LEVEL UP 2026 - 2027

NYS SkillsUSA

# EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

## PURPOSE

To evaluate each competitor's ability to give a speech on an assigned topic with a minimum of advance preparation.

## ELIGIBILITY

Open to active SkillsUSA members.

## 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 or black dress skirt (knee- length)
  Note: Wearing socks or hose is no longer required. If worn, socks must be black dress socks, and hose must be either black or skin-tone and
- seamless/nonpattern
  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, resume, and safety assurance form.**

## OBSERVER RULE

No observers allowed

## EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the technical committee:
   a. Reference materials: SkillsUSA Framework Fundamentals Cards, SkillsUSA Member Handbook, and Blank 3"x5" cards
   b. Copies of selected speech topic
   c. Timing devices
   d. Timecards
   e. Pencil or pen

2. Supplied by the competitor:
   a. All competitors must create a one-page resume. See "Resume Requirement" below for guidelines.

### RESUME REQUIREMENT

Competitors must create a one-page resume to submit at orientation.

### ORIENTATION

The following are required at the orientation meeting, or a penalty may apply. Refer to the penalties section.

1. Safety form will be collected
2. Resume will be collected.
3. SkillsUSA NYS Official attire is required.
4. NLSC form with contestant information should be in their name badges with the contestant's competition number displayed.

### ARRANGEMENT OF ROOMS

1. Preparation room: A room furnished with a chair and a table will be provided for the five-minute preparation time. All materials supplied by the technical committee will be available in this room.
2. Speech presentation room: This room will be furnished with a speaker's stand (lectern) facing the judges.

### 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 (Smart glasses, smart watch, etc.) in a manner which compromises the integrity of the competition, the competitor's score may be penalized.

# SCOPE OF THE COMPETITION

## KNOWLEDGE PERFORMANCE

There is no written knowledge test required for this competition. Competitors are required to take the SkillsUSA professional development test at orientation.

## SKILLPERFORMANCE

This competition evaluates each competitor's ability to give a speech on an assigned topic with a minimum of advance preparation. A three- to five-minute speech will be delivered with a preparation time of five minutes.

## COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. The technical committee will select a speech topic based upon material in the *SkillsUSA Framework Fundamentals Cards* and *SkillsUSA Member Handbook.* All competitors will be assigned the same topic.
2. Competitors will enter the preparation room, where they will be given a topic for their speech. Competitors will have five minutes to develop and organize the content of their speech.
3. During preparation time, competitors may consult reference materials supplied in the preparation room and may make notes on 3"x5" cards for use during the speech. Competitors may not take any outlines, notes, or reference materials into the preparation room.
4. The speech shall be at least three minutes in length but shall not exceed five minutes. Penalty: Five points will be deducted for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof under three minutes, or for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof over five minutes.
5. Time limit: Time will be started when the speech begins. The timekeeper will signal the speaker at three minutes, four minutes, and five minutes. Competitors will be permitted to use a watch or clock.
6. Competitors will not mention their name, school, city, or state at any time in the presentation room. A five-point penalty will be assessed for each occurrence.

## STANDARDS AND COMPETENCIES

### ES 1.0 — Design and organize a speech that meets the topical and time requirements as outlined by the technical committee

1.1. Prepare a speech on a leadership topic that lasts three to five minutes in length
1.2. Organize speech in a logical and coherent manner

### ES 2.0 — Deliver the speech in a professional manner meeting the standards outlined by the technical committee

2.1. Make an effective introduction to the presentation that clearly identifies the scope of the speech
2.2. Demonstrate an effective and pleasing delivery style
2.3. Effectively use verbal illustrations and examples
2.4. Pronounce words in a clear and understandable manner
2.5. Use a variety of verbal techniques, including modulation of voice, changing volume, varied inflection, modifying tempo and verbal enthusiasm
2.6. Demonstrate poise and self-control while presenting
2.7. Demonstrate good presence and personal confidence
2.8. In the body of your speech communicate the primary points of the speech in a compact and complete manner
2.9. Tie organizational elements together with an effective ending /closing
2.10. Complete the speech within the time limits set by competition requirements

### ES 3.0 — Wear appropriate clothing for the national competition

3.1. OBJ Wear clothing that meets NYS standards for competition

### ES 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, as you may be scored on specific elements applied to your project. For more, visit: www.skillsusa.org/about/skillsusa-framework/.

