

The National Career Clusters® Framework provides a vital structure for organizing and delivering quality career and technical education (CTE) programs through learning and comprehensive programs of study. In total, there are 16 Career Clusters in the National Career Clusters Framework, representing more than 79 Career Pathways to help students navigate their way to greater success in college and career. The current SkillsUSA Championships national career competitions are listed under each Cluster heading.

In addition to the 16 Career Clusters established for CTE training programs, SkillsUSA has established an additional Leadership Competition Cluster where related skills are demonstrated in a competitive setting. These 24 leadership competitions are open solely to SkillsUSA members, regardless of their training program area. Therefore, these leadership competitions are not listed in any of the national Career Cluster frameworks associated with a comprehensive program area of study.

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Focused on the production, processing, marketing, distribution, financing, and development of agricultural commodities and resources including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products/resources.

Career Pathways: Agricultural, Food and Natural Resources

Architecture and Construction

Careers in designing, planning, managing, building, and maintaining the built environment.

- Architectural Drafting
- Building Maintenance
- Cabinetmaking
- Career Pathways Showcase: Industrial and Engineering Technology
- Carpentry
- Commercial Roofing
- Electrical Construction Wiring
- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR)
- Masonry
- Plumbing
- Sheet Metal
- TeamWorks
- Technical Drafting

- Welding Fabrication
- Welding

Arts, A/V Technology and Communications

Designing, producing, exhibiting, performing, writing, and publishing multimedia content including visual and performing arts and design, journalism, and entertainment services.

- 3-D Visualization and Animation
- Advertising Design
- Audio/Radio Production
- Career Pathways Showcase: Arts, Audiovisual Technology and Communications
- Digital Cinema Production
- Graphic Communications
- Graphic Imaging Sublimation
- Interactive Application and Video Game Development
- Photography
- Pin Design (State)
- Screen Printing Technology
- T-Shirt Design (State)
- Telecommunications Cabling
- Television (Video) Production
- Video News Production
- Web Design and Development
- Welding Sculpture

Business, Management and Administration

Careers in planning, organizing, directing, and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations.

• Career Pathways Showcase: Business Management and Administration

Education and Training

Planning, managing, and providing education and training services, and related learning support services.

- Career Pathways Showcase: Education and Training Services
- Early Childhood Education

Finance

Planning, services for financial and investment planning, banking, insurance, and business financial management.

• Career Pathways Showcase: Finance Services

Government and Public Administration

Planning and performing government functions at the local, state, and federal levels, including governance, national security, foreign service, planning, revenue and taxation, and regulations.

• Career Pathways Showcase: Government and Public Administration

Health Science

Planning, managing, and providing therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development.

- Basic Health Care Skills
- Career Pathways Showcase: Health Science
- Dental Assisting
- First Aid/CPR
- Health Knowledge Bowl
- Health Occupations Professional Portfolio
- Medical Assisting
- Medical Math
- Medical Terminology
- Nurse Assisting
- Practical Nursing

Hospitality and Tourism

The management, marketing and operations of restaurants and other food services, lodging, attractions, recreation events and travel related services.

- Baking and Pastry Arts
- Career Pathways Showcase: Hospitality and Tourism
- Culinary Arts
- Restaurant Service

Human Services

Preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs such as counseling and mental health services, family and community services, personal care, and consumer services.

- Barbering
- Career Pathways Showcase: Human Services
- Cosmetology
- Esthetics
- Nail Care

Information Technology

Building linkages in IT occupations for entry level, technical and professional careers related to the design, development, support and management of hardware, software, multimedia, and systems integration services.

- Career Pathways Showcase: Information Technology
- Computer Programming
- Cyber Security
- Information Technology Services
- Internet of Things (IOT) Smart Home
- Internetworking
- Technical Computer Applications

Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security

Planning, managing, and providing legal, public safety, protective services, and homeland security, including professional and technical support services.

- Career Pathways Showcase: Law, Public Safety and Security
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Criminal Justice
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Firefighting

Leadership

Eligibility is not tied to a specific Career Technology Education Career Cluster. Leadership competitions are established for SkillsUSA members to demonstrate related SkillsUSA Framework skills through a competitive process.

- Action Skills
- American Spirit
- Chapter Business Procedure
- Chapter Display
- Community Action Project
- Community Service
- Employment Application Process
- Entrepreneurship
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- Facilithon Leadership in Facility Management
- Job Interview
- Job Skill Demonstration A
- Job Skill Demonstration Open
- Occupational Health and Safety (Single and Multiple)
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies
- Outstanding Chapter

- Prepared Speech
- Quiz Bowl

Manufacturing

Planning, managing, and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products and related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance, and manufacturing/process engineering.

- Additive Manufacturing
- Automated Manufacturing Technology
- Career Pathways Showcase: Industrial and Engineering Technology
- CNC 2-Axis Turning Programmer
- CNC 3-Axis Milling Programmer
- CNC 5 Axis Milling Programmer
- CNC Programmer
- Industrial Motor Control
- Mechatronics
- Residential and Commercial Appliance Technology
- Robotics and Automation Technology

Marketing, Sales, and Service

Planning, managing, and performing marketing activities to reach organizational objectives.

- Career Pathways Showcase: Marketing, Sales, and Services
- Customer Service
- Entrepreneurship
- Promotional Bulletin Board

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

Planning, managing, and providing scientific research and professional and technical services (e.g., physical science, social science, engineering) including laboratory and testing services, and research and development services.

- Career Pathways Showcase: Industrial and Engineering Technology
- Commercial sUAS Drone
- Electronics Technology
- Engineering Technology Design
- Mobile Electronics Installation
- Mobile Robotics Technology
- Principles of Engineering Technology
- Related Technical Math
- Robotics: Urban Search and Rescue
- Team Engineering Challenge

Transportation Distribution and Logistics

Planning, management, and movement of people, materials, and goods by road, pipeline, air, rail and water and related professional support services such as transportation infrastructure planning and management, logistics services, mobile equipment, and facility maintenance.

- Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair
- Automotive Refinishing Technology
- Automotive Service Technology
- Aviation Maintenance Technology
- Career Pathways Showcase: Industrial and Engineering Technology
- Collision Damage Appraisal
- Collision Repair Technology
- Diesel Equipment Technology
- Heavy Equipment Operation
- Marine Service Technology
- Motorcycle Service Technology
- Power Equipment Technology