

2025




SkillsUSA
ILLINOIS

LEARN
EDUCATE
ACT
DREAM

FRAMEWORK FOCUS

The SkillsUSA Framework works by empowering every member to achieve career success and delivers a skill set demanded by business and industry. LEAD will provide participants an understanding of how to leverage these skills for future success by focusing on the Essential Elements of:

WORK ETHIC

Putting forth my best effort to meet expectations

ADAPTABILITY/FLEXIBILITY

The quality of being able to adjust to new conditions.

COMMUNICATION

Clear and complete exchange of information and ideas.

TEAMWORK

Working with others to achieve a common goal.

LEADERSHIP

Influencing the hearts, minds, and actions of others.

JOB-SPECIFIC SKILLS

Identifying, developing, and implementing unique knowledge and skills required by a specific job.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Engaging intentionally in learning experiences that contribute positively to career path progression.



CONFERENCE EXPERIENCES

LEAD is a three-day employability skill development conference that helps members activate their career and leadership potential through hands-on, high-energy, and motivational programming. LEAD allows members to increase career readiness through experience, understanding how to lead a SkillsUSA Chapter, and gaining a set of skills that can be used to lead others. LEAD is also for career and technical education professionals, offering development around the best practices of career readiness instruction. This year will focus on work-based learning initiatives.

Conference Agenda

Thursday, October 16, 2025	
4 - 5 pm	Registration
7:00 pm	Opening Session
7:30 pm	LEARN Training
7:30 pm	Advisor Session
8:30 pm	Huddle Time One
11:00 pm	Curfew



Friday, October 17, 2025	
Breakfast opens at 6:30 am	
8:30 am	Huddle Session
9:15 am	LEAD Labs
9:15 am	Advisor Session
12:20 pm	Huddle Session/Lunch
1:45 pm	Advisor Session
1:45 pm	LEAD Labs
2:00 pm	Officer Candidates Screening
2:40 pm	Huddle Session
5:25 pm	Break
6:30 pm	Dinner
7:45 pm	Break
8:30 pm	ACT Training
9:30 pm	Delegate Voting
11:30 pm	Curfew

Saturday, October 18, 2025	
Breakfast opens at 7:00 am	
8:30 am	Huddle Sessions
12:00 pm	Lunch Session
12:30 pm	DREAM Training
1:00 pm	Closing Session

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

Registration Fee: \$220

Registration fees include training, materials, t-shirt, and meals while on-site.

Hotel Per Night: \$165

Hotel rates are per night, per room (2-night minimum). Singles or Doubles available.

Rates are inclusive of all taxes and fees. All participants are required to stay within SkillsUSA hotel accommodation.*

Registration Steps

To View the Step-by-Step Guide use QR code or [click here](#).



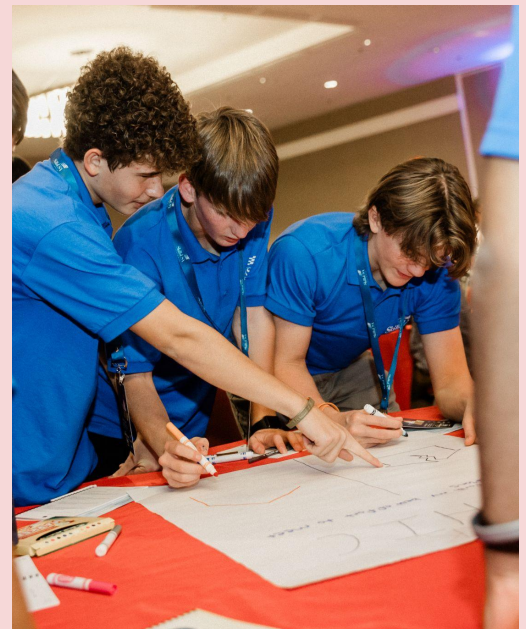
Step 1: School/Chapter Registration Form

Step 2: Individual Conference Registration & [Personal and Liability Release Form](#)

Step 3: Student Forms Received Acknowledgement

Step 4: LEAD Hotel Request form

Step 5: Receive email Confirmation of completion of School/Chapter Registration



Statesman Award

What is it?

The SkillsUSA Statesman Award recognizes students who show leadership, professionalism, and a strong understanding of the SkillsUSA Framework. This honor is only available to achieve at the LEAD Conference.

Who should get it?

Any student leader who wants to take their SkillsUSA experience to the next level and be recognized for their knowledge and commitment.

How to Earn it?

Complete the Statesman Award process at the LEAD Conference, which may include demonstrating knowledge of SkillsUSA, reciting the Creed, and showing how you apply the Framework in action.



STATESMAN KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENTS

Section 1 - SkillsUSA General Knowledge

- 1-1 Recite the SkillsUSA motto and explain what it means to you.
- 1-2 Demonstrate knowledge of the official SkillsUSA history.
- 1-3 Demonstrate knowledge of the SkillsUSA Official Attire.
- 1-4 Demonstrate knowledge of the SkillsUSA colors and what they represent.
- 1-5 Recite the six main points of the SkillsUSA Creed.

Section 2 - SkillsUSA Leadership Development

- 2-1 Recite the SkillsUSA Pledge.
- 2-2 Demonstrate knowledge of Parliamentary Procedure.
- 2-3 Name (First and Last) all members of the current SkillsUSA Illinois State Officer Team and any current National Officer(s) from Illinois.
- 2-4 Demonstrate knowledge of the five components of the SkillsUSA Emblem.
- 2-5 Describe the basic Chapter structure and Chapter Excellence Program.

Section 3 - SkillsUSA Framework

- 3-1 Describe the purpose of the SkillsUSA Framework and its three components.
- 3-2 Name the **Personal Skills** essential elements of the SkillsUSA Framework.
- 3-3 Name the **Workplace Skills** essential elements of the SkillsUSA Framework.
- 3-4 Name the **Technical Skills** essential elements of the SkillsUSA Framework.
- 3-5 Present a one-minute SkillsUSA story, highlighting how you have developed in an essential element from the SkillsUSA Framework.

Section 4 - SkillsUSA Reflection

- 4-1 Complete a mock interview with a Business and Industry Representative.
- 4-2 Recite the 2025-2026 SkillsUSA theme and explain what it means to you.



CONFERENCE REFUND POLICY

We look forward to having you with us during one of our Regional Meetings, Fall Leadership Conferences, State Workshops, Written Qualifying Exams, Illinois State Leadership Conference and SkillsUSA Championships, and the National Leadership Conference and SkillsUSA Championships. Following are the refund rules for Registration.

STATE EVENT REFUND POLICY

(Fall Leadership (LEAD) Conference, State Leadership & Skills Conference, and State Qualifying Events)

Registration: All registration must be sent through the Executive Director or his/her designee. All required forms and fees must be completed and submitted to the State Association no later than the due date.

Registration Cancellation: No refunds will be given for cancellations after the deadline date (September 19, 2025). Those who cancel before the deadline date will receive a refund for the amount submitted minus a \$10 handling fee.

Late Registration Fee: A late registration fee of \$5 per registrant will be applied to all registrations received past the registration date. The Executive Director or their designee must approve all late registrants.

Late Payment: If payment is not received prior to the start of the event, contestants may be disqualified from participating. Any school with an outstanding balance from a previous event will not be allowed to register for any future events.

Room and Travel: The same rules in effect for registration will apply to any cancellation for room or travel expenses sent through the SkillsUSA Illinois State Office.

Lost Name Badges: A \$10 fee will be required to replace any lost name badge during a conference. The person who lost the badge must make the request in person and must have identification.



NOTE: The above rules apply to all advisors, student members, and any others who make their arrangements through SkillsUSA Illinois. The Executive Director can recommend exceptions to the above policy for extreme cases. If a local chapter disagrees with the policy, an appeal may be made in writing to the Board of Directors for their consideration at the next regularly scheduled meeting.