

16 February 2026

Champion
YOUR FUTURE
2025-2026



State Conference 2026

Date Range: March 2 + March 9-13, 2026
[Current Schedule Now Available Here](#)

NLSC Dates for 2026
June 1-5 in Atlanta, GA

**Competition Registration NOW OPEN for
2026 Delaware State Leadership & Skills Conference. Closes February 13.
Register @ <https://www.skillsusa-register.org/Login.aspx>**

»» Registering Your Students for Competitions

Deadline to Register for SkillsUSA Delaware SLSC: February 13

- a. All student competitors must be registered by the deadline.
- b. Cost for competitors = \$35.00 each

»» Where to Find the Schedule for Delaware SkillsUSA SLSC 2026

- Link for all things related to the 2026 Conference:
 - <https://delawareskillsusa.org/2026-delaware-state-leadership-skills-conference>

»» Other Important Upcoming Deadlines

- February 18 (estimated) - March 6 - Online Testing Window
- March 6 - Resume Upload Submission Deadline for SLSC
 - We will email Lead Advisors when the online portal is open.
 - We will also ask Lead Advisors for your chapter's online testing date. This will be shared with the National SkillsUSA Customer Service team so they are on standby ready to assist on your testing day.
- Extended Deadlines:
 - 2026-27 State Officer Applications due by Friday, March 6 ([information on website](#))
 - Advisor of the Year Nominations due by Friday, March 6 ([information on our website](#))
- Chapter Excellence Program deadline: February 20 (complete and submit on SkillsUSA registration portal)

DELAWARE STATE LEADERSHIP & SKILLS CONFERENCE UPDATES

»» After Registration: Resumes, Online Content Tests, SkillsUSA Professional Development Test

So you've registered your students and the excitement in your chapter is building. What next?! Have your students prepare for the following requirements:

- **Professional Resume.** ALL SkillsUSA competitors and alternates must upload a one-page resume. **There is a point penalty for failure to upload a resume by the deadline.** As you wait for the Online Portal to be opened, use the SkillsUSA resources available to have students complete their resume.
 - Link to Free Resources: <https://www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/competition-updates/#resources>
- **Online Content Knowledge Tests.** Most competitions (not all) require the completion of an Online Content Knowledge Test. These tests are designed by National SkillsUSA, not our local partners. To prepare for these tests, review the Technical Standards associated with your competition. Unfortunately, the national SkillsUSA does not provide study guides for these tests.
 - **How do I know if my competition requires a test?** View our Delaware SLSC 2026 Schedule. There is a column that indicates this requirement ([link here](#)).
 - All competitors and alternates who participate in a contest that requires an Online Content Knowledge Test must complete this requirement.
 - **How does the test affect scores?** These tests are no more than 10% of the competitor's overall score.
- **SkillsUSA Professional Development Test.** All competitors and alternates, regardless of whether or not they have an Online Content Knowledge Test, must complete the Professional Development Test.
 - The test is 25 points of a competitor's overall score. It is also used as a tiebreaker if needed.
 - Study Guide available on our website @ <https://delawareskillsusa.org/2026-delaware-state-leadership-skills-conference/competitor-resources>



UPDATES FROM NATIONAL SKILLSUSA

»» SkillsUSA College/Postsecondary Scholarships Are Open!

Many students are thinking ahead to the cost of college and SkillsUSA offers exclusive scholarship opportunities for members pursuing postsecondary education. Registered SkillsUSA members with upcoming tuition expenses for the fall 2026 academic term can apply for scholarships provided by SkillsUSA and our industry partners.

Scholarships now open include:

- Clifford "Ted" Rees Memorial Scholarship (\$2,500, closes April 17)
- Fine Homebuilding #KeepCraftAlive Scholarship (\$2,500, closes April 17)
- Larry Rash Memorial Scholarship (\$2,500, closes April 17)
- Marsha Daves Memorial Scholarship (\$1,500, closes April 17)
- NAPA/SkillsUSA Transportation Repair Pathway Scholarship (\$2,500, closes June 30)
- National Technical Honor Society Scholarship (\$1,000, closes April 17)
- Sharon Melton Myers Memorial (\$1,000, closes April 17)

SkillsUSA partners with Kaleidoscope to provide a streamlined application platform. Students are encouraged to explore the [SkillsUSA Scholarships webpage](#) now to view available opportunities and more will be posted soon. For scholarship questions or assistance in applying, reach out to [Customer Care](#).

»» Travel Grants Available for Immersive Experience: Construction During NLSC

SkillsUSA is offering travel grants for the Immersive Experience: Construction at the 2026 National Leadership & Skills Conference. This hands-on program allows students to earn credentials, visit active jobsites and network with industry pros. To ensure all states have an equal opportunity to participate, grant applications are being released in two phases. Check the website today to see the timeline and secure funding for your students! [Learn more and apply here](#).



»» Outstanding Career and Technical Educator Award: Nominations Open

The Outstanding Career and Technical Educator Award honors educators who exemplify excellence in CTE and meaningful engagement with SkillsUSA. Nominees may be put forward by peers, colleagues, supervisors, or students, and are selected based on their impact in education and contributions to SkillsUSA across local, state, and national levels. Award recipients are recognized during the National Leadership & Skills Conference.

Nominations are due by March 1. More information and the nomination form can be found at www.skillsusa.org/recognition/awards-programs/. For questions or support with the nomination process, contact Chris Anderson at pd@skillsusa.org.

UPDATES FROM NATIONAL SKILLSUSA

»» Honorary Life Membership Award: Nominations Open

The SkillsUSA Honorary Life Membership Award recognizes individuals whose long-standing service has advanced the mission and impact of SkillsUSA at the local, state, and national levels. This honor is reserved for professional members who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the organization and to career and technical education. Recipients are recognized during the Recognition Session at the National Leadership & Skills Conference.

Nominations are due by March 1. More information and the nomination form can be found at www.skillsusa.org/recognition/awards-programs/. For questions or support with the nomination process, contact Chris Anderson at pd@skillsusa.org.

»» Hershey Heartwarming Young Heroes Grants Application Open Now Through March 15



In partnership with The Hershey Company, YSA will award Hershey Heartwarming Young Heroes Grants for Youth Service Month (April 10 - May 10, 2026) & Global Youth Service Day (April 24-26, 2026) projects and events.

Youth changemakers - ages 5 to 25 - in the U.S. and Canada are eligible to apply for these grants to lead and engage their peers in awareness, service, and philanthropy projects or youth voice, leadership, and advocacy events in their communities.

This year, youth may apply for grants of \$250, \$500, or \$1,000 depending on the number of youth who will be participating as project volunteers or event participants. A total of \$50,000 in grants will be awarded. Grant options include:

- \$250 - at least 25 youth project volunteers / event participants
- \$500 - at least 50 youth project volunteers / event participants
- \$1,000 - at least 100 youth project volunteers / event participants

We're looking for ideas straight from your heart that build meaningful connections and create more inclusive, empathetic, and kind communities. New for 2026, we're also looking to support events that provide opportunities for youth voice, leadership, or advocacy in your community.

[Learn More & Apply by March 15 at YSA.org/Hershey](http://YSA.org/Hershey)