. Once membership has been submitted, an email will be sent to the address on file that will include a PIN to access the items electronically.

Call the SkillsUSA Membership Hotline if you need help in starting a new chapter, engaging chapter members or discovering strategies to strengthen an existing chapter. Again, call toll free: 844-875-4557.

Focus Your Students on Safety

CareerSafe sponsors a National Youth Safety Video Contest, in which students across the country are challenged to create a two-minute video demonstrating safety in the workplace. All submissions should be sent to CareerSafe by **March 1**. The winning students will receive a SkillsUSA prize pack as well as a scholarship up to \$2,500, and the winning school will receive a prize up to \$5,000. For more information, visit: www.skillsusa.org/competitions/careersafe-video-contest/ or the CareerSafe website at: www.careersafeonline.com.

Apply Soon for SkillsUSA's STEM Scholarships

Are your students planning careers that involve science, technology, engineering or mathematics? Then they may want to apply for one of the \$1,000 scholarship awards from SkillsUSA.

The scholarship program promotes public awareness that career and technical education is an integral part of STEM. It began in 2015 in honor of SkillsUSA's 50th anniversary and continues to be funded by the SkillsUSA STEM fund.

There are multiple competitive awards for SkillsUSA members, and high school seniors or non-senior postsecondary students can apply online now. The deadline is **March 15**. The application can be found at: www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/skillsusa-stem-science-technology-engineering-mathematics-scholarship/

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