**NLSC Information You’ll Need to Know**

**Congratulations on your selection as part of the MN Delegation, whether you’re a competitor, voting delegate, advisor or observer representing the State of Minnesota.   Best of Luck in your endeavors!   Below is conference information.  Please download all Apps for this years National Conference.**

The Minnesota registration table will be set up in the hotel **Board Room**on Monday afternoon from 4:00 pm – 7:30 pm.    Please check in and ***pick up your conference registration materials***, name badge, t-shirt and trading pins.  This will give you a chance to look over the materials before our state delegation meeting.

Students & Advisors need to attend a **Mandatory State Delegation Meeting in the hotel on Monday, June 25th**

Dress is casual.  ***Bring your Official Credential Name Badge & all registration materials that you received in your bag at the registration table to this meeting***. \* The **Professional Knowledge exam** for all contestants will be given at this meeting.

Hotel Reservations have been made for the State Delegation.  Each School is responsible to Pay the Hotel directly for your rooms.

ADVISORS:  should pick up Hotel Keys upon arrival to the Hotel for your students.

**Hotel:  Holiday Inn Express Louisville Airport Expo Center**

**1921 Bishop Lane**

**Louisville, KY 40218**

**The following Cell Phone Number:  612-460-8077 is a “NEW” number**for the **National Conference ONLY**!  This phone number goes directly to your State Director, Ms. Jen Polz.   *This Phone Number will be operational to*

***Receive both phone calls and text messaging and will be activated from June 18 - June 30.***

**Traveling to Louisville:**

If your traveling to the conference on your own, (Independent), please travel safely and arrive in time before the **Mandatory State Delegation Meeting on Monday evening, June 25th.**

If you’re traveling one of the state charter buses, the final schedule will be sent to everyone in a separate email.

**PLEASE** if you are on the list and NOT planning to ride the bus, or not on the list and want to ride the bus, OR need to be picked up at a different location than the one assigned,  Please let the State Office know.   Just call and we’ll work out the changes**.  Limited seats are available.**

**PLEASE BE PROMPT IN LOADING AND UNLOADING.**

**2018 Social Media Hashtag**The hashtag for this year’s National Leadership and Skills Conference is #NLSC18. Be sure to include it in conference tweets, Facebook posts and Instagram photos. Follow us on all social media platforms @SkillsUSA. During the opening and awards ceremonies, attendees can post photos on Twitter and Instagram that will then be displayed on the big screens. The hashtag for the photo wall will be **#NLSCLive18.**

**How to Prepare for NLSC**A new NLSC FAQ list has been posted to the SkillsUSA website with useful information and videos about the upcoming conference. Please review the following information and forward it to registered students and teachers. Go to: *[www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/registration-and-logistics/faq/](http://www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/registration-and-logistics/faq/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)* and scroll to the bottom to “Other FAQs.” Here is the PDF: *[www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/18-NLSC-FAQ-Final.docx](http://www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/18-NLSC-FAQ-Final.docx%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).*

**Dress Code for Award Winners**Photos of national medalists and contest industry supporters are used in trade and SkillsUSA publications. It’s important that all members demonstrate their professionalism by looking the part. Therefore, the SkillsUSA board of directors has ruled that all contestants receiving medals at the awards ceremony must be dressed in *official SkillsUSA attire or SkillsUSA Championships work clothing.*

Winners who are dressed inappropriately will not be allowed on stage. Other attire including jeans and T-shirts or footwear such as sneakers, flip flops or sandals is not allowed. Please leave personal belongings such as cameras, purses, hats and blinking lights with someone else in your delegation.

**Download the Conference App**In keeping with these digital times, all attendees should download the official conference mobile app. Locate and download the app by searching for “2018 SkillsUSA NLSC” in the Google Play or Apple stores. On site, the QR code will be in the *Awards and Recognition* book and on signs around Kentucky Exposition Center.

**The app includes the entire conference program including contestant schedules, trade show information and exhibitor list, Opening and Awards Ceremony, special events, entertainment, participant tracks, attendee bus shuttle schedules, messaging/alert features and search features. There is no longer a separate printed conference program.**

**SkillsUSA Championships Clothing and Tools App**A free resource for competitors is the SkillsUSA Championships Clothing and Tools App. **This app provides the contest overview, the correct clothing for the event and a list of equipment and materials.** For full technical regulations, advisors should refer to the *SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards,* which is provided as a free benefit for all professional members. Go to: *[www.skillsusa.org/skillsusa-championships-clothing-tools-app/](https://www.skillsusa.org/skillsusa-championships-clothing-tools-app/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).*

**NLSC Program in Print**If you would like a printed program for reference, please download and print the condensed NLSC program at: *[www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/agenda/](http://www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/agenda/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).*

**Customize a Press Release for NLSC Competitors and Participants**

SkillsUSA’s advocacy website has an editable 2018 NLSC press release to download and customize. I encourage students, teachers and parents to use this valuable tool. The template can be used by state association directors to help get the word out to the media about the students who compete or participate as a delegate or Courtesy Corps member. The press release can be sent to five media outlets at a time. The site can be reached by going to: *[www.cqrcengage.com/skillsusa/](http://www.cqrcengage.com/skillsusa/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).*

**Conference Parking Passes and Fees**There is no charge for KEC parking on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, which are conference move-in days. Beginning Tuesday, parking fees will be charged. State SkillsUSA directors will receive parking passes at their registration appointments. Parking information for the public and for state- and school-chartered buses can be found at: *[www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/registration-and-logistics/parking/](http://skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/registration-and-logistics/parking/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).*

**SkillsUSA Shoe Drive Saves Lives Through Safe Water**

SkillsUSA is once again partnering with internationally recognized nonprofit WaterStep to help save lives through safe water. WaterStep collects and sells gently-used shoes to fund water projects around the world.  This partnership was highlighted in the Spring 2018 *SkillsUSA Champions* magazine, “Turning Shoes into Clean Water.”  See: *[http://read.nxtbook.com/mercury/skillsusa/champions\_spring\_2018/index.html#turning\_shoes\_into\_clean\_wate](http://read.nxtbook.com/mercury/skillsusa/champions_spring_2018/index.html%22%20%5Cl%20%22turning_shoes_into_clean_wate%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)*

SkillsUSA encourages each student and advisor coming to Louisville to *bring just one pair of shoes* to conference to donate to this worthy cause. Please pass this request along to your delegation.

For more information, go to: *[www.waterstep.org](http://www.waterstep.rg/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).* Watch this video to learn more about the WaterStep shoe program: *[http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid2035075745001?bckey=AQ~~,AAAB2oUxGjE~,utVw2c5hsy-toSRZ-5n964-ATUIy2fgD&bctid=4522271076001](http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid2035075745001?bckey=AQ~~,AAAB2oUxGjE~,utVw2c5hsy-toSRZ-5n964-ATUIy2fgD&bctid=4522271076001" \t "_blank).*

**Donate Blood During NLSC**

During our national conference, SkillsUSA will host a blood drive Thursday, June 28, from 9-a.m.-3 p.m. The drive is sponsored by the Kentucky Blood Center, and the bloodmobile will be parked in the outdoor section of SkillsUSA TECHSPO.

All blood donors receive a free T-shirt. Donors 18 and older will be entered into a summer drawing to win a new car. Note: Donors must weigh at least 110 pounds and be at least 16 years of age with a signed parental permission (form is located here: *[www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Blood-Drive-NLSC-2018.pdf](http://www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Blood-Drive-NLSC-2018.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank))*or 17 years of age without parental permission. A state-licensed photo ID is required. To schedule an appointment in advance, call 800-775-2522.

All blood donations at NLSC serve patients in local hospitals.

***Please leave this phone number with a family member in case they need to reach the State Director (Ms. Jen Polz) while you’re away in Louisville, KY.***

Your State Director Ms. Jen Polz will begin traveling to Louisville, KY on Friday, June 22nd

Safe travels to everyone.   Looking forward to seeing you in Louisville, KY next week!

Sincerely,

Ms. Jen Polz, *State Executive Director*

*SkillsUSA Minnesota*

*612-460-8077   cell phone*