



LEAD Conference

2026 Registration Guide

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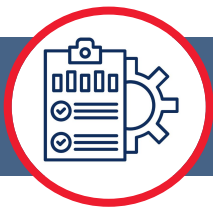
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A new experience for chapters —
practical training, leadership
development, and tools to take home.

November 9-10, 2026
Embassy Suites East Peoria





Key Dates & Costs

21
SEP

**Registration
Opens**

07
OCT

**Registration
Closes**

09
OCT

**Invoices
Emailed Out**

Registration Fee

\$220

per person

Hotel Rate

\$175

per night - 1-night minimum

Hotel Block

Required

All attendees must stay on-site

Arrival & Departure

Monday, Nov. 9

Arrive by 11:00 am

Tuesday, Nov. 10

Depart by 4:00 pm

LEVEL UP
2026 - 2027

SkillsUSA Annual Theme

This topic is to be addressed by competitors in the SkillsUSA Chapter Display, Prepared Speech and Promotional Bulletin Board competitions. The SkillsUSA competition theme for the 2026-27 school year is: SkillsUSA: Level UP



Step-by-Step Registration

1

Register Here

Advisors use Register (skillsusa-register.org) to sign up students and advisors for LEAD. Every registrant must be a submitted SkillsUSA member first.

2

Complete Individual Registration & Liability Release

Each student and advisor completes their Individual Conference Registration and Personal & Liability Release Form inside Register.

Save yourself some time! High school & Postsecondary students can **self-register for SkillsUSA membership** through the SkillsUSA online registration system. This gives students the opportunity to complete their own membership enrollment rather than requiring Advisors to enter every student individually.

[Student Self Registration Instructions](#)

3

Submit Student Forms Acknowledgement

Confirm in Register that all required student forms have been received and are on file.

4

Submit the LEAD Hotel Request Form

Book your chapter's rooms through the Airtable Hotel Request form. All attendees are required to stay within the SkillsUSA hotel block.

airtable.com/appOgHx3nXQQE4lVl/shr597xN1Y4jMyIrD



Receive Your Confirmation Email - Once your chapter's registration is complete, you'll get an email confirming your School/Chapter Registration is on file. If you have any changes please contact the SkillsUSA Illinois office:

membership@skillsusaininois.org



Advisor Registration Options

Full Conference Advisor Registration

For advisors attending the full conference with students.

- ✓ Monday lunch & dinner
- ✓ Full LEAD programming
- ✓ Registration to ADC on Tuesday
- ✓ All training & materials

\$220

Single-Day Advisor Registration

For advisors not bringing students to the full conference.

- ✓ Lunch included
- ✓ Registration swag
- ✓ Advisor planning materials
- ✓ 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

\$100

Not sure which one?

If you're attending **WITH** students, choose Full Advisor Registration.
If you're coming **ONLY** for the day, choose the Single-Day Advisor Session.

#1

9am

SkillsUSA IL Updates

#2

10:30a

Member Benefits & Using Pathful

#3

1pm

Additional Topics



Hotel & Travel

Embassy Suites East Peoria

100 Conference Center Drive, East Peoria, Illinois

Hotel Rate

\$175

per night - 1-night minimum

Rooming

Singles or
Doubles available

**Same Rate for Doubles 1-4

Required

All attendees must stay
in the SkillsUSA Illinois
hotel block



LEAD Scholarship

\$165

toward LEAD Conference
registration fee

APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 7, 2026 at midnight

AWARDEES ANNOUNCED

October 9, 2026

LEADERSHIP Starts HERE: Generous support from our business and industry partners is making it possible for 60 students who need additional financial assistance to attend LEAD Conference.

Requirements: Must be a registered SkillsUSA member, and registered for and attending LEAD Conference to receive the scholarship.

Application: Three short-answer questions plus a resume — a chance to share leadership experience, goals, and potential.

Visit:

skillsusaillinois.org/leadership-starts-here



Agenda at a Glance

Monday November 9

- 10:30am** Registration / Check-in
- 11:00am** Opening Session & LEARN Training
- 12:00pm** Lunch
- 1:00pm** Huddle: Connect - Build Your Team
- 2:30pm** LEARN Labs #1 & #2
- 4:15pm** Huddle: Plan - Map Your Mission
- 5:00pm** Break
- 5:45pm** Meet the Candidates
- 6:00pm** Dinner Session & Candidate Speeches
- 7:30pm** Break to Change
- 8:00pm** Huddle: Execute - Lead the Action
- 9:00pm** Huddle Excellence Award time & Statesman Work Time
- 9:30pm** ACT Training
- 11:00pm** Curfew

Tuesday November 10

- 7:30am** Breakfast open until 8:30 am
- 8:30am** Huddle: Report - Show Your Impact
- 9:30am** Pack Rooms / Check-Out / Luggage Storage
- 10:00am** Huddle Excellence Award Due
Statesman Award Due
- 10:00am** LEARN Labs #3 & #4
- 12:00pm** Lunch
- 1:00pm** Huddle: Reflect - Lead Forward
- 2:00pm** DREAM Training & Closing Session
- 4:00pm** Schools Depart

What to Wear

Business Casual:

Button-down shirts, polos, or nice blouses. Slacks, dress pants, or khakis. Comfortable shoes you can move in.

Monday PM - Casual / LEAD Attire:

School-appropriate jeans, your LEAD T-shirt (provided on-site), and shoes to move in.



Refund Policy

Registration Cancellation

No refunds after the deadline (October 7, 2026). Cancellations before the deadline receive a refund minus a \$10 handling fee.

Late Registration Fee

A \$5 per-registrant late fee applies to registrations received after the deadline. Late registrants must be approved by the Executive Director or designee.

Late Payment

If payment isn't received before the event, contestants may be disqualified. Chapters with an outstanding balance from a prior event cannot register for future events.

Room & Travel

The same cancellation rules apply to any hotel room or travel expenses booked through the SkillsUSA Illinois State Office.

Lost Name Badges

A \$10 fee replaces a lost badge during the conference. The person who lost it must request a replacement in person with ID.

All registration must be submitted through the State Director or designee. Exceptions for extreme cases may be recommended by the State Director; chapters may appeal in writing to the Board of Directors.

Questions?

We're here to help you get registered: SkillsUSA Illinois Team

membership@skillsusaillinois.org

833.754.5545