**PURPOSE**
To evaluate each contestant’s preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of cosmetology.

**CLOTHING REQUIREMENT**
Contest Specific:
- Button-up collared, white dress shirt (accompanied by a plain, solid black tie), white blouse (collarless or small-collared) or white turtleneck, with any collar not to extend into the lapel area of the blazer sweater windbreaker or any jacket.
- Black dress slacks (accompanied by black dress socks or black or skin-tone seamless hose) or black dress skirt (knee-length, accompanied by black or skin-tone seamless hose)
- Black dress shoes - no open back or open toed shoes
- Professional smock either black or white,
- Students name or school name may not appear on any item of clothing.

*Note: Contestants must wear their contest clothing to the contest orientation meeting. Also bring #2 pencil, resume and safety assurance form.*

**ELIGIBILITY**
Open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in CTE programs on the secondary level with cosmetology as the occupational objective. Contestants may have no more than 500 hours of instruction.

**EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS**
1. Supplied by the technical committee:
   a. Mirrors, table and chair
   b. Any and all pictures or literature of styles, haircuts and technical's

2. Supplied by the contestant:
   a. Cutting shears
   b. Blow dryer
   c. Thermal tools(iron and/or curling iron)
   d. Hair clips
   e. Styling products of choice, finishing spray
   f. Combs
   g. Brushes, round, vent, variety
   h. Manikin stand
   i. Spray bottle (filled with water)
   j. Towels
   k. Capes
   l. Sam II Blonde for long hair up do design
   m. Sam II Brown for haircuts
   n. "NO POWER STRIPS ALLOWED....only extension cords"

*All competitors must create a one-page résumé and submit a hard copy at orientation. Failure to do so will result in a 10-point penalty.*

*“Note: Your resume may be judged as part of your contest” Check the Contest Guidelines and/or the updates page on the NYS SkillsUSA Web site: [http://www.nysskillsusa.org](http://www.nysskillsusa.org)*

**SCOPE OF THE CONTEST**
The contest is defined by industry standards. The contest is divided into four separate skill performance tests and one written examination.

**Knowledge Performance**
The contest will include a written knowledge test of 50 multiple-choice questions assessing knowledge of cosmetology. Contestants will have 45 minutes to complete the exam. Will include Professional Image, Bacteriology,
Histology of the hair, Trichology, Shampooing, Haircutting, and Permanent Wave.

**Skill Performance**
The four separate skill performance tests assess skills in hair cutting, hair styling and long-hair design at multiple performance stations. Creativity is assessed in the long-hair design test, while hair cutting and hairstyling is tested in the recreation of two haircuts and style from a photograph.

**Contest Guidelines**
1. The contest rules will be reviewed the day before the contest. After the review session, contestants, in their required dress code, will take the written test. Contestants will then be escorted to the contest site to receive final instructions. Do not bring contest supplies/equipment to orientation.
2. All contestants must keep their working area clean and organized.
3. All contestants must follow sanitation and safety procedures throughout the contest.
4. Professional attitude and communication is expected throughout the contest.
5. Once time is called, contestant must stop working. Touching the hair of the mannequin or model after time is called will result in three penalty points.
6. Cell phones must be turned off during the contest.
7. For the long-hair design station, no curling iron use and no ornaments or hairpieces are allowed.
8. Juniors may NOT color their manikin’s hair.
9. No pre-braiding or twists, only 30% of the final design can incorporate braiding and twists.
10. No eyelashes will be allowed. Earrings only may be added once hair design is completed, provided it is done within the time frame allowed.

**Standards and Competencies**
**CO 1.0 — Long Hair Design:** Create a long-hair design of your choice within a 90-minute time period utilizing a complete roller set, **no curling iron allowed**
1.2 Incorporate applicable techniques such as braiding, twisting, rolls, loops, etc.
1.3 Secure hair with hair pins, bobby pins and bands as applicable. Check that hair pins, bobby pins, and bands are not exposed.
1.4 Create a design that is clean, smooth, showing no back combing, and back brushing under the finished style
1.5 Demonstrate balance, proportion and form in the finished design
1.7 Show control of texture and control of hair direction in the finished design
1.8 Incorporate current trends

**CO 2.0 — Women’s Long Hair Cut and Design:**
Duplicate a haircut and style that has been pre-selected by the committee within a 75-minute time period
2.1 Duplicate the haircut using shears,
2.2 Duplicate the length, design line and textured look of the selected cut
2.3 Duplicate the finished design using blow dryer and round brush.
2.4 Use appropriate styling products to duplicate the selected haircut
2.5 Duplicate the balance of form, control of texture and the control of the hair direction

**CO 3.0 — Uniform Layer Haircut (90 Degree)**
Haircut Procedure: Duplicate a uniform layer (90 degree) haircut and design selected by the committee within an 75-minute time period, styling the hair with hair dryer and fingers and/or vent brush
3.1 Assemble tools (shears, comb and blow dryer) and prepare station
3.2 Create a four-section parting
3.3 Establish the design length around the perimeter
3.4 Establish the interior guide
3.5 Continue cutting utilizing guideline vertical sectioning to blend top guide to design line 5
3.6 Maintain a constant 90-degree elevation throughout the procedure
3.7 Follow a traveling guide to maintain uniformly layered lengths
3.8 Perform a cross check of procedure for accuracy
3.9 Blow hair dry following directions of committee
3.10 Clean and organize station

CO 4.0 — **Thermal Marcel Iron Barrel/spiral set and day time style in a 30-minute time period**

4.1 Complete a full thermal set, following directions from technical committee
4.2 Utilize the set to duplicating a day time design selected from the committee
4.3 Show balance and control of the texture