

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**** ****Tennessee Students Shine at the 2024 SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference**** Chattanooga, TN – April 17, 2024 – Career and technical education (CTE) students from across Tennessee showcased their skills and talent at the 59th annual SkillsUSA Tennessee State Leadership & Skills Conference held from April 13 to 16 in Chattanooga. The event attracted over 3,000 participants who competed in 113 trade, technical, and leadership events, bringing home 890 medals. This year’s conference featured participation from 32 colleges. CTE students showcased their expertise in various fields such as electronics, computer-aided drafting, precision machining, medical assisting, and culinary arts, all judged by industry experts and professionals. Students competed under tight deadlines to demonstrate their skills, with top winners receiving gold, silver, and bronze medallions. In addition to medals, many participants were awarded valuable prizes, including tools related to their fields of study and scholarships to advance their careers and education. “SkillsUSA empowers our members to become world-class workers and capable leaders,” said Daphne Brown. “This event highlights the hard work and dedication of our students and instructors committed to personal, workplace, and technical skills development.”

State first-place (gold medal) winners are now eligible to compete at the national SkillsUSA Championships in Atlanta in June. Highlights of this year’s conference also included the SkillsUSA Chapter of Excellence Program, which recognizes chapters that excel in SkillsUSA’s framework. Two colleges, the Tennessee College of Applied Technology Pulaski and Motlow State Community College, received the Gold level Chapter Award, while several others achieved Chapter of Distinction awards at silver, bronze and quality levels. The Outstanding Advisor of the Year Award was awarded to Donald Drinkard from TCAT Henry/Carroll for his unwavering support of students and the SkillsUSA organization. Furthermore, both TCAT Northwest Building Construction Technology and TCAT Henry-Carroll received the gold level President’s Volunteer Service Award for their contributions to Habitat for Humanity, including building homes for those in need. Lastly, SkillsUSA Tennessee recognizes outstanding chapters with the prestigious James D. King Award, honoring excellence in participation and performance during the conference. For a complete list of Gold, Silver, and Bronze medalists, and more on SkillsUSA’s mission and activities, please visit <https://skillsusatnps.org/SLSC>. ### END ### For additional information, please get in touch with Daphne Brown daphne.brown@tbr.edu 615-366-3943.

School	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Chattanooga State Community College	9	2	4	15
Cleveland State Community College	1	0	1	2
Motlow State Community College	4	3	3	10
Nashville State Community College	0	2	1	3
Northeast State Community College	10	6	3	19
Pellissippi State Community College	17	17	4	38

Roane State Community College	2	0	0	2
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech Henry/Carroll-Mc	4	1	0	5
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Chattanooga	17	16	7	40
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Crump	4	6	4	14
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Dickson	5	3	4	12
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Elizabethton	2	1	1	4
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Harriman	1	3	1	5
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Hartsville	8	5	2	15
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Henry/Carroll	9	1	4	14
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Hohenwald	4	0	1	5
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Jackson	1	1	3	5
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Knoxville	4	6	3	13
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Livingston	1	0	0	1
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-McMinnville	1	0	0	1
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Memphis	1	6	3	10
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Morristown	13	9	5	27
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Murfreesboro	2	4	7	13
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Nashville	1	6	2	9
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Northwest	5	3	3	11
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Oneida/Huntsville	3	0	1	4
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Pulaski	3	0	5	8
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Shelbyville	0	0	1	1
Tennessee College Of Applied Tech-Upper Cumberland	1	3	5	9
Volunteer State Community College	0	6	7	13

Chapter of Distinction:

Motlow State Community College	Gold
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Pulaski	Gold
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Knoxville	Silver
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Chattanooga	Silver
Chattanooga State Community College	Silver
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Hohenwald	Silver
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Northwest	Silver
Pellissippi State Community College	Silver
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Henry/Carroll	Silver
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Hartsville	Silver
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-McMinnville	Silver
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Harriman	Bronze
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Athens	Quality
Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Jackson	New Applicant this Year

Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Murfreesboro	New Applicant this Year
Nashville State Community College	New Applicant this Year

James D. King Award Winners

Division I-Chattanooga State Community College

Division II-Tennessee College of Applied Tech-Henry/Carroll

Division III-Pellissippi State Community College

Other Awards:

Outstanding Advisor of the Year- Donald Drinkard- TCAT Henry/Carroll

SkillsUSA Support Staff of the Year- Rob Alford

SkillsUSA New Advisor of the Year- Dr. Sharon Couch-Pellissippi

SkillsUSA Administrator of the Year- John Penn Ridgeway-TCAT Henry/Carroll

SkillsUSA Director's Volunteer Service Award-Chad Snipes-TCAT Northwest

Spirit Award-Tennessee College of Applied Tech Henry/Carroll

President's Volunteer Service Award-Tennessee College of Applied Technology Henry/Carroll, and Tennessee College of Applied Technology Northwest, Building Construction Technology Program