LEVEL UP 2026 - 2027

NYS SkillsUSA

JOB SKILL DEMONSTRATION A

PURPOSE

To evaluate each competitor's ability to demonstrate and explain an entry-level technical skill used in the occupational area for which he or she is training.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in career and technical programs with career objectives that are included in the SkillsUSA Championships official competitions. The "A" classification is based on the program enrollment of the competitor. It is not based on the specific skill to be demonstrated.

CLOTHING REQUIREMNETS

Competitors may wear NYS SkillsUSA official attire or appropriate dress for the occupational area of the demonstration.

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.**

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the technical committee:
   a. Timekeeper
   b. A performance space of 8'x12' that contains one table and one duplex (two plug-ins) 120-volt (15 amp) electrical outlet
2. Supplied by the competitor:
   a. All materials and equipment needed for the demonstration to be completed two times, once for the preliminaries and again for the finals, if required.
   b. 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.

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.

OBSERVER RULE

- Observers are allowed only if there is room.
- Observers are not allowed to talk or gesture to competitors.
- Judges may disqualify competitors who receive assistance from observers.
- No videos, pictures, or note-taking in the room. All electronics must be turned off.
- Observers may not enter or exit while the competitor is presenting.
- Any judge, timekeeper or doorkeeper has the right to ask an observer to leave if they are a distraction for any competitor.

SCOPE OF THE COMPETITION

KNOWLEDGE ERFORMANCE

All competitors are required to take the SkillsUSA professional development at orientation. There is no written exam for this competition.

SKILLPERFORMANCE

The competition requires demonstrating an occupational skill within the chosen career pathway accompanied by a clear explanation of the topic through experiments, displays or practical operations.

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. An actual technical skill must be performed as opposed to an illustrated talk.
2. Notecards and other reference materials are not permitted.
3. **Any skill may be demonstrated, provided it is related to the competitor's occupational program.**
4. The demonstration shall be at least five minutes in length but shall not exceed seven minutes.
   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.
5. Time limit: Time will be started when the demonstration begins. The timekeeper will signal the speaker at five minutes, six minutes, and six minutes 30 seconds.
6. Competitors will be allowed three minutes to set up the demonstration and three minutes to clear the demonstration room. ***Penalty:*** Five points will be deducted for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof over the three-minute allowance.
7. A performance space of 8'x12' will be provided that contains one table and one duplex (two plug-ins) 120-volt (15 amp) electrical outlet.
8. Any visual or auditory aids (signs, charts, transparencies, slides, diagrams, tapes, CDs) are to be prepared by competitors. Professionally prepared visuals and audio materials may not be used. **No open flames, no combustible or hazardous chemical compounds, no fluids containing pathogens or toxic chemicals and no pressurized containers will be allowed.**
9. The competitor will not mention his or her name, school, city, or state.
10. The demonstration is an individual performance. An assistant may be used to set up and dismantle the demonstration if it is very heavy or large. Otherwise, the competitor is responsible for setting up the demonstration. Models may be used in the demonstration but will not say or do anything that assists the demonstration other than serve as a model as needed. Example: facial, clothing design demonstration, etc.
11. Basic safety practices related to the skill performed must be followed. Safety violations will be subject to penalties of one to 10 points. Judges may interrupt the demonstration for serious violations.
12. **The competitor may show the judges an item but may not physically hand a judge any item, including food sampling.**

STANDARDS AND COMPETENCIES

JSDA 1.0—Design and write an effective presentation that demonstrates a technical job skill related to the competitor's field of training.

1.1. Prepare a demonstration of a technical job skill that lasts five to seven minutes.
1.2. Organize the demonstration logically and coherently.

JSDA 2.0—Deliver the presentation in a professional manner meeting the standards outlined by the technical committee.

2.1. Perform the actual technical skill in the presentation.
2.2. Explain the topic using experiments, displays or practical operations.
2.3. Demonstrate an effective and pleasing delivery style.
2.4. Effectively use verbal illustrations and examples.
2.5. Make a formal and effective presentation introduction that clearly identifies the demonstration's scope.
2.6. Pronounce words in a clear and understandable manner.
2.7. Use various verbal techniques including voice modulation, changing volume, varied inflection, tempo, and enthusiasm.
2.8. Demonstrate poise and self-control while presenting.
2.9. Demonstrate good platform development and personal confidence.
2.10. Communicate the primary points of the speech in a compact and complete manner.
2.11. Tie organizational elements together with an effective ending.
2.12. Complete the speech within the time limits set by competition requirements.

JSDA 3.0—Wear appropriate clothing for the national competition.

3.1. Display clothing that meets NYS standards for competition.
3.2. Demonstrate good grooming in dress and personal hygiene.

JSDA 4.0—Safety and hazardous materials

4.1. Students cannot demonstrate with pressurized aerosol cans, compressed air, gases, flammable liquids, or biohazardous materials.
4.2. The demonstration may be interrupted or discontinued for severe safety violations.
4.3. No open flame burners can be used for cooking.