

Contestant Eligibility

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Missouri SkillsUSA students participating in the Missouri District, State, and the National SkillsUSA Championships are provided a positive educational experience and are adequately prepared to meet the challenges of the competition and their future occupations. The students should understand that by participating in competitive events they can motivate themselves to develop more skills than would otherwise be expected through extra effort and determination. Those extra skills can provide them with a higher quality of work experience throughout their lifetime.

To be eligible to compete in the state Missouri SkillsUSA Championships, a student must meet the following guidelines:

1. The student must meet the eligibility requirements of the local school district for participation in intra and extra-curricular activities.
2. The student must be an active SkillsUSA member of both the state and national organization with dues paid and roster postmarked by February 1st of the membership year.
3. The student must be enrolled in or just have completed (within the current membership year) a vocational program (meeting the requirements of the State Plan for Vocational Education) as a full time student in preparation for a career in technical, skilled, and service occupations, including health occupations.
4. The student must be willing to voluntarily comply with the Missouri SkillsUSA code of conduct as established by the Missouri SkillsUSA Executive Council.
5. The student must have been instructed in the necessary safety precautions, procedures and practices related to the work assignments they will perform as part of their occupation.
6. The student must be able to meet the eligibility requirements of *The SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards* if the contest is offered at the National Level.

Students meeting the above requirements may participate in state competitions as follows:

1. Individual contestants may enter no more than three events and no more than one event in each of the following categories:

- Skill contests
- Leadership contests (written or performance)
- Occupationally related contest contests (written or performance)
- Technical information contests (written)

The Senior District Advisor and State SkillsUSA Director, must approve their participation, where the schedule permits.

2. Students may only enter a contest that has competencies that are parallel to the competencies in the training program in which they are enrolled.
3. Students must be a member of a local chapter assigned to the district where the competition is held and can only compete in one district.
4. To be eligible to compete at the state level, a student must have placed first, or second in a skills contest; placed first, second or third in a leadership, occupationally related or technical information contest at the district level; or when a leadership or skills district contest is not offered the Senior District Advisor will approve the competing contestants. All state level contestants in Technical Information (written), written Occupationally Related, and written leadership contests must have competed at the district level. In the event that the highest-ranking contestant is unable to participate, the next highest-ranking contestant will be eligible to compete. The number of contestants from a local chapter who may participate in state contests (where no district contest is held) shall be determined by the state director based on the number of schools offering the program and the space available at the contest site. Cases with extenuating circumstances may submit, in writing, a waiver to the State SkillsUSA Director prior to February 1st. Each case will be evaluated on its own merit.
5. To be eligible to compete at the national level, a student must be the highest-ranking contestant at the state level or be approved by the State Director. In the event that the highest-ranking contestant is unable to participate, the next highest-ranking contestant will be eligible to compete. Contestants may enter only one SkillsUSA Championships contest. Cases with extenuating circumstances may submit, in writing, a waiver to the State SkillsUSA Director prior to March 15. Each case will be evaluated on its own merit.