

2026 Maryland SkillsUSA Barbering Competition

March 16, 2026

Enclosed you will find the SkillsUSA Maryland Barbering contest scope, time schedule, student supply list, required haircut and beard design, and scoring criteria for the 2026 SkillsUSA Maryland State Championship.

The competition is located at **Carroll County Career & Technical Center located at** 1229 Washington Rd, Westminster, MD 21157.

Note: No human models - contestants are to bring a new, uncut mannequin for the replicated cut portion of the competition.

Contestants are participating in a State Contest and may not speak or be spoken to by teachers, classmates, friends or family. Should this occur, it will be noted on individual scoring sheets, and they will forfeit the competition. We welcome your silent support for the competitors however **we have limited seats for spectators**. The seating area is limited, but a large viewing area is open just outside the competition space. Please remember that observing the competitors is a privilege and we wish to have an environment in which every student will succeed.

Please review this information with your competitors (and spectators) so that they will arrive at the contest site well- prepared.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 757-781-7499 or Gm_Tanya.torres@greatclips.net during the day or evening. Otherwise, I'll see you **Saturday, April 18, 2026, at the Carroll County Career & Technical Center**

Good luck to all!

Tanya Torres
Contest Chair

2026 Maryland SkillsUSA Barbering Competition

Contestant Requirements:

The contestant must be current SkillsUSA Maryland member.

Contestants must be pre-qualified to compete via a SkillsUSA Maryland Regional competition process.

Objective:

Competitors will be expected to duplicate required tasks and skills on mannequins following the proctor's instructions.

Preparation for contest:

- Contestants will receive two photos of two haircuts to replicate in the contest.
- Contestants will also create and complete the National Preset Theme of "Space".

Skills to be judged:

- * Complete two haircuts on a contestant provided mannequin based on the instruction provided. Mannequin must be new and uncut (supplied by the student).
- * Design the National Preset Theme of "Space" on paper. To save time – you need to prepare your design drawings(s) BEFORE the competition. You must bring your drawing(s) to display on your station's mirror for the judges to see and for you to follow your haircut and beard design.
- * Create the National Preset Theme of "Space" on a provided bearded mannequin
- * Demonstrate all necessary safety and sanitation requirements
- * Demonstrate the ability to professionally respond to interview questions

Dress code:

Contestant –

- White SkillsUSA uniform or School uniform
- Black work, or dress shoes (non-skid and completely enclosed, no open-toe or open-heel)

Points will be deducted for improper dress & shoes

Note: all personal & school names must be covered.

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Supplies provided:

Workstation with a mirror and electricity for equipment

New bearded mannequin & stand (students may keep mannequin upon completion of contest)

Supplies contestants need to bring:

New uncut Mannequin

Blood Spill Kit

Combs & brushes

Towels

Blow dryer

Clippers & trimmers

Hospital Grade Disinfectant

Styling cape

Drawing Paper

Spray bottle

Clippers/Hair Clips

Hand Sanitizer

Cutting shears, thinning shears, razor & spare blade

Paper Towels

Roll of tape

Colored Pencils

Hair color of choice (professional temporary: examples include pencils, chalks, spray, or hair paint. Any type of temporary color not requiring water to rinse is acceptable)

Scoring Rubric:

Skills to be performed:

	Point Weight	Time Allotted
* Resume/Job Application	100 pts	N/A
* 1 st Haircut replication	200 pts	45 minutes
* 2 nd Haircut replication	200 pts	45 minutes
* Portfolio/Mock Interview	200 pts	60 minutes
* Drawing for the National Preset Theme of "Space"	100 pts	N/A
* Skills for the National Preset Theme of "Space"	200 pts	90 minutes

Total 1000 pts

Scoring:

* 1000-point scale per contestant.

* Students will receive points according to their skill

* Judges will individually rank each student by the completed skill performed and apply a point score. Judge's total points will be averaged for a total score by contestant.

Note: Possible point deductions

- 10 points may be deducted from the total score if stylist is improperly dressed
- 10 points may be deducted from the total score for unsanitary kit, unorganized station set up, and missing necessary tools or supplies, including blood spill kit
- 10 points will be deducted from the total score if the contestant does not provide a resume.

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Attentive Time Schedule:

8:00 A.M. - 8:15 A.M.	Registration / set up station (sign in, receive number, provide resume, receive mannequin & stand, and set up station)	
8:15 A.M. - 8:20 A.M.	Haircut & Style Orientation (#1)	(5 minutes)
8:20 A.M. - 9:05 A.M.	Haircut & Style Skill (#1)	(45 minutes)
9:05 A.M. - 9:20 A.M.	Judging	(15 minutes)
9:25 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.	Haircut & Style Orientation (#2)	(5 minutes)
9:30 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.	Haircut & Style Skill (#2)	(45 minutes)
10:15 A.M. – 10:25 A.M.	Judging	(10 minutes)
10:25 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.	Mock interview orientation	(5 minutes)
10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.	Mock Interviews & portfolio presentation	(60 minutes)
11:30 A.M. - 11:50 A.M.	Lunch Break	(20 minutes)
11:55 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.	Display Drawing of the National Preset Theme of “Space”	(5 minutes)
12:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.	Design the National Preset Theme of “Space ”	(90 minutes)
1:30 P.M. – 1:40 P.M.	Judging	(10 minutes)
1:30 P.M - 1:40 P.M.	Clean Up	(10 minutes)
1:40 P.M. - 1:45 P.M.	Judges Feedback- end of contest talk	(5 min)
1:45 P. M.	End of contest	

****Schedule is subject to change****

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Contest Guidelines

1. All competitors must keep their work area clean and organized throughout the competition.
2. All competitors must follow sanitation and safety procedures throughout the competition.
3. A professional attitude and professional communication are expected throughout the competition.
4. Once time is called, the competitor must stop working.
5. Additional items that are needed to complete any portion of haircuts and/or creative design cut may be added to the kit. They will not be part of the kit check.
 - a. Extra blades for clippers
 - b. Attachments for blow dryer
 - c. Styling products of choice
 - d. Headlamp is allowed
6. Items that are not allowed during the competition for any cut/style: stencils, ornaments, hairpieces, leveling devices, additional free-standing lighting, neck dusters, or additional extension cords.
7. NO Use of clipper guards/attachments at any time during the competition. This rule is in accordance with the mandate outline by SkillsUSA National Barbering standards. Violation of this will result in total loss of points for task. From the Skills USA National Guidelines available on the website.

Rule Clarification: “No Guards” To clarify the intent behind the rule stating “no guards”:

Detachable blade clippers and adjustable blade clippers are allowed. This aligns with the traditional tools and practices within the history of barbering. The key distinction is that detachable blades are not being used as a substitute for guards. They function similarly to adjustable clippers—offering a range from closed to open—rather than mimicking guard lengths like #4 or #5.

Adjustable clippers may still use their lever to transition between lengths, just as a detachable clipper user may switch blades. This is consistent with standard barbering techniques.

8. No alterations to clippers or trimmers are allowed. Failure to abide by this guideline could be a cause for dismissal from the competition. This is a safety and sanitation issue.
9. Competitors should not wear any jewelry that could interfere with services.
10. Be aware of your personal hygiene as wearing strong perfumes or colognes could affect others with allergies.
11. Instructors and/or observers that attempt to talk/signal to judges or competitors once the competition has started could cause their competitor to be dismissed from the competition.
12. The competitor must clean their station completely at the end of the competition as part of the sanitation assessment.

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Barbering Competition**



Haircut #1



Haircut #2