

Dear SkillsUSA Advisor, (SkillsUSA 2025-2026 #6)

Item #1: ACTION ITEM! Statesman and Advanced Statesman Study Guides Now Available

For advisors new to the Fall Leadership Conference (FLC) one of the challenges for participating students is to earn the SkillsUSA Maryland Statesman award and lapel pin. The goal is for every first-time FLC-attending student to earn this award, which enables them to learn more about SkillsUSA and the Framework while meeting and interacting with state officers, board of directors' members, state director and alumni. Your students will be putting their phones away and sharing this information "one-on-one" throughout the conference.

To ensure that every student is ready to earn their Statesman award, please share the study guide, now available on the SkillsUSA Maryland official website, "Fall Conference" page. For students who have already earned their Statesman award and lapel pin, they are challenged to earn the Advanced Statesman award and lapel pin. See study guide posted on the FLC webpage: <https://www.new.mdskillsusa.org/fall-conference/>

Don't hesitate to contact the state director if you have any questions or need more information. Encourage your students to study!

Item #2: Fall Leadership Conference Flyer with Agenda Now Available!

Visit the Fall Conference page to access the FLC "Conference-at-a-Glance" flyer: <https://www.new.mdskillsusa.org/fall-conference/>

Item #3: Join by November 15 for Member Incentive

Plan now to take advantage of this opportunity to receive free SkillsUSA products for your classroom! To earn free resources, you must register, submit and pay for SkillsUSA members before the full-service national membership deadline of Nov. 15, 2025.

When you join at least 15 student members in one technical program plus one or more instructors as professional members by Nov. 15, you will receive a free SkillsUSA Educational Resource.

As an additional membership incentive, if your chapter registers 25 more members than last year by Nov. 15, you'll receive a SkillsUSA Framework banner. If your chapter registers 50 or more members than last year by Nov. 15, you'll receive two Chapter Framework banners.

Item #4: Set Your Chapter Up for Success

We know that advisors have a lot to juggle this (and every) year. To lighten the load, SkillsUSA has refreshed resources to help you introduce this student organization with confidence: advisor & student lesson plans, administrator and parent letters, chapter website templates, recruitment flyers, modular scripts, and more. Pick one resource and test it with your students or share with your school leaders this week. [Checkpoint 1: Prepare](#)

Item #5: SkillsUSA Instructors Earn Big Prizes for Teaching Excellence

Harbor Freight Tools for Schools has honored 12 SkillsUSA instructors with teaching excellence prizes in the [2025 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence program](#). \$1.5 million in prizes was awarded this year to 25 outstanding skilled trades teachers in public high schools across America, with awards shared between the winners' skilled trades program and the individual teachers. One SkillsUSA instructor won a grand prize award of \$100,000 and 11 others won awards of \$50,000. The prize recognizes outstanding instruction in the skilled trades in U.S. public high schools and those teachers who inspire students to learn skills for life after graduation. [Read more here](#).

Item #6: Apply for SkillsUSA Aerotek “Make Your Mark” Scholarships

SkillsUSA members nationwide in select trade areas are encouraged to [apply for the SkillsUSA Aerotek “Make Your Mark” scholarship](#). The scholarship is for SkillsUSA members with direct educational costs for the spring 2026 term at a community college, technical college, certificate program or apprenticeship program. Applications are being accepted until **Nov. 7**. Scholarship winners will receive up to \$5,000 toward tuition, books, tools, on-campus housing or other approved direct educational expenses. Applicants must be enrolled in continuing education or career training in one of these pathways: Construction; Manufacturing; Transportation, Distribution & Logistics; Telecommunications Cabling Training; and Electronics Technology or Industrial Engineering Technology. For more information, review [all eligibility criteria and the flyer](#) ([Versión en Español](#)).



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