**CULINARY ARTS**
(VIRTUAL)

**PURPOSE**
To evaluate each contestant’s preparation for employment in the food service industry and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in culinary arts.

First, download and review the General Regulations at: http://updates.skillsusa.org.

**ELIGIBILITY**
Open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in programs with culinary arts or commercial food trades as the occupational objective.

**CLOTHING REQUIREMENT**
Class G: Culinary/Commercial Baking Attire
- White or black work pants or black-and-white checkered chef’s pants*.
- White chef’s jacket.
- White or black leather work shoes (non-slip).
- White apron.
- White neckerchief.
- Side-towels.
- Hairnet.

Contest Clothing Notes (Apply ONLY to Virtual Competitions):
- Official SkillsUSA Competition Clothing recommended but NOT required.
- Contestant clothing options include the following:
  - Official Competition Clothing.
  - Trade Appropriate Clothing.
  - Professional Dress.
  - Business Casual.
- Clothing must meet industry safety standards.
- No identification of the contestant, school or state is allowed on clothing.
- No offensive, vulgar or inappropriate images or text are allowed on contestants clothing.
- No shorts or sleeveless shirts are allowed.
- Skirts must be at least knee-length.
- Proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn by contestant to meet all state, local and school requirements due to COVID-19.
- Scoring deductions may only be given and/or disqualification of contestant if clothing safety standards are not met.

No facial jewelry is allowed. Earrings are not permitted even if covered by a bandage. A single watch or wedding ring is the only jewelry that will be allowed to be worn during the contest periods. All hair must be restrained by either a hat or hairnet. Beards must be covered by a snood during all periods of food handling.

These regulations refer to clothing items that are pictured and described at: www.skillsusastore.org. If you have questions about clothing or other logo items, call 1-888-501-2183.

* Black-and-white checkered chef’s pants not available through the SkillsUSA Store.

Cellphones and/or smart watches are not permitted on the contest floor and cannot be used in place of a kitchen timer.

**EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS**
1. Supplied by the technical committee:
   a. Contest specifications (menus, recipes, instructions)

2. Supplied by the contestant:
   a. Computer with high-speed internet capability and camera to use applications such as Zoom, Teams, etc. The minimum recommended internet bandwidth speeds for joining Zoom meetings, accessing on-demand curriculum and other online operations is 2.0 Mbps up and down. You can test your current internet speeds by following this link: www.speedtest.net. Allow the page to load and click on GO.
   b. A secondary camera(s) may be required to provide judges with the ability to view contestants from different angles. Additional camera requirements will be

c. A contest Proctor will be required to be on site to assist judges. A local industry expert is preferred to serve as the Proctor and shall not be an individual that has been involved with the training of the contestant(s). The Proctor will serve as the onsite “hands and eyes” for the judges. Proctor will follow instructions from the judges for safety and operations related to the competition. Proctor may be asked by judges to perform several tasks such as operating a portable camera to show specific components or steps, measure parts, or any task that will provide judges with information needed to assist in accurate scoring of the contestant's work or presentation. However, the Proctor shall not serve as a judge nor have any influence on contestant scores.

d. The contestant's instructor or advisor shall be on site to observe all competition activities to ensure a safe and healthy competition experience for all participants. That instructor or advisor will not be allowed to interact or interfere with the competitor unless a safety issue arises that requires interaction. Any other support or interaction between the contestant and the instructor/advisor will result in disqualification.

e. All competitors must create a one-page résumé and submit an electronic copy to the technical committee chair at least seven (7) days in advance of the competition. Failure to do so will result in a 10-point penalty. Instructions for submission of the electronic résumé copy will be provided on the SkillsUSA website at http://updates.skillsusa.org.

f. All necessary food items, seasonings, etc.

g. Contest site organized (workstations, ranges, refrigeration, access to product and additional equipment) in as fair a manner possible for each contestant

h. All cookware and small wares necessary for food preparation

i. All necessary platters, dishes, and china necessary for food presentations

j. No. 2 pencil (two each, small note pad if desired)

k. Knife kit and cook’s tools as desired from the following:
   1. French cook’s knife
   2. Paring knife
   3. Vegetable peeler
   4. Knife steel
   5. Boning knife
   6. Cook’s fork
   7. Slicing knife (meat)
   8. Serrated slicing knife
   9. Fillet knife
   10. Utility knife
   11. Offset spatula
   12. Cook’s tongs (8–12 in.)
   13. Pocket thermometer
   14. Micro plane
   15. Piping bags and tips
   16. Molds or timbals
   17. Sil-pats
   18. Battery-powered timer or clock
   19. Small mesh strainer
   20. Oven thermometer
   21. Hairnet(s)
   22. Cheesecloth
   23. Whisk
   24. Kitchen spoons
   25. Stainless steel mixing bowls
   26. Food mill or ricer
   27. Salad spinner
   28. Measuring cups/spoons
   29. Mise en place containers
   30. Plastic squeeze bottles
   31. Under counter equipment rack (must fit under table)
   32. Bench scrapers
   33. Cutting boards
   34. Garnish kit:
      a. Citrus zester
      b. Channel knife
      c. Parisienne scoop
      d. Apple corer
      e. Tourner knife
      f. Canapé or biscuit cutters

No additional equipment will be allowed.

Note: No electrical devices, pasta machines, pots, pans, baking trays or large equipment will be allowed. Equipment check will occur during orientation. Storage space will be provided.
**Note:** Check the Contest Guidelines and/or the updates page on the SkillsUSA website: [http://updates.skillsusa.org](http://updates.skillsusa.org).

**Scope of the Contest**

**Knowledge Performance**
The contest will include a written knowledge test that will require the use of culinary math. The test will include topics such as knowledge of standard weights and measures; the ability to convert recipes, yields and portion sizes accurately; science; nutrition basics; environment health standards and practices; bacteria, viruses and food-borne illnesses; food science and technology; information technology; language and communications; English (SOL) reading; manuals/SOP; recipes; classical cooking techniques; menus; résumé writing; speaking efficiently and listening carefully; and elementary culinary language and menu terminology.

**Skill Performance**
The contest will include the actual preparation of food and arrangement of food on plates or platters and in dishes to serve to the customer.

**Contest Guidelines**
The skill performance portion of the contest will ask contestants to:
1. Demonstrate and apply food safety principles, procedures, HACCP and key practices for ensuring food safety
2. Coordinate mise en place and apply organizational skills
3. Demonstrate technical and creative menu making expertise
4. Demonstrate and apply knowledge of proper cooking methods and techniques as required
5. Demonstrate knife skills and proper cutting techniques
6. Demonstrate and apply the proper use of equipment
7. Demonstrate and apply creative preparation, portioning and presentation of food items

**Standards and Competencies**

**Note for Virtual Competitions:** Contestants may not be required to perform all the standards and competencies listed in this section. However, contestants should be prepared to perform components in all areas. Prior to the competition, the technical committee may determine which standards and competencies contestants will be perform for the virtual contests. The technical committee will determine if additional information is needed for contestants prior to the competition. These changes will be posted on the SkillsUSA Championships contest update website at: [http://updates.skillsusa.org](http://updates.skillsusa.org).

**CA 1.0 — Understand the importance of proper planning as it relates to being prepared to execute professional food production**
1.1 Envision success by analyzing all available documentation well in advance of the activity and following instructions
1.2 Make lists and develop workflow plans
1.3 Assemble all components of professional attire
1.4 Assemble appropriate equipment using a predetermined list of allowed items
1.5 Ensure all proper documents are assembled or prepared according to written instructions
1.6 Maintain a positive attitude and can-do spirit
1.7 Demonstrate a polished professional image

**CA 2.0 — Maintain knowledge of safety, sanitation policies, procedures and codes in a food preparation setting**
2.1 Ensure that personal certifications are maintained
2.2 Ensure that proper containers are used for storage of food, chemicals and other supplies
2.3 Check that personal attire meets safety standards (e.g., covered hair)
2.4 Ensure that proper cleaning solutions are maintained and used
2.5 Ensure that spills and other safety problems are addressed immediately'
CA 3.0 — Maintain personal hygiene and compliance with dress code in a food preparation setting

3.1 Demonstrate that uniforms are clean and fit properly
3.2 Demonstrate that hair restraints are used
3.3 Ensure that perfume and cologne use is minimal
3.4 Demonstrate that hands and nails are clean and groomed
3.5 Ensure that use of jewelry meets standards (e.g., only a single watch and/or wedding ring)

CA 4.0 — Maintain safe and sanitary work area(s)

4.1 Show that sanitizers are located at every station
4.2 Show that work area, tools and equipment are cleaned and sanitized after each activity
4.3 Ensure that sharp and hot objects are handled and stored properly
4.4 Take necessary precautions to prevent cross-contamination
4.5 Demonstrate proper communications to ensure the safety of those working around you

CA 5.0 — Hold and store food at proper temperature

5.1 Show that food products are labeled and dated
5.2 Calibrate thermometers properly
5.3 Ensure that temperature of food and storage areas are within guidelines
5.4 Demonstrate that temperatures are checked regularly
5.5 Ensure that storage guidelines are followed
5.6 Prepare food according to specifications

CA 6.0 — Review menu, recipes and instructions

6.1 Demonstrate that clarification is sought when questions arise
6.2 Ensure that recipe reviewed is up-to-date
6.3 Ensure that quantity of food is verified
6.4 Ensure that menu items are consistent with recipes
6.5 Demonstrate that recipes are available and referenced when needed

CA 7.0 — Identify and select the necessary ingredients

7.1 Identify and use appropriate substitutions if necessary
7.2 Verify ingredient list
7.3 Verify that preparation ingredients are consistent with recipe
7.4 Verify that freshness and proper rotation are checked

CA 8.0 — Follow procedures for appropriate cooking techniques

8.1 Demonstrate that proper weights and measurements are used
8.2 Assemble all necessary equipment and ingredients in an efficient and effective manner
8.3 Verify that cooking procedures are followed consistently
8.4 Identify that cooking and serving times are consistent with recipes
8.5 Identify that food is consistent with recipe

CA 9.0 — Demonstrate the proper execution of classical culinary techniques according to specifications

9.1 Execute assigned vegetable cuts utilizing appropriate products and utilize as directed
9.2 Break down proteins according to generally accepted butchery/fabrication techniques
9.3 Produce stock using bones and trim to ensure maximum utilization of ingredients
9.4 Produce an appetizer course including but not limited to salads, hot appetizers, cold appetizers, etc.
9.5 Produce a soup course including but not limited to cream or clear soup, puree, bisque or chowder
9.6 Produce two main entrees using two different cooking techniques from the following; sauté, roast, braise, stew, poach (shallow or deep) and/or panfry
9.7 Produce two different sauces to be included on the two main entrees. Choose from the following; derivative of a mother sauce, cream, pan sauce, au jus, butter sauce, reduction or contemporary.
9.8 Produce vegetable accompaniment utilizing techniques including but not limited to boiling, steaming, glazing, sauté, roasting and/or panfrying
9.9 Produce starch accompaniments utilizing techniques including but not limited to pilaf, roasted, pureed, panfry, boiled, steamed, legumes
9.10 Leverage creativity and degree of difficulty to produce appealing plates of well-prepared foods

CA 10.0 — Assess final product for quality assurance
10.1 Verify that the presentation of product is consistent
10.2 Ensure that the final product is prepared at the correct temperature
10.3 Ensure that the final product is seasoned at correct level
10.4 Ensure hot food is served hot and cold food is served cold

CA 11.0 — Gather the necessary equipment in the food preparation setting
11.1 Use the right tool or piece of equipment for task
11.2 Ensure that tools and equipment are transported to work area safely
11.3 Use checklists to verify equipment

CA 12.0 — Verify that equipment and tools are in working order
12.1 Inspect equipment and tools visually
12.2 Identify equipment and tools with missing parts
12.3 Ensure that equipment is tested before use (e.g., oven temperature)
12.4 Ensure that defective tools and equipment are reported to contest organizers
12.5 Ensure that tools and equipment that create safety hazards are removed

CA 13.0 — Use tools and equipment in a safe and sanitary manner
13.1 Verify that tools and equipment are cleaned and sanitized before and after use
13.2 Use proper colored cutting board (e.g., blue/fish; red/raw meat; green/vegetables)
13.3 Use food handler gloves properly
13.4 Verify that knives are sharpened on a regular basis
13.5 Use equipment safety devices
13.6 Follow manufacturer’s operating instructions for equipment

CA 14.0 — Clean and sanitize equipment and tools after every use
14.1 Use proper chemical mixture to clean and sanitize equipment and tools
14.2 Ensure that cutting boards are properly cleaned and sanitized
14.3 When cleaning tools and equipment, use hot water
14.4 Ensure that policies and procedures for using chemicals and sanitizers are followed

CA 15.0 — Store tools and equipment in proper area after use
15.1 Verify that equipment and tools are cleaned, sanitized and covered before storage
15.2 Ensure that cleaning supplies are stored in the proper area
15.3 Return tools and equipment to proper storage place
15.4 Ensure that equipment sanitization storage rules are followed

CA 16.0 — Maintain awareness of surroundings in the food preparation setting
16.1 Report security or safety problems promptly to appropriate personnel
16.2 Ensure that hazardous situations are dealt with promptly
16.3 Verify that work area is visually scanned on a regular basis for safety and security problems
16.4 Identify emergency exits and procedures
16.5 Check emergency equipment regularly
16.6 Monitor location of co-workers

CA 17.0 — Advise contest organizers of safety and security concerns
17.1 Notify supervisory personnel promptly about safety and security concerns
17.2 Document safety concerns in a timely manner
17.3 Forward concerns to appropriate personnel
17.4 Document concerns containing all relevant information
17.5 Ensure that follow-up activities occur after concerns have been forwarded
Committee Identified Academic Skills
The technical committee has identified that the following academic skills are embedded in this contest.

Math Skills
- Use fractions to solve practical problems.
- Use proportions and ratios to solve practical problems.
- Simplify numerical expressions.
- Use scientific notation.
- Solve practical problems involving percents.
- Solve single variable algebraic expressions.
- Solve problems using proportions, formulas and functions.

Science Skills
- Use knowledge of cell theory.
- Use knowledge of patterns of cellular organization (cells, tissues, organs, systems).
- Describe basic needs of organisms.
- Classify living organisms.
- Use knowledge of carbon, water and nitrogen cycles.
- Describe and recognize elements, compounds, mixtures, acids, bases and salts.
- Describe and recognize solids, liquids and gases.
- Describe characteristics of types of matter based on physical and chemical properties.
- Use knowledge of physical properties (shape, density, solubility, odor, melting point, boiling point and color).
- Use knowledge of chemical properties (acidity, basicity, combustibility and reactivity).

Language Arts Skills
- Provide information in conversations and in group discussions.
- Provide information in oral presentations.
- Demonstrate use of such verbal communication skills as word choice, pitch, feeling, tone and voice.
- Demonstrate use of such nonverbal communication skills as eye contact, posture and gestures using interviewing techniques to gain information.
- Demonstrate comprehension of a variety of informational texts.
- Use test structures to aid comprehension.
- Understand source, viewpoint and purpose of texts.
- Organize and synthesize information of use in written and oral presentations.
- Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate reference materials.
- Use print, electronic databases and online resources to access information in books and articles.
- Demonstrate narrative writing.
- Demonstrate expository writing.
- Demonstrate information writing.
- Edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure and paragraphing.

Connections to National Standards
State-level academic curriculum specialists identified the following connections to national academic standards.

Math Standards
- Numbers and operations.
- Algebra.
- Geometry.
- Measurement.
- Problem solving.
- Communication.
- Connections.
- Representation.

Source: NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics. For more information, visit: http://www.nctm.org.

Science Standards
- Understands the structure and function of cells and organisms.
- Understands relationships among organisms and their physical environment.
- Understands biological evolution and the diversity of life.
- Understands the structure and properties of matter.
- Understands the sources and properties of energy.
- Understands the nature of scientific inquiry.

Source: McREL compendium of national science standards. To view and search the compendium, visit:
Language Arts Standards

• Students apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate and appreciate texts. They draw on their prior experience, their interactions with other readers and writers, their knowledge of word meaning and of other texts, their word identification strategies, and their understanding of textual features (e.g., sound-letter correspondence, sentence structure, context, graphics).

• Students adjust their use of spoken, written and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.

• Students employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.

• Students use a variety of technological and information resources (e.g., libraries, databases, computer networks, video) to gather and synthesize information and to create and communicate knowledge.

• Students use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion and the exchange of information).

Source: IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts. To view the standards, visit: www.ncte.org/standards.