NYS SkillsUSA Prepared Speech Virtual Project

Due Date for Submissions: April 12, 2021
Send Materials to Elizabeth Barber-Breese at barbere@dcmoboces.com
Please be sure to include “Prepared Speech Contest” in subject line.

Scope of the Contest
To evaluate each contestant’s ability to prepare and present clearly and effectively a series of thoughts relating to a central theme.

SkillsUSA: Champions at Work, Empowered to Succeed
The topic to be addressed by contestants in the 2021 SkillsUSA Chapter Display, Prepared Speech and Promotional Bulletin Board competitions is our theme, “SkillsUSA: Champions at Work, Empowered to Succeed.”

Within this topic, contestants might illustrate or discuss any of the following:
1. What does “Empowered to Succeed” mean to you in relation to your career readiness?
2. How has participating in the SkillsUSA Program of Work empowered you to succeed?
3. How does the SkillsUSA Framework empower you to succeed?
   o How are you empowered with the personal skills needed for career success
   o How are you empowered with the workplace skills needed for career success?
   o How are you empowered with the technical skills needed for career success?
4. In what specific ways has SkillsUSA empowered you to be successful in life?
5. What activities or learning within your career and technical education program have empowered you to succeed?

Knowledge Performance
The contest will include a Resume, Written Speech, and Video Presentation of Speech. See SkillsUSA Virtual Technical Standards for competencies measured. Send materials to Elizabeth Barber-Breese at barbere@dcmoboces.com.

Contest Information (All items must be received by due date)

- **PDF Resume**
  Send to Elizabeth Barber Breese at: barbere@dcmoboces.com.

- **Written Submission**
  o Contestants are to submit one typewritten copy of the speech that includes the name of the training program, institution name, contestant’s name, address, phone number and the speech title. barbere@dcmoboces.com.

- **Video of Demonstrated Procedures – link for zoom meeting will be available by April 1st.**
  o Utilizing Zoom or Teams, record the contestant delivering the prepared speech. Upload unedited recording to a cloud-based storage platform and embed the link into contestant’s resume.
  o Time limit: 5-7 minutes*Ensure lighting, audio and video are high quality

- **Scoring Information**
The following pre-submission items will be judged by industry professionals prior to virtual in-person Zoom session. *See Technical Standards for specific judging criteria
1. Resume with embedded links to written submission and video of prepared speech
2. Written submission of speech
3. Video presentation of contestant delivering prepared speech

Contest number should be visible at all times.
NYS PREPARED SPEECH (VIRTUAL)

PURPOSE
To evaluate each contestant’s ability to prepare and present clearly and effectively a series of thoughts relating to a central theme.

ELIGIBILITY
Open to active SkillsUSA members.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS
NYS Official attire
- Red SkillsUSA blazer, windbreaker, or sweater, or black or red SkillsUSA jacket. Also, the NYS SkillsUSA red/black jacket.
- 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

Contest Clothing Notes (Apply ONLY to Virtual Competitions):
- Official SkillsUSA Competition Clothing recommended but NOT required.
- Contestant clothing options include the following:
  o Official Competition Clothing.
  o Trade Appropriate Clothing.
  o Professional Dress.
  o Business Casual.
- Clothing must meet industry safety standards.
- No identification of the contestant, school or state is allowed on clothing. No offensive, vulgar or inappropriate images or text are allowed on contestants clothing.
- No shorts or sleeveless shirts are allowed.
- Skirts must be at least knee-length.
- Proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn by contestant to meet all state, local and school requirements due to COVID-19.

OBSERVER RULE
Observers will not be allowed to hear the speeches in the presentation room.

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS
1. Supplied by the technical committee:
   a. Judges
2. Supplied by the contestant:
   a. Computer with high speed internet capability and camera to use applications such as Zoom and Teams, etc. The minimum recommended internet bandwidth speeds for joining Zoom meetings, accessing on-demand curriculum and other online operations is 2.0 Mbps up and down. You can test your current internet speeds by following this link: https://www.speedtest.net/. Allow the page to load and click on GO.
   b. A secondary camera(s) may be required to provide judges with the ability to view contestants from different angles. Additional camera(s) requirements will be located on the NYS SkillsUSA
c. A contest Proctor will be required to be on site to assist judges. A local industry expert is preferred to serve as the Proctor and shall not be an individual that has been involved with the training of the contestant(s). The Proctor will serve as the onsite “hands and eyes” for the judges. Proctor will follow instructions from the judges for safety and operations related to the competition. Proctor may be asked by judges to perform several tasks such as operating a portable camera to show specific components or steps, measure parts, or any task that will provide judges with information needed to assist in accurate scoring of the contestants work or presentation. However, the Proctor shall not perform as a judge nor have any influence in contestant scores.

d. The contestants instructor or advisor shall be on site to observe all competition activities to ensure a safe and healthy competition experience for all participants. That instructor or advisor will not be allowed to interact or interfere with the competitor unless a safety issue arises that requires interaction. Any other support or interaction between the contestant and the instructor/advisor will result in disqualification.

e. All competitors must create a one-page résumé and submit an electronic copy to the technical committee chair at least seven (7) days in advance of the competition. Failure to do so will result in a 10-point penalty. Instructions for submission of the

**Scope of the Contest**

**Knowledge Performance**
There is no written knowledge test required for this contest. Contestants knowledge will be demonstrated through performance demonstration.

**Skill Performance**
This contest assesses public speaking skills through delivery of a five- to seven-minute speech.

**Contest Guidelines**
1. The topic for the prepared speech will be established by SkillsUSA and will be announced to the state associations by Sept. 1 for the following year.
2. The speech will be five to seven minutes in length. *Penalty:* Five points will be deducted for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof under five minutes, or for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof over seven minutes.
3. Time limit: Time will be started when the speech begins. The timer will signal the speaker at five minutes and at seven minutes. The contestant will be permitted to use a watch or clock.
4. No visual aids, props, notes and/or notecards will be permitted.
5. Contestants will not mention their name, school, city or state. A five-point penalty will be assessed for each occurrence.
6. Contestants must submit one typewritten electronic copy of the speech to the technical committee prior to the debriefing meeting. Include the name of the training program, institution name, contestants name, address, phone number and the speech title.
7. The following judging criteria will be used:
   a. Opening — Has a strong, clear opening
   b. Voice — Voice is well modulated and controlled, and carries the rhythm of the speech
   c. Platform deportment — Speaker is poised and demonstrates good control of movement
   d. Organization — Speech is well organized, and the organization can be easily followed
   e. Mechanics — Proper grammar is used and diction is clear
   f. Closing — Closing provides a clear and solid conclusion and summary of the speech
   g. Effectiveness — Assigned topic is covered, and the purpose of the speech is clear and achieved
   h. Timing — Speech falls within the five- to seven-minute contest requirement
   i. Clothing requirement — Clothing meets contest requirements

Standards and Competencies

PS 1.0 — Design and write an effective presentation based upon the designed theme
   1.1 Prepare a presentation on a given topic for a specific time
   1.2 Choose logical patterns of organization (e.g., chronological, topical, cause and effect) to inform and persuade

PS 2.0 — Deliver the presentation in a professional manner, employing the use of verbal and nonverbal delivery techniques
   2.1 Demonstrate an effective and pleasing delivery style
   2.2 Effectively use verbal illustrations and examples
   2.3 Make a formal and effective introduction to the speech

PS 2.4 — Use a variety of verbal techniques including: modulation of voice, changing volume, varied inflection, modifying tempo and verbal enthusiasm
   2.5 Demonstrate poise and self-control while presenting
   2.6 Demonstrate good platform development and personal confidence
   2.7 Communicate the primary points of the speech in a compact and complete manner
   2.8 Tie organizational elements together with an effective ending
   2.9 Complete the speech within the time limits set by contest requirements

PS 3.0 — Wear appropriate clothing for the national contest
   3.1 Display clothing that meets national standards for competition
   3.2 Demonstrate good grooming in dress and personal hygiene

PS 4.0 — SkillsUSA Framework

The SkillsUSA Framework is used to pinpoint the Essential Elements found in Personal Skills, Workplace Skills, and Technical Skills Grounded in Academics. Students will be expected to display or explain how they used
some of these Essential Elements. Please reference the graphic above, as you may be scored on specific elements applied to your project. For more, visit: www.skillsusa.org/about/skillsusa-framework/.

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