



2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

Version 1.1 1-5-2026

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

Table Of Contents

Membership & Registration	Page 3
Payment Information	Page 4
Conference Updates	Page 4
Preparing for Conference	Page 5
Conference Expectations	Page 6
State Officer Information	Page 7
Tentative Conference Agenda	Page 9
Tentative Contest Limits	Page 13

Additional information can be found at www.arskillsusa.org

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

Membership and Registration

[SkillsUSA Membership & Registration](#)

Membership Information:

Please ensure that all students have the following information on their membership record.

1. **Birthdate** - if this is correct it will help with score reporting
2. **Email Address** - unique and accurate email address
3. **School Info** - School, training program and teacher contact info.
4. **Remember Membership MUST be submitted by 2-15-26 to be eligible for conference.**
5. **Professional Membership:** Make sure that your professional membership is updated to gain access to the Technical Standards [SkillsUSA Pathful](#)

Conference Registration

1. **Look for problems:** Make sure that your student information is correct (see above). If you have an error contact SkillsUSA Customer Support 1-844-875-4557 or customercare@skillsusa.org
2. **Register for the conference:** Make sure that your student is entered into the correct contest. You can move them yourself until you submit registration.
 - a. Remember a member can only compete in 1 event.
 - b. Conference Registration Opens **January 19, 2026**
 - c. Membership must be submitted by **February 15, 2026**
 - d. Conference Registration Closes **February 20, 2026**
 - i. Running for State Officer is not considered an additional event.
3. **Submit Registration:** Once you have all your students entered into the correct contests you must submit your registration by clicking the submit registration button on the registration screen. Once you submit your conference registration it will allow you to proceed to the payment section and generate your invoice. **(once submitted you will not be able to move your students to another competition and must contact the state office for any changes)**
 - a. **Substitutions:** Once you have submitted your registration all substitutions must be made through the state office. Substitutions made after contestant numbers have been issued will be handled on-site at the conference.

Contest Fees:

Contestant / Advisor \$80.00

Observer / Delegate \$20.00

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

Payment Information

(Note: if you do not have your district PO number at time of registration you can enter a generic number to allow you to pass the registration system. Arkansas SkillsUSA does not track PO numbers for payment.)

Paying for conference: You have until the start of the conference to pay for the conference. Unfortunately, the state of Arkansas will not allow us to accept payment for the conference via a credit/debit or P-card. **You must pay by check.**

1. Please make checks payable to:

Arkansas SkillsUSA

Arkansas Department of Education-DCTE

Student Leadership Center.

2. You can mail checks to the following address,

Arkansas SkillsUSA,

ATTN: Bart Draper SLC

#3 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR 72201

a. **Payment Deadline is April 14, 2026**

b. You **MAY** present the check at conference check in.

c. Please submit a copy of your invoice or invoices with payment.

Conference Updates

Check for updates:

1. **Check your email.** Look for emails from the Arkansas SkillsUSA Office. You **may** receive contest materials, updates, or test information via email.
2. Your students **may** also receive information directly. Make sure they are checking email daily.
3. **Check the Website:** Make sure that you are checking for updates on the Arkansas SkillsUSA website: [Arkansas SkillsUSA Updates](#) this site will be updated frequently as we get closer to the conference date.
4. **Download the Arkansas SkillsUSA App.** The conference app is the fastest and most up to date way to get conference information. [Arkansas SkillsUSA APP](#)

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

Preparing for Conference

Technical Standards: Once your professional membership has been paid to the national office you will receive an email with access to the SkillsUSA Pathful system. The Pathful system has all of the technical standards as well as many training and educational resources for instructors and students. [SkillsUSA Pathful](#)

Check the clothing guide: [Clothing Guide](#) The only change from this guide is for the Arkansas SLSC Conference you **do not** have to have the SkillsUSA Logo on the uniform. If you advance to nationals, you will be required to have the logo.

Resume: Every student must bring a resume to the conference. There will be no provision for printing them at the conference.

1. Job Interview Contestants: 3 Copies
2. All other Contestants: 1 Copy

Conference Materials: If your competition requires the official SkillsUSA Red Binder/Folder for the state contest the logo is not required. If you make it to the national event, it must be logoed.

1. Have copies of all required information. (see technical standards)
2. If an event requires a specific document, please have an extra copy with you. Ex CPR Certification.

Check The Agenda: Download the latest Arkansas SkillsUSA Agenda from the Arkansas SkillsUSA website. [Arkansas SkillsUSA Updates](#)

1. The current tentative agenda is at the bottom of this document.

Conference Location: Most events will take place at the Hot Springs Convention Center in Hot Springs, Arkansas on Tuesday April 14,2026. Some events will be held at a different location and time. See the agenda page 9 for additional contest information.

Book your hotels.

Each of your schools will need to have their own hotel accommodation for the event. We have a block of rooms at the Hotel Hot Springs and a small block at the Embassy.

1. You may stay at any hotel your district wishes.
2. You are responsible for all transportation to the event.
3. You are responsible for your students' behavior.

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

Conference Expectations

Supervision: It is up to each school to ensure that they have enough staff to chaperone all students. SkillsUSA recommends no larger than 10 to 1 student to teacher/staff ratio. However, reference and follow your local district policy.

Pick up your school packet: Someone from your school will need to pick up your conference packet. We make 1 packet per school. Check the conference agenda for times.

Each packet will contain the following information:

1. Contest ID badges
2. Lunch Tickets (1 per registered members/guests)
3. Copies of your registration
4. Copies of your invoice
5. Copies of your student's contestant ID numbers

Move In and drop off: Tools and equipment can be moved into the conference floor after 5pm on Monday April 13th or before 8:00 AM on Tuesday April 14th.

Competition Start Times: Most contests will start at 9:00 AM with a judge briefing before the start of the event. Refer to the conference agenda for specific start times. The agenda will be divided into the following categories with times and locations. Neither teachers nor students should enter the competition floor through the loading dock area.

1. Early Start Events (Welding)
2. 9:00 Start Events
3. Scheduled Start events (Contestants will have a specific start time)
4. Test Only Events
5. Late Start Events
6. Offsite Events (these events will have different starting times and locations)

Awards Day: The awards presentation will start at 9:00 AM on Wednesday April 15th. Currently the awards ceremony will be held in Horner Hall.

1. There will be a section on the front 2 rows that is reserved for Arkansas School for the Deaf and their interpreters. Do not sit here.
2. Students will need to be in either contest attire or SkillsUSA official dress to enter the awards presentation. Your students will not be allowed on stage in jeans or with a hat.
3. You must have your conference ID badge to enter the awards location. If you do not you will be directed to the overflow seating section.
4. Please sit together with your school and do not skip seats.

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

State Officer Information

Eligibility

Any active member who has at least one year left on their training program of study. Both Secondary and Post-secondary members can run for state office. If during their term as a state officer, if a student leaves their training program for any reason other than graduation they will be removed from the state officer team.

State officer candidates are allowed to compete at the state conference. In the event an officer candidate does win their contest they will compete at the national event as a competitor and all expenses will be the responsibility of the sending school.

These candidates must complete the officer's application and adhere to all the requirements outlined in the application.

Officer Campaigning

As an officer candidate you will be expected to turn in your campaign posters to the SkillsUSA Headquarters office during check-in. You will be given instructions on where to place your poster. These posters will be displayed on designated easels next to the stairs in the grand lobby.

You may campaign any time after check-in until the delegate session. You should encourage any member to attend the voting session on Tuesday afternoon at 5 pm. Remember that your campaign poster should have a QR code to your About Me document. This document should be very similar to the speech that you will give during the delegate meeting.

Delegate Meeting: This is the only time you will be allowed to vote.

This event will take place at 5:00 PM in meeting rooms 208/209. Here is the outline for this meeting. Each School will be allowed to send only 2 Delegate Members to this session.

1. At 5:01 PM Current State Officer or designee will call the meeting to order and go over the following voting rules.
 - a. Each member can cast 1 Vote
 - b. They should vote for the 7 officers they feel are the best.
 - c. Voting will be done via a google form and QR Code.
2. Each officer Candidate will be present in the room when the instructions are read aloud.
3. Once the instructions are completed, all but 1 officer candidate will exit the room and wait in the hallway for their turn to speak.
4. Each Candidate will have 3-5 minutes to explain why they feel they should be an 2026-2027 State Officer. If you go over your 5 minutes you will be asked to leave the room and send in the next candidate.

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

5. Once all candidates have spoken, ask the delegates to cast their vote and they can be dismissed.
6. Once everything is completed return to headquarters in Hall A and I will tally the votes and the winners will be announced during the awards session on Wednesday.

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

2026 SkillsUSA Arkansas SLSC *Tentative Agenda for 2026* *(12/31/2025)*

Monday, April 13, 2026
Setup Day

Time	Event	Location
6:30 AM	Contest Area Setup	ALL
5:00 PM	Early Check-in Opens	Hall A
5:00 PM	On-site Substitution Desk Opens	Hall A
5:00 PM	Tool and Computer Drop-off Opens	HSCC
7:00 PM	Check in, Substitution and Drop-Off Closes	HSCC
10:00 PM	Curfew for all SkillsUSA Students	All

Tuesday, April 14, 2026
Contest Day

7:00 AM	Check-in and School Packet Pick Up Opens 1 instructor per School	Hall A
7:00 AM	On-site Substitution desk opens	Hall A
8:00 AM	Welding Contest Early Start	Hall B
8:30 AM	Contest Briefing and Orientation (all contest areas)	HSCC
9:00 AM	All Contests Start	HSCC
	Action Skills	RM 101
	Additive Manufacturing	Hall B
	Advertising Design	Summit Arena
	Architectural Drafting	Hall B
	Automotive Service / Maintenance and Light Repair	Hall B
	Audio (Radio) Production	Summit Arena
	Automated Manufacturing Technology	Hall C
	Automotive Refinishing Technology	Hall C/D

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

9:00 AM	Auto Parts Specialists	Hall A
	Basic Health Care Skills (High School ONLY)	Hotel Hot Springs RM 2
	Cabinetmaking	Hall D
	Carpentry	Hall D
	Carpentry Display	Hall D/C
	CNC 2 Axis Programing	Summit Arena
	CNC 3 Axis Programing	Summit Arena
	Collision Repair Technology	Hall B/C
	Community Action Project	Hotel Hot Springs Boardroom
	Commercial sUAS Drones	Summit Arena
	Computer Programing	Hall B
	Crime Scene Investigation	Hall A
	Criminal Justice	Hall A
	CTE Educator	RM 206
	Customer Service	RM 102
	Cyber Security	Hall B
	Diesel Equipment Technology	Summit Arena
	Digital Cinema	Summit Arena
	Electrical Construction Wiring	Hall D
	First Aid/CPR	Hotel Hot Springs RM 1
	Firefighting	Hall A
	HVACR	Hall D

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

9:00 AM	Job Interview – Awaiting Interview Interview <i>(Bring completed application and 3 copies of resume to your appointment)</i>	RM 204 RM 203
	Job Skill Demo A -High School	RM 103
	Masonry	Hall A
	Mechatronics	Hall B
	Nurse Assisting	Hotel Hot Springs RM 3
	Opening and Closing Ceremony	Room 205
	Pipe Welding	Hall D
	Photography	Summit Arena
	Plumbing	Hall D
	Prepared Speech	RM 106
	Technical Drafting	Hall B
	Television Video Production	Summit Arena
	Video News Production	Summit Arena Press Room
	Welding Fabrication	Hall D
	Welding Sculpture	Hall A
9:00 AM	Display Events Setup Begins Chapter Display Health Occupations Professional Portfolio Outstanding Chapter Promotional Bulletin Board Pin Design T-Shirt Design <u>Contestants should provide easel</u>	North Concourse
9:30 AM	Quiz Bowl	Rm 104/105
9:30 AM	Health Knowledge Bowl (No Observers Allowed)	Hotel Hot Springs Ballroom 3

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

10:00 AM	Job Skill Demo Open (Middle School Only)	Rm 205
10:00 AM	Display Events Judging Begins	North Concourse
10:00 AM	Medical Math	RM 208
10:00 AM	Technical Computer Applications Exam	RM 207
11:00 AM	Community Service Project	Hotel Hot Springs Boardroom
11:30 AM	Medical Terminology	RM 208
11:30 AM	Information Technology Services Exam	RM 207
1:00 PM	Related Technical Math	RM 208
1:00 PM	Urban Search and Rescue (Robotics)	Summit Arena
1:00 PM	Job Skill Demo A College/Post-Secondary	RM 106
1:00 PM	Extemporaneous Speaking	RM 101
5:00 PM	State Officer Elections	RM 208
10:00 PM	Curfew for all Students	ALL

Off-site events see Contest Limits section for times and locations for your event.

Wednesday, April 15, 2026 Awards Day

9:00 AM **2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Opening Ceremony** **Horner Hall**
2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Resignations
2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Closing Ceremony
2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Awards Ceremony

Special NOTE

With the National SkillsUSA Leadership and Skill Competition being moved up the registration system for the national conference will open on Thursday April 16, 2026.

Always remember announcements made at the Arkansas SkillsUSA Event supersede all published material.

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

2026 Tentative Contest List and Limits SkillsUSA Arkansas SLSC

Registration Code	Event Name	Middle School Limit	High School Limit	Post Secondary Limit
Leadership Events				
AS	Action Skills	3	3	3
CTE **NEW**	Career & Technical Educator	0	2	2
DIS	Chapter Display	0	2 Teams of 3	2 Teams of 3
CAP	Community Action Project	2 Teams of 2	2 Teams of 2	2 Teams of 2
CSP	Community Service Project	2 Teams of 3	2 Teams of 3	2 Teams of 3
CUS	Customer Service	0	3	3
ES	Extemporaneous Speaking	0	3	3
JI	Job Interview	0	2	2
JSDA	Job Skill Demo A	0	3	3
JSDO	Job Skill Demo Open	3	0	0
OCC	Opening & Closing Ceremony	0	2 Teams of 7	2 Teams of 7
OUT	Outstanding Chapter	0	2 Teams of 3	2 Teams of 3
PS	Prepared Speech	3	3	3
BB	Promotional Bulletin Board	0	1 Team of 3	1 Team of 3
QUIZ	Quiz Bowl		2 Teams of 5-7	2 Teams of 5-7

SKILLED CONTESTS

AD	Architectural Drafting	0	4	4
AMF	Additive Manufacturing	0	1 Team of 2	1 Team of 2
ADV	Advertising Design	0	6	6
RAP	Audio-Radio Production	0	3 Teams of 2	3 Teams of 2
MFG	Automated Manufacturing Technology	0	1 Team of 3	1 Team of 3
MLR	Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair	0	2	0

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

ART	Automotive Refinishing Technology	0	2	0
AST	Automotive Service Technology	0	0	2
CARE	Basic Health Care Skills (High School Only)	0	3	0
CJ	Criminal Justice	0	4	4
CM	Cabinetmaking	0	3	3
C	Carpentry	0	3	3
CNCM	3 Axis CNC Programer	0	3	3
CNCT	2 Axis CNC Programer	0	3	3
CRT	Collision Repair Technology	0	2	2
DT	Commercial sUAS Drone	0	2 Teams of 2	2 Teams of 2
CMP	Computer Programing	0	2	2
CSI	Crime Scene Investigation	0	1 Team of 3	1 Team of 3
CY	Cyber Security	0	2 Teams of 2	2 Teams of 2
DET	Diesel Equipment Technology	0	2	2
DCP	Digital Cinema Productions	0	3 Teams of 2	3 Teams of 2
ECW	Electrical Construction Wiring	0	3	3
CPR	First Aid/ CPR	0	4	4
FF	Firefighting	0	4	4
BOWL	Health Knowledge Bowl	0	2 Teams of 4	2 Teams of 4
HOPP	Health Occupations Professional Portfolio	0	4	4
HVACR	Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration	0	3	3
ITS	Information Technology Services	0	3	3
M	Masonry	0	3	3
MM	Medical Math	0	5	5
MECH	Mechatronics	0	2 Teams of 2	2 Teams of 2
MTN	Medical Terminology	0	5	5
NA	Nurse Assisting	0	3	3
P	Photography	0	6	6
PIN	Pin Design	0	3	3
PLB	Plumbing	0	3	3
RTM	Related Technical Math	0	5	5
USR **NEW**	Robotics-Urban Search & Rescue SkillsUSA Robotic Urban Search & Rescue	2 Teams of 2	2 Teams of 2	2 Teams of 2
TCA	Technical Computer Applications	0	2	2
TD	Technical Drafting	0	4	4
TV	Television Production	0	3 Teams	3 Teams of

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Conference Guide

			of 2	2
TSD	T-Shirt Design	0	4	4
TVN	Video News Production	0	2 Teams of 4	2 Teams of 4
W	Welding	0	2	2
MFB	Welding Fabrication 10 Team Limit Teams chosen by qualification exam.	0	1 Team of 3	1 Team of 3
WS	Welding Sculpture	0	2	2

The following contests are State Only Contests:

Winners are not eligible

to go to National SkillsUSA Conference

APS	Auto Parts Specialist	0	2	2
CDIS	Carpentry Display	0	3	3
PW	Pipe Welding	0	3	3

2026 Arkansas SkillsUSA Off-Site Competitions

BPA	Baking & Pastry Arts (Bright Water) April 10, 2026 9:00 AM	0	3	3
CO	Cosmetology (UAPTC South) March 30, 2026 9:00 AM			
CA	Culinary Arts (Bright Water) April 10, 2026 9:00 AM	0	3	3
EST	Esthetics (UAPTC South) March 30, 2026 9:00 AM	0	6	6
MT	Marine Service Technology (NPCC Career Academy) April 14, 2026 9:00 AM	0	3	3
NAIL	Nail Care (UAPTC South) March 30, 2026 9:00 AM	0	6	6
PET	Power Equipment Technology ASU Beebe Searcy March 30 9AM	0	3	3
VR **NEW**	Virtual Welding (ARVA Little Rock) April 8, 2026 10:00AM Start (STATE ONLY)	4	4	0