



FASHION DESIGN



PURPOSE

To evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of fashion design.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

NYS SkillsUSA Official Attire:

- Official red blazer, NYS Black Jacket, the older red national windbreaker or older red sweater and the Black or red Jacket from Nationals.
- 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 of the outer layer coats
- 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 shoes, that are not backless or open toe.

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

ELIGIBILITY

Open to active NYS SkillsUSA members enrolled in programs with fashion design or merchandising as the occupational objective.

DEVICES

Cell phones or other electronic devices not approved by the NYS Chairperson will be collected by the contest chair during the competition. Chairpersons will announce their acceptance by listing it on their standard or at the orientation meeting. In case of emergencies advisors should allow the competitors to take their phones to the contest areas.

If the competitor uses their device in a manner which compromises the integrity of the competition, the competitor's score may be penalized.

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the NYS Chair/committee

- a. One 8-foot table
- b. 110-volt outlet
- c. Timer
- d. Timecards
- e. Dress Form
- f. Garment rack

2. Supplied by the contestant:

- a. Laptop computer or other visual equipment as necessary for the presentation. Backup must be ready and available if technical problems occur. (Contestants must be able to set up and utilize the presentation equipment that they are using)
- b. Note cards, if desired
- c. Everything is needed for the presentation.
- d. 32-quart or smaller storage box to submit their portfolio, patterns, and mock-ups.
- e. All competitors must create a one-page résumé using a word processor. Resume to be handed in at the orientation meeting.
- f. Note: Your contest requires a hard copy of your résumé as part of the actual contest. Check the Contest Guidelines and/or the updates page on the NYS SkillsUSA Web site:

SCOPE OF THE COMPETITION

The contest is divided into four separate parts: portfolio, collection sample, oral presentation and one written examination.

KNOWLEDGE PERFORMANCE

All competitors are required to take the SkillsUSA professional development test at orientation.

The contest will include a written knowledge test of 25 multiple-choice questions assessing knowledge of fashion.

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

Collection Sample/Patterns/Mock-Ups

1. Contestants will be asked to design and create two (2) total outfits, created solely by the contestant. These garments must be made from scratch. No existing garments can be used.
2. The collection samples may be displayed using a dress form or other method chosen by the contestant but not modeled by the contestant or another person during the presentation.
3. Paper patterns (full size and labeled) and muslin mock-ups for one outfit only.
4. Modification or use of a commercial pattern is not allowed.

Portfolio

1. A three-ring binder notebook must accompany the collection sample. (This does not have to be an official SkillsUSA notebook.)
2. The notebook must include information about the development and construction of the collection samples.
 - Pictures and drawings of the process from start to finish should be included.
 - Explanation of the garment types, textiles used, notions needed, sewing techniques used, etc.
 - Mood board
3. The notebook must not exceed 10 pages (20 faces).

Presentation

1. Presenters should introduce themselves to the judges before beginning.
2. Presenters will have 12 minutes to complete the presentation (3 mins for set-up, 6 mins for presentation, and 3 mins for removal.)
3. It must have a clear introduction, body, and conclusion.
4. Members must speak clearly and loudly enough to be heard.
5. The presenter must exhibit poise, eye contact, and confidence.
6. Correct grammar and industry terms must be demonstrated.
7. The presentation must include information about how the collection was designed and constructed.

Special Instructions to Contestants

Fashion Design Contest Theme: Balenciaga Spring 2026

- 1. Contestants should create from scratch 2 complete outfits inspired by the fashion house, Balenciaga Spring 2026**
- 2. Contestants will present the outfits and give an oral presentation to the judges. Contestants will be able to discuss the research, techniques, and details put into each garment.**
- 3. Contestants will create a 10-page (20 face) portfolio.**
- 4. On the day of the competition, contestants will be asked to complete an additional activity as a portion of the competition. The activity and provided supplies will be announced on the day of the competition.**

Note:

**This is a 'design' competition and therefore the use of AI to generate ideas is
NOT Appropriate**