

Dear SkillsUSA Advisor, (2023-2024 #14)

**Item #1: ACTION ITEM! Register Students Now For State Championship!**

Please register students now who are planning to participate in the **51<sup>st</sup> Annual State Championship, April 12-13, 2024**. While chapter registrations do not have to be finalized in the CMS online system until the **February 23 registration deadline**, enter as much information now in the CMS database as possible, to allow conference planners maximum time to secure chair/judge volunteers, equipment and materials needed to successfully plan and facilitate to-be-confirmed competitions.

The only exceptions to the "register now" directive are students/teams waiting for regional competition results. All other students/teams should be registered now. Thanks for your help with this important request.

**Item #2: 2024-2025 State Officer Application Deadline**

Please encourage your most involved and motivated chapter officers to run for state office. See 2024-2025 State Officer Application located on the state website. From the homepage click the "Resources" drop-down menu and select "State Officer" page. Application is linked to the State Officer page: <https://www.new.mdskillsusa.org/state-officers/>

The application must be completed and returned as an **email attachment** to the State Director by **February 15, 2024**. Please mail original copies with signatures to:

MSDE

OCCP / Chuck Wallace

[200 W. Baltimore Street](#)

[Baltimore, MD 21201](#)

SkillsUSA Maryland 2024-2025 state officer candidates will be required to complete an online test in preparation for in-person interviews on **Saturday, March 9, 2024**, at Dorchester Career and Technology Center, [2465 MD-16, Cambridge, MD 21613](#). Please contact Charlene Zinnel, State Officer Team Advisor, for testing and interview details: [zinnelc@dcpsmd.org](mailto:zinnelc@dcpsmd.org)

**Item #3: Check SkillsUSA Maryland Website for Important State Contest Information and Updates!**

State Championship information including contest updates are being posted to the state website as received from contest chairs. Scroll down the "State Conference" page to see updates listed alphabetically. Keep checking the website often as contest updates will continue to be posted until **Tuesday, April 8, 2024**. Here's the link: <https://www.new.mdskillsusa.org/state-conference/>

**Item #4: Study Guide for SkillsUSA Professional Development Test**

Students planning to participate in state competitions must complete a SkillsUSA professional development (PD) online test before the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual State Championship. Please encourage competing students to study for this 50-question test as scores will be used as state contest tie-

breakers. PD test study guide with answers is located on the state website, State Conference page: <https://www.new.mdskillsusa.org/state-conference/>

The online PD testing window opens **Monday, March 25, 2024** and closes **Friday, April 5, 2024**. More online testing information/instructions will be released soon.

Item #5: **New This Year!** Online Testing For Technical Competitions After State Championship

For select competitions, state gold medal winners will be invited to complete contest-aligned online technical tests provided by SkillsUSA. Students competing in national competitions will benefit from this experience as similar (same) questions may appear on national technical tests. The technical test online testing window will open **Monday, April 15, 2024** and close **Friday, April 19, 2024**. More information will be shared in future updates.

Item #6: Chapter Excellence Program (CEP) – Deadline to Submit MOE!

We challenge every SkillsUSA Maryland chapter to complete the CEP online application to be considered for Chapter of Distinction and Models of Excellence awards. The deadline to submit applications is **Friday, March 8, 2024**. For more information about the Chapter Excellence Program visit the following national website link: <https://www.skillsusa.org/programs/chapter-excellence-program/>

Item #7: 2024 Contest Technical Standards

Advisors who are SkillsUSA Professional paid members have access to the most up-to-date contest Technical Standards (2023-2024) required to successfully prepare students for 2024 State Championship competitions. Login to SkillsUSA account to access 2024 technical standards: <https://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/join/>



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