

STATE LEADERSHIP AND SKILLS CONFERENCE 2026 INFORMATIONAL PACKET

2026 STATE LEADERSHIP AND SKILLS CONFERENCE

March 27 & 28, 2026

*Wayzata High School

Enter Door #5

4955 Peony Lane N

Plymouth, MN 55446

(Free Parking)

Awards Dinner/Ceremony

March 28, 2026

Wayzata High School

4955 Peony Lane N

Plymouth, MN 55446

Techspo: 4:00-7:00 pm

Social Hour: 5:30-6:30 pm

Dinner: 6:30-7:30 pm

Awards Ceremony: 7:30 pm

*Please note various Technical and Skill Contests may be held across the metro area at various campus and industry partner sites the weekend of the conference. Specifics regarding times and locations will be updated regularly.

CONFERENCE FEES AND REGISTRATION:

- Registration Fees are \$130.00 per contestant and \$75 per advisor. Registration fees include registration materials, supplies, awards dinner/ceremony, etc.
- Registration for Observers is requested and are exempt from registration fees and may purchase a meal ticket for .
- Fees may be paid by check, PO, or credit card
 - If paying by check, mail payment and a copy of your Invoice for conference registration to:
SkillsUSA MN
Attn: SLSC Registration
P.O. Box 10
Sebeka, MN 56477
 - Registration fees being paid via credit card will use the [Givebutter](#) platform.



- [Givebutter Walk Through Instructions](#)
- SLSC Registration fees must be paid in full prior to the start of the conference.
- Refunds are only given in the event of extenuating circumstances. Appeals will be taken through the State Office: executive.director@mnskillsusa.org for review and must be submitted prior to March 5, 2026.
- **SLSC Registration DEADLINE: February 13, 2026**
 - *****Please note that SkillsUSA student membership dues must be paid no later than March 1, 2026, in order to be eligible for SLSC/NLSC participation.***
- Each school chapter with registered students must have a registered Advisor in attendance.
- Conference Registration Instructions ([video tutorial](#)):
 - Enter in email address and password
 - Click on the blue “Conference” tab
 - Select “My Registrations”
 - Filter events and highlight “Minnesota State SkillsUSA Conference”
 - Click on “New Registrant” or “Lookup Previous Registrations” if an individual has participated previously.
 - Remember to capitalize all First and Last Names of attendees for both Advisors and Students!
 - Don’t forget to choose ‘Professional’ for Advisor and either HS or College for students.
 - Birthdates are required for all!



- PSEO students are to be listed as High School students for both their member registration and conference registration.
 - Click “Submit Registration”
 - Don’t forget to print out your INVOICE! Registration will generate an invoice for you to submit to your business office for payment.
 - Be sure to register yourself as an Advisor!
 - If a person is not listed on the summary, they will not have Registration Materials when they arrive.
- The [SLSC Contest Grid](#) is still in the process of being finalized, but can be used for tentative planning at this time. Once the grid is approved, it will contain the following information:
 - Overview of number of contestants per contest
 - Team or Individual contest
 - Contest Codes
 - Notebook Requirements
 - Resume Required
- Please note that on-site substitutions are NOT allowed.

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE:

- Student attendees should be encouraged to participate in at least one competitive event during the conference and must attend all scheduled conference activities. (Exceptions will only be made for student observers identified as such prior to the conference).
 - One Advisor must accompany every 10 students attending the conference.
 - Chapter advisors should assume the responsibility of seeing that students report to competitive events and that rules of conduct are maintained.
 - Chapter Advisors are responsible for picking up registration materials at the Registration Table at Wayzata High School unless delivered to the contest site.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR COMPETITIVE EVENTS:

- All Contestants/Participants must be paid, active members of State and National SkillsUSA as of **March 1, 2026**.
 - For contests held prior to Event Registration (check-in), the student and advisor name badges will be sent directly to the contest site.
 - Contestants are encouraged to enter one (1) technical skill contest and up to three (3) leadership/occupational related contests as long as it fits their schedule. This **excludes** Mechanics Dexterity, Job Interview, and all team events.
 - Contestants should compete in the technical skill area that most closely aligns with their occupational objective for the current school year.
 - Please remind students that they are eligible for **only one national contest** regardless of how many contests they win at the state level.
 - Contestants wishing to compete in more than one (1) technical skill are permitted to do so during the 2026 SLSC.
 - PSEO students listed as High School students may still compete in “College Only” Competitions.

FORMS:

- All Participants, including Advisors, will be required to adhere to SkillsUSA MN Code of Conduct.
 - **By registering for SLSC 2026, all participants electronically sign the [Registration, Personal Liability Release Form](#) of the Minnesota Association of SkillsUSA.**
 - Similarly, all registrants electronically agree to adhere to the Code of Conduct portion of the above form.



- Note that there is a requirement to provide a home contact number in case of emergency as well as a mandatory onsite contact number for the Advisor/Chaperone accompanying the student.
- The required & designated school-level adult Advisor/Chaperone will have copies of all appropriate medical information at the function. SkillsUSA Minnesota will not collect that information at the state office level.
 - Schools are responsible to have the appropriate medical information on record and to have permission to dispense that information.
- Participants/Contestants without a complete form on file prior to the conference will not receive registration materials until the form is collected.

CONFERENCE GUEST PASSES:

- Family members or guests who wish to attend the Awards Dinner and Ceremony must register by March 5, 2026.
- Registration for the Awards Dinner is \$35.00 per guest.
- Attending the Awards Ceremony is free of charge but seating will be limited.
- Registration may be done through the Conference Registration Site.

AWARDS CEREMONY:

- Gold (1st), Silver (2nd), and Bronze (3rd) place medallions will be awarded for each applicable competitive event.
 - It is **mandatory** for all competitors to attend the Awards Ceremony.
 - *Students not present will forfeit any award, medallion, prizes and the right to compete at the national level.*
 - Students with a legitimate excuse for missing the Awards Ceremony, must appeal through the State Office no later than March 20, 2026. Contact the Executive Director, Heidi Mattson at executive.director@mnskillsusa.org or the Chairman of the Board, Travis Hetteen at travis.hetteen@kniferiver.com or 218-556-6721.
 - Students and Advisors should dress in Official Dress or Professional Business attire for the Awards Ceremony. No jeans, leggings, tennis shoes, or hats permitted!
 - Students and Advisors represent the SkillsUSA Minnesota organization to business/industry partners, school administrators, family and friends throughout the entire conference, but *especially* at the Awards Ceremony.

SPECIFIC CONTEST INFORMATION:

- Refer only to the Technical Standards 2024-2026 as changes do occur from year to year.
- Professional members have access to the standards via their membership Pathful site
- **Job Skill Demonstration Contest “A” and “OPEN”**
 - If there is a National Skill Contest in the area of the job skill, the student should enter the Job Skill Demo “A” Contest.
 - If there is no National Skill Contest in the area of the job skill, the student should enter the Job Skills Demo “OPEN” Contest.
 - Student demonstrations should be based on an entry-level in the skills area in which they are currently training.
- Contest email alerts will be sent regularly to Advisors. Please start looking for alerts in mid-January. If no additional information is received on a contest, the rules and regulations covering our contests will be based on those found in the *SkillsUSA Championships, Technical Standards*, except for clothing. State regulation regarding clothing should be appropriate.
- One-page typed **resumes are required for ALL contests**. If a student is competing in more than one contest they are required to bring enough copies of their resume for each contest in which they will compete.
 - Point penalties will be assessed for missing resumes for each contest
- **Job Interview Contest**



- **All registered students may compete in the SkillsUSA Job Interview contest.**
- This is an excellent way to practice interview skills and get their resume critiqued by others.
- Contestants must apply for a job in a trade, industrial, technical, or health occupation.
- Contestants must apply for a job which he/she is now, or will be, qualified for at the completion of the current 2025-2026 school year.
- Contestants will prepare one letter of application for employment as well as four (4) resumes. Both the letter and the resume must be typed.
- **Specific contest information will be updated in February. Please have student paperwork ready to send when the information arrives.**

NATIONAL COMPETITION:

- National SkillsUSA policy dictates that students may only enter ONE (1) contest at the National Conference. Please make your students aware that should they win more than one state contest, they will need to choose one contest to compete in at the National level. This includes any Team Contests.
 - **NLSC 2026 is scheduled for June 1-6, 2026, in Atlanta, Georgia.** Additional NLSC information will be provided at the conclusion of SLSC.

ADVISOR OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS:

- Application form can be found here: [PDF MN Advisor of the Year Form.pdf](#)
- **Deadline is February 12, 2026**
 - Please see that your student members receive this information.
 - Consider nominating a fellow Advisor!

OTHER:

- **Contest Prize Donations**
 - Please consider helping to obtain prizes for our contests from your advisory committee members, local community, suppliers, and industry partners.
 - [SLSC Donation Form Link](#)
- Additional information may be sent to advisors via email.
- SLSC updates and information will also be housed on our [website](#).

THEME:

- SkillsUSA Theme information can be located on the SkillsUSA [National site](#).

PLEASE - make sure this is a positive experience for all concerned.

DO NOT register students for contests in which they are not adequately trained.

Safety is a major consideration, as well as the overall impression of our industry judges.

Minnesota is planning to offer (60) Events at our 2026 Skill Conference with the maximum number of contestants per school.

If there is not a minimum number of contestants and schools reached by the deadline, a contest may be dropped.

To help the state SkillsUSA office with accuracy there will be no additions after February 20th.