



SkillsUSA Texas Newsletter September 2022

Greetings from SkillsUSA Texas,

Now that the school year is well under way, I want to take the time to say thank you again for being patient with us while we were in the process of getting events scheduled for you and your students. As of right now, we have been able to successfully schedule Fall Leadership events for each district beginning on October 1 and running through November 2. Please be sure to check your district webpage for any updates.

Many of you have been asking about dates and locations for District Contests in 2023. Several of the locations we have worked with in the past are still adjusting to changing student needs and allowing flexibility for in-person events to be in compliance with each location's policy of operations. As these locations are making revisions to their traditional timelines and structures, they are also ensuring that the well-being of our students and teachers is in order. I'm certain that this can be taxing on some of you as we wait to confirm dates and locations but as soon as we have contracts finalized, we will be sure to post it on your district webpages.

We will be moving to the Signal app, which used in Atlanta this past summer for Nationals with great success for each District. There is additional information about the Signal app along with who should have access to it and what it should be used for further down in this newsletter. The links to join will be on your district webpage

WLTi will begin later this week on September 17, but there will also be Texas specific events while at WLTi starting on September 16 which will include visits to historical Gettysburg and Mt Vernon. Should you have any questions or concerns about WLTi this week, please contact the State Office.

We are looking forward to a great Fall Semester for SkillsUSA-TX and will continue to push that momentum ahead into 2023 for competition season. I plan to be at several of the Fall Leadership events next month, so please feel free to come up and say Hi if you get a chance.

As always- thank you for all you do and I hope to see you in person in the near future at one of our events. Until then, have a wonderful day!

Jake Lopez, M.Ed
Executive Director, SkillsUSA Texas

SkillsUSA's Professional Development

Fall Professional Development offerings are out and ready for you to browse and register for! Check out our [SkillsUSA Training](#) page with over 30 sessions available this fall, free for all SkillsUSA professional members. Live, virtual experiences during which the PD Team will support you in your growth as a SkillsUSA Advisor and a CTE professional!

- Professional Membership Benefits - open to all! Great for anybody considering

joining SkillsUSA as a professional member or a member ready to explore their benefits. Find it on our calendar on September 1st and September 27 and register through Zoom.

- Professional Development Day on September 13 which is a full day full of educational sessions for our professional members. Get a substitute and register through Absorb!
- Technical Fridays - virtual skill sessions for selected career clusters. Now free with limited seats!

Membership Invoices with National Office

Please be sure your membership invoices with the National Office are paid in full for 2021-2022 school year. **Any chapter within a school that has an unpaid invoice will prevent anyone at the school from joining in 2022-2023.** You can log into skillsusa-register.org and look at invoices under membership tab. If you need help please call the National office customer care at 844-875-4557.

Help for Your Chapter Recruitment Meeting

The first chapter meeting of the year can be daunting. Use our [Chapter Leader Planning Guide](#) (part of [SkillsUSA's Recruitment Week resources hub](#)) to learn how your chapter leaders can successfully lead a first chapter meeting while also planning a local recruitment week to engage new SkillsUSA members. You'll also find [advisor resources](#) to help coach chapter leaders around recruitment and engaging new members.

Support Skills in Style!

The latest "[Support the Trades](#)" campaign from [Tractor Supply Company \(TSC\)](#) and [Carhartt](#) is underway. As part of this campaign, Carhartt and TSC have an expanded "Support the Trades" line of shirts and hats designed by Carhartt, with a portion of the proceeds being donated to SkillsUSA! Show your pride for the skilled trades you proudly represent and the "Champions at Work" who keep our nation moving. The exclusive T-shirts and hats for men and women are now available at [Tractor Supply Online](#) or your local TSC store. Follow SkillsUSA's social media to learn more about the campaign.

OR

Wolverine and Ram Trucks have collaborated again this year on a Labor Day Campaign to support SkillsUSA through the "Wolverine x Ram" boot and clothing line, built in the USA and inspired by the iconic details of Ram Trucks. To support the next generation of skilled workers, Wolverine and Ram will donate \$10 to SkillsUSA for every pre-order for the new line (which also includes T-shirts and socks). [Check out the collection now](#), and please share this information with your members.

Apply Now for ACTE Teacher and Lifetime Achievement Awards

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is seeking nominations for the National Trade and Industrial Education Division Awards to be presented during the annual CareerTech VISION conference. This year's conference will be held Nov. 30 - Dec. 3 in Las Vegas, Nev. The deadline for nominations is Oct. 10. Qualified individuals may be nominated in the following categories: Teacher of the Year, New Teacher of the Year and Lifetime Achievement, and you may nominate yourself. (If you nominate someone else, please be sure to notify the nominee.) Click [here](#) to nominate someone for the awards. For additional conference information, visit [ACTE CareerTech VISION 2022](#).

Fall Leadership Dates

\$30/pp, you do not need to be a member to attend. Registration open and closing dates are on your district page. Register here: www.skillsusa-register.org

D1: Tues Oct 25th at ECS Region 19 on Boeing Dr.

- D2: Wed Oct 19th at West Texas Training Center**
D3: Fri Oct 21st at South Plains College Levelland
D4: Wed Oct 19th at ESC Region 11 in White Settlement
D5: Wed Oct 5th, Collin College, Wylie
D6: Sat Oct 22nd at Dubiski Career High School
D7: Wed Nov 2nd at Sam Houston State University
D8: Wed Oct 26th at Shell Woodcreek Complex
D9: Fri Oct 7th, James Reese Technical Center Sugarland
D10: Wed Oct 19th at Reunion Ranch Georgetown
D11: Wed Oct 5th at John Newcombe Tennis Ranch
D12: Fri Oct 7th at Harold T Branch Academy
D13: Sat Oct 1st at Sharyland High School, Mission
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Membership for 2022-2023 is Open!

Go into www.skillsusa-register.org and start adding yourself and your students to membership. You can find the digital version of the membership kit here:

<https://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/membership-kit/>

We suggest at least one teacher from each campus pays now to have access to all the resources and then share them as a recruiting tool. Watch dates carefully to be sure you Join Now before Feb 1st or before you register for District Contest. Entering the information does not complete the membership process, once you click join now you will get an invoice for the annual membership dues.

Be sure you are joining students only once in the correct chapter. If as an advisor you are running more than one program you should enter your information for all your chapters but only join once.

New Membership Registration Feature

SkillsUSA has released a new feature that allows advisors to join some students on their classroom roster list now and join others later. The advisor will have the capability to select specific names or all names on the roster list in the join process.

If you need help with any part of the process or chapter numbers you can call customer care at 877-845-8447 or email amy@skillsusatx.org

Planning for 2023 Has Started!

We are working on contracts for the district contests. We hope to have those dates published soon. Please be sure you join the newsletter for your district from our website to get updated information. You can also subscribe to our calendar from our website.

State conference details are coming together. We are working on hotels, tech chairs and contest standards.

Signal App replacing Schoology Advisor Groups

- Schoology is not going to be utilized after Oct 1st for SkillsUSA Texas.
- We have set up the Signal App to utilize for each district.
- You can download the app here: <https://www.signal.org/download/>
- On each district's page, on our website, you will see a download link to request to be added to that district's group. <https://skillsusatx.org/districts/>
- This group is for Advisors Only. Only advisors from that district will be approved to be added to the message group.
- Your district coordinator will use this app in addition to emails from skillsusatx.org and the webpage/calendar to get information out to your district.

- You can sign up for the Constant Contact communications on your district pages, subscribe to our calendar and follow us on social media.

Your Teacher Advisor Committee representatives are also posted.

<https://skillsusatx.org/districts/> Please use these folks as your first stop for help in your district - they are here to assist you in leading your chapters and Texas to a successful year.

Texas Regulations

The latest version for 2022-2023 is posted on our [website](#). Updates that we know are coming in RED. Please read it carefully and discard any previous versions. Check for updates regularly.

Next Townhall Meeting

Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 5:30PM Central

[Click here](#) to register in advance for this zoom meeting. Recordings of these meetings will be posted on our website. Career Essentials overview

Plan Now for Manufacturing Day

Many SkillsUSA chapters participate in Manufacturing Day, a celebration of modern manufacturing meant to inspire the next generation. While the 2022 [Manufacturing Day](#) is celebrated on Oct. 7, you can hold events on any date in October. Activities for students may include a plant tour, a virtual industry tour or an event on campus that highlights manufacturing. SkillsUSA chapters are asked to share their Manufacturing Day photos and stories with [Hayley Uffelman](#), SkillsUSA's social media manager.

"Inside the Trades" Podcast Episode Features SkillsUSA

Foundry is the media and marketing company that produces "Inside the Trades," which seeks to find the answers on closing the talent gap and making the skilled trades an attractive destination for the next generation. Listen and subscribe to the ["Inside the Trades" podcast here](#).

CHANNELLOCK Skilled Trades Contest

SkillsUSA partner CHANNELLOCK has launched a ["Trades 101"](#) website that highlights the incredible benefits of a skilled trades career. Through the site, students can explore trade schools, tips for choosing the right trade and steps to enter into a trade field. In addition, CHANNELLOCK is holding a [Trade School Trade-Up](#) national initiative aimed at giving CTE programs across the country a chance to win shop makeovers and tools to foster learning success. Contest entries are due by Oct. 12.

Save the Date for ELEVATE!

The SkillsUSA Elevate: Chapter Officer Virtual Development Conference is Oct. 19 from 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. ET. Plan now to attend this virtual interactive experience for local officer teams that focuses on building successful chapters by equipping officers with the skills to lead and serve their local members. Elevate is open to all SkillsUSA chapter officers. At least one advisor is required to participate with each registered team. Participate right from your classroom and the cost is \$10 per participant.

More details coming soon.

SkillsUSA Texas Board of Directors Updates

- Chairperson: Victor Ramirez from Region 1, [Victor's Email](#) Please reach out to him, he would love to hear from our membership!
- Co-Chair: Tom Spence, Treasurer: Richard Morales, Secretary: Ed Sanchez

- Newly Elected Board Members: Region 2 David Lanman and Jan Holland and Region 3 Caroline Hinojosa.
- The next board meeting will be in October. Look for more details on our calendar.

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