OVERVIEW

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA empowers its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. SkillsUSA improves the quality of our nation’s future skilled workforce through the development of Framework skills that include personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics. SkillsUSA Illinois serves more than 6,000 students and instructors annually.

Due to tremendous growth, SkillsUSA Illinois is expanding their opportunities to students. It is clear that to continue to grow and serve members, SkillsUSA Illinois must begin to expand programing. Currently, students must take a qualifying exam to come to advance to the State Championships; however, because of the growth and demand for hands-on experiences, SkillsUSA Illinois is looking to host the first ever regional qualifying events. SkillsUSA Illinois plans to host three Regions Championships Conference beginning in 2019 and identified the following contests as possible regional events:

- Architectural Drafting (CAD)
- Automotive Refinishing Technology
- Automotive Service Technology
- Cabinetmaking
- Carpentry
- Collision Repair Technology
- Commercial Baking
- Computer Programming
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary Arts
- Diesel Equipment Technology
- Early Childhood Education
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Esthetics
- Firefighting
- Job Interview
- Nurse Assisting
- Power Equipment Technology
- Technical Drafting (CAD)
- Welding

PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

SkillsUSA Illinois is expecting to see an increase in each of these competitions with the introduction of the regional events. The prediction is that based on the assumption some schools currently only register their “best students” for State Qualifying Exams, due to the fact that there are only a limited number of slots at the State Championships. With this new opportunity, we believe that schools will register more of their students, to give them the opportunity to experience a hands-on competition.
A review of the 2016 and 2017 State Qualifying Exams, has showed the following number of current student competitors participating by region:

- Testing Numbers for the **northern** part of the state: 1,015
- Testing Numbers for the **central** part of the state: 562
- Testing Numbers for the **southern** part of the state: 435

With a regional opportunity available, a 15% growth is assumed.

- Assumed Numbers for 2019 in the **northern** regional event: 1,168
- Assumed Numbers for 2019 in the **central** regional event: 647
- Assumed Numbers for 2019 in the **southern** regional event: 501

**REGIONAL SITES EXPECTATIONS**

SkillsUSA Illinois is excited for the opportunity to work with local community colleges and businesses. We hope that community colleges will see this event as a positive impact on their local school and recruitment efforts. It will be an expectation, that all participants will participate in a guided tour of the facilities. SkillsUSA Illinois will rely on our local point of contact, at each location, to help identify and work with local business and instructors to ensure that all competitions have adequate materials and judges.

SkillsUSA Illinois is requesting that the regional site provide all necessary equipment and space for each of the regional competitions. If the school does not have access to necessary equipment needed for the regional event, SkillsUSA Illinois is requesting space to bring in necessary equipment to put on the competition(s).

SkillsUSA Illinois is requesting for all consumables to be supplied by the community college, if for some reason specific consumables cannot be provided, SkillsUSA Illinois requests permission to bring in necessary consumables to put on the regional event.

SkillsUSA Illinois will rely on the local community college to provide local business contacts to assist with the competitions. Regional event will require judges, in-kind donations, and financial support.

Our goal will be to keep the cost of the conference as low as possible to our student members. SkillsUSA Illinois plans to set the registration cost for the regional event to a maximum of $30 per student.

**TIMELINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Task</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2018</td>
<td>Identify potential locations</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2018</td>
<td>Begin site visits and review potential location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 5, 2018</td>
<td>Secure contracts and dates for 2019 Regional Conference</td>
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*Proposal must include point of contact and coordinator for the regional conference.*