



SkillsUSA Texas Newsletter March 2023

Greetings from SkillsUSA Texas,

The SkillsUSA Texas Board of Directors has named Crystal Latham-Alford the Interim Executive Director of SkillsUSA Texas High School Secondary Division Inc.

Crystal is currently the SkillsUSA Texas Postsecondary Executive Director and has years of experience working with our staff, volunteers, industry partners, and SkillsUSA at the national level.



The Board of Directors will support Crystal in her new role and staff, as our primary focus is the student members and advisors. We look forward to a successful State Conference with everyone's help and support.

Crystal's email: crystal@skillsusatx.org

Crystal's phone: 903-887-4013 x 1

SkillsUSA Texas State Conference Hotel Blocks Open

Click [HERE](#) for link to Passkey. Enter the total number of rooms you need and check in and out days. Check 3 ppl per room minimum to get the most accurate results to pull up. From the list you are offered select your choice and enter the names and information for the rooms and hold the reservation with a credit card. Do not book directly with the hotel, they will not honor the Skills pricing. **To receive the contracted room rates a 2 night stay is required.** The block is mostly sold out but schools are releasing held rooms everyday. Let us know if you need help.

State Conference Deadlines and Updates

All district contests are complete and the deadline for joining as a member was Feb 1st. Good luck to our contestants, we can't wait to see your hard work pay off.

Membership must be paid in order to register. If you need help with membership contact customer care: 844-875-4557.

Remember if you got a blue ribbon on your **job exhibit** you are bringing your project to state! Bring the notebook with the qualifying grade sheet and the project please.

If you have a **model** that is not a contestant in another contest you register them as an observer. If the model is in a contest and adding a model to their agenda you do not need to do anything to tag them as a model in addition, they just wear the contestant badge they have to the contest site where they are the model.

Read the rules for **substitutions** carefully. Substitutions are not allowed for individual events, instead the next place from state qualifying competitions or test will move up. No

more than 50% of any team may be replaced.

Shuttle schedule and **contest schedule** is posted. Contest updates are also being posted as we get the details from the tech chairs.

**Registration for state is open now and it closes on March 20th at 5pm.
NO LATE REGISTRATION.**

The last day to cancel your registration or submit a substitution will be Tues March 21, at 5pm. ADD/SUB forms [HERE](#). Payment is due April 20, 2023.

Let us know if you need help: www.skillsusa-register.org

Observer Forms for non-conference registrants. Public viewing hours and spaces are limited. For full access to the conference, you will need to register as a guest with your school campus and pay the full registration price.

State Officer application is posted, March 20th application deadline. Candidate applications that are accepted to move to round one will be notified on Tues March 21st. The state officer test for the top 30 will be given online during a proctored zoom call on Tues Mar 28th at 6pm. The top 15 will be announced on Tues Mar 28th by 9pm for moving on to next round. The interviews for top 15 will be scheduled on Thurs Mar 30th after 1pm.

SkillsUSA Texas Memorial Scholarship Application is posted and is due March 15th! This is open to any paid member.

Adisor of the Year interviews will be Thursday afternoon, Mar 30th. You will receive an invitation for interview time if you are a candidate.

We need some extra hands for a variety of tasks. We are looking for alumni, retired teacher and industry help at State Conference in Corpus. Can you spare a few hours?
Sign Up Form [HERE](#)

PD Testing for State Contest

Online PD Testing window is Mon March 27 9am – Tues Mar 28th 4pm. If your students have not started the test by 4pm on the 28th the scores will not count. The emails to registered advisors with the log in information for their campus will go out on Friday March 24th. Please plan ahead and have your students prepared.

Delegate Voting at State

You will get purple delegate wristbands in your registration packet based on the number of delegates that are eligible to vote for your campus. Advisors can choose who is available to attend the delegate session and cast the votes for your chapter.

Friday Mar 31st at 4pm: SkillsUSA Texas Student Business Meeting, Officer Candidate Speeches. House of Delegates Mandatory for District Officers- Selena Auditorium at ABC

District Contest Results

The district results are available online at: www.skillsusa-register.org/scores. You will need the contestant number and birthdate to find the scores. If you need contestant numbers contact your district coordinator. The top 3 from the awards presentation for each district is posted on each district's page.

The state contest schedule is where you find the determined number of places that advance to state competition for each contest. <https://skillsusatx.org/events/state-leadership-and-skills-conference/>

Snap-on Wants to Spotlight and Reward Makers and Fixers

SkillsUSA industry partner Snap-on is shining a spotlight on the [Makers and Fixers](#) who keep the world moving. They seek stories about skilled people who work with their hands in the essential industries that focus on transportation -- in the air, in the automotive shops or on the roads and rails. Future, past or present Makers and Fixers are invited to share their personal stories or nominate someone they admire. To share your story, visit the [Share Your Story](#) page, write about yourself and upload a few photos of you working on a project. Follow [@MakersandFixers](#) to see if your story is shared. All eligible stories are entered into a drawing, and two stories are picked each month to win a prize valued up to \$600. Entries in the giveaway gets carried over each month if they don't win. Visit the [official rules](#) for more information.

Press Release Template for State Conference Participants

New on the [SkillsUSA advocacy site](#) is a press release template for state conference participants and others to share competition results with local media. Parents, instructors, students or anyone can send emails. Please spread the word about this important tool at your state conferences

Texas Regulations

The latest version for 2022-2023 is posted on our [website](#). Please read it carefully and discard any previous versions. Check for updates regularly.

Absorb

Any paid professional member has access to the National standards through this site. Call Customer care if you need help: 844-875-4557

Next Townhall Meeting

Thursday, Apr 6, 2023 at 5:30PM Central

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

This meeting will focus on NLSC

April 3: NLSC Registration open

U.S. Presidential Scholar Candidates Announced

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program recognizes and honors some of our nation's distinguished graduating high school seniors, including those who demonstrate accomplishment in career and technical education. Each year, up to 161 students are named as presidential scholars. The process begins with identifying candidates, who must then submit further information. Finalists will be announced later this spring. [See the list of the 2023 candidates here.](#)

Exhibitors at State

Be sure to check out our vendors that are participating at State Conference!

Tranfsr - interactive VR booth

US Army - pull-up challenge

GI Gerky - TX Jerky sales/fundraising

Plus: USCG, jewelry, embroidery, swag, lollipops, makeup, career prep, colleges, diesel and automotive, culinary, construction, CNC, cosmetology... so much more!

2023 NLSC Travel Scholarship: Harbor Freight Tools for Schools

SkillsUSA is proud to announce, in partnership with Harbor Freight Tools for Schools, a scholarship opportunity for SkillsUSA high school members in the construction pathways competing at the 2023 National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) in specific construction or leadership contests.

Eligible members can apply to receive up to \$1,500 to assist in attending the 2023 NLSC. Scholarship funds are remitted directly to the recipients' SkillsUSA State Association to be

then distributed by the State Association to the recipients' SkillsUSA chapters. Recipients of scholarship funds must agree to use the funds for reasonable and appropriate travel costs to and from, lodging for, and registration for the 2023 NLSC, as described in the online application. Applications will be accepted from March 15 – May 22, 2023.

Recipients will be announced on May 25, 2023.

Apply here, beginning March 15, 2023.

Summer Leadership Information will be coming soon!

SkillsUSA Texas Board of Directors

Board of Directors 2 Open Positions - Apply now!

Region 1: open for districts 2, 3, 4 **AND** Region 2: open for districts 9, 10, 11, 12

Looking for candidates that: Actively participate in setting the strategic plan and vision of SkillsUSA Texas. Demonstrate a strong belief and commitment to SkillsUSA Texas, Secondary's mission; be informed about its policies and programs; keep up-to-date on developments in Career and Technical Education. Be an active teacher in good standing with a district in your region. Two members shall represent each SkillsUSA Texas region and no two members may be elected from the same district. Be committed to advocating for your local membership and bring a collaborative spirit to the team.

Application process closes at 6pm on Mon March 20th. Candidate announced on March 23rd. Online Voting will take place Thurs March 30th.

Applications here: <https://forms.gle/vb94J351uyAN8gQ69>

Your Texas Board of Directors Chair is [Victor Ramirez](#). Please reach out to him, he would love to hear from our membership!

Crystal Latham Alford

Interim Executive Director
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