



*SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce.*

## **JUDGES**

The SkillsUSA Tennessee Championships are the preeminent showcase of public technical education in the state of Tennessee. Each spring students from across the state gather at the State Leadership and Skills Conference to compete in more than 100 different leadership and career competitions. These competitions recognize career and technical students who excel in their occupational areas, as well as in the leadership development activities that are such an integral part of the SkillsUSA program. Competitions begin locally and continue through the state and national levels.

The involvement of industry in the Championships program is essential. Experts in leadership, health occupations, and skilled and technical fields volunteer their time to serve as contest judges and as technical committee members. They assume responsibility for selecting the skills that are to be judged, determining the format of the contests, and establishing the standards by which contestants will be judged.

The philosophy of the Championships is to reward students for excellence, to involve industry in directly evaluating student performance and to keep training relevant to employers' needs. To continue to meet the needs of potential employees and prospective employers, the lines of communication between technical education schools and industry must be kept open. Educators must be able to identify industry's needs and, in turn, develop appropriate curricula.

## **JUDGES ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Judges must be familiar with the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards, particularly the General Regulations, Instructions to Technical Committees, and the specific rules of the contest they have been asked to judge.
2. Judges should receive copies of the contest project and judges' rating sheet(s), along with complete instructions from the Technical Committee prior to the competition.
3. Judges must give careful attention to each rule, and each contestant or entry must be judged in exactly the same manner and under the same conditions as every other contestant or entry.
4. Judges will meet prior to the SkillsUSA Championships, at a time and place announced by the Technical Committee, to confer on:
  - a. Rule meanings and interpretations

- b. Room arrangements
  - c. Materials and equipment
  - d. Last-minute details
  - e. Rating sheets
5. Judges will evaluate the performance of each contestant according to the criteria listed in each contest.
  6. Judges will identify contestants by number only. Judges will not use contestants' names, schools, or other identifying information unless otherwise specified in individual contest rules.
  7. Judges are to evaluate all items related to safety. Contestants not meeting safety requirements in clothing and/or devises may be disqualified from competition if, in the judges' opinions, the safety of the contestants or those around them is endangered.
  8. Judges should rate contestants on the basis of entry-level job skills. Judges should rate each contestant independently and not compare rating sheets with those of other judges.
  9. Judges should rate contestants against a standard of performance rather than automatically awarding first; second; or third place medals to the highest-ranking competitors. It is not necessary to award a medal if the standard of performance does not justify such recognition.
  10. After the judging is completed, judges should total their own rating sheets and return them, along with any notes and other pertinent information, to the Technical Committee or Contest Score Keeper.
  11. The judges, technical committee and contest score keeper will keep all results confidential until the general announcement of winners is made at the Awards Ceremony. Under no circumstances may the judges discuss contest results or contestants' performance with contestants, chapter advisors or any observers.

If you would like to serve SkillsUSA Tennessee as a contest judge, [please sign-up here](#) by January 31, 2022.

***Questions? Contact the SkillsUSA Tennessee State Staff***

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