

THE NEW YORK SECONDARY ASSOCIATION OF SkillsUSA, INC. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

The official name of this organization shall be the "New York Secondary Association of SkillsUSA" clubs of America" and may be referred to as "SkillsUSA New York, Inc."

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES

The purposes of this Association are:

- To unite in a common bond without regard to race, sex, religion, creed, or national origin full-time students enrolled in classes with vocational trade, technical, and industrial objectives.
- To provide leadership for the local Clubs.
- To provide a clearinghouse for information and activities.
- To provide recognition and prestige through an Association and affiliated organizations.
- To provide a vehicle for the organization to work articulately with Career and Technical youth groups.
- To develop leadership abilities through participation in educational, vocational, civic, recreational, and social activities.
- To foster a deep respect for the DIGNITY OF WORK.
- To assist students in establishing realistic vocational goals.
- To help students attain a purposeful life.
- To create enthusiasm for learning.
- To promote high standards in trade ethics, workmanship, scholarship, and safety.
- To develop the ability of students to plan together, organize, and carry out worthy activities and projects through the use of the democratic process.
- To foster a wholesome understanding of the functions of labor and management organizations and a recognition of their mutual interdependence.
- To create among students, faculty members, patrons of the school, and persons in industry, a sincere interest in and esteem for trade, technical, and industrial education.
- To develop patriotism through a knowledge of our Nation's heritage and the practice of DEMOCRACY.

ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The New York Secondary Association of SkillsUSA, Incorporated, is an association of local clubs of the State of New York operating in accordance with a charter granted by National SkillsUSA in 1966 and with an absolute charter granted by the New York State Board of Regents in 1970.

Section 2. The authority of SkillsUSA New York shall be vested in the Board of Trustees whose members shall be selected in accordance with Article III of the SkillsUSA New York By-laws.

Section 3. The administration of SkillsUSA New York shall be vested in the State Executive Council, the State SkillsUSA Director, and the Board of Trustees of the New York Secondary Association of SkillsUSA.

Section 4. The SkillsUSA New York Executive Council shall be comprised of the SkillsUSA New York Officers as described in Article VII, Section I of the Constitution. Charters shall be issued to local Clubs by the Executive Council of the New York Secondary Association of SkillsUSA.

Section 5. The SkillsUSA New York State Director shall be an advisor of the Executive Council and shall serve as a non-voting member of the Board of Trustees Also non-voting are Financial/Membership Coordinator, State Leadership & Skills Coordinator, State Conference Coordinator , Alumni Coordinator and State Board Secretary.

Section 6. The SkillsUSA New York Industry Advisory Council shall be composed of leaders from Industry, Business, and Labor Unions to provide counsel, advise, and assistance to the Association in carrying out its purposes. The Executive Secretary and Members of the Industry Advisory Council shall be appointed as set forth in

Article IV of the SkillsUSA New York By-laws.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership of the New York Secondary Association of the SkillsUSA shall consist of the total eligible members of the chartered local clubs and members shall hold the same membership status as in their respective local Club.

Section 2. A local Club must have at least 8 members. All local club members must be members of the State Association and the National Organization to qualify for a charter.

Section 3. Each local Club shall be open for membership to all students regardless of race, sex, religion, creed, or national origin.

Section 4. Classes of membership, which will be recognized by the New York Secondary Association of SkillsUSA, are:

Active Membership - Full-time students enrolled in a coherent sequence of courses or a career major that prepares them for further education and/or employment related to technology, health industry, trade and industry, and who are earning credit towards a high school diploma/certificate or its equivalent, using state guidelines for career majors.

*Students can only be on one member roster.

*Students eligible to compete in skill contests must be roster members at the educational institution that the skill training is received.

Professional Membership - Persons associated with or participating in the professional development of SkillsUSA as approved by the State Association. Such members shall include Club Advisors, Teacher-Educators, and Supervisors. Professional members will pay dues as established by SkillsUSA, but will be ineligible to serve as State or National Voting Delegates, and may not hold State or National Office.

Honorary Life Membership - Individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of SkillsUSA and trade, industrial, and technical education, and whose membership has been approved by the National Executive Council upon the recommendation of the State Association shall have honorary life membership.

Alumni Membership – Former students, both secondary and post-secondary, of SkillsUSA New York, and various professional members of the community, whose membership is recognized by the SkillsUSA Alumni and Friends Association. Alumni members shall not be eligible to compete or serve as a State or National Delegate or State or National Delegate at the secondary or post-secondary level.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the New York Secondary Association of SkillsUSA shall be the President, Vice-President for each of the six SkillsUSA areas, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Historian and Reporter.

Section 2. These officers shall be elected as set forth in Article V of the SkillsUSA New York By-laws and shall assume office immediately following the Annual State Leadership Conference.

ARTICLE VI - QUALIFICATIONS FOR STATE OFFICE

Section 1. Candidates elected for a State Office shall:

- Have active membership status.
- Maintain a good standing in school.
- Have at least one full year remaining in a secondary preparatory vocational trade, technical, or industrial occupations education program.

- Have endorsement of the Local Chapter.
- Be enrolled in a preparatory trade, technical, or industrial class or other program during tenure of office.
- Have filed candidacy for office with the State SkillsUSA New York Director.
- Be prepared to attend the following, or as designated by State SkillsUSA:
 - State Officer Training - One Week
 - Planning Session for Leadership Conference - One Weekend
 - Fall Leadership Conference - Four Days
 - Planning Session for State Conference - One Weekend
 - State Conference - Four Days
 - National Conference - One Week

Section 2. Candidates for a State Office, other than area Vice-President, shall file their candidacy for office with the State SkillsUSA Director, not later than March 1st prior to the date of the Annual State Conference.

Section 3. Candidates for the office of Area Vice-President shall file their candidacy for office according to the procedures established within their respective areas. Upon election, their state officer candidate form shall be forwarded to the State SkillsUSA Director.

Section 4. No local club is eligible to provide more than two candidates for a State office during any school year.

ARTICLE VII - NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Section 1. The SkillsUSA New York Executive Council shall consist of the State President, six Area Vice-presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Historian and Reporter.

It shall be the duty and function of the State Executive Council to conduct business pertaining to the youth they serve as follows:

- a) Advise the Board of Trustees concerning the execution of the decisions of the House of Delegates.
- b) Preside over the state meetings and conference.
- c) Call special meetings and conferences, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.
- d) Propose and review amendments to the Constitution and By-laws and recommend legislation to the House of Delegates.

ARTICLE VIII - NEW YORK HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Section 1. The New York State House of Delegates shall consist of voting delegates from each active chartered local club. Each SkillsUSA member shall exercise membership franchise through Voting Delegates at State Meetings.

Section 2. Each Club shall elect delegates, as prescribed in Article VI, Section I of the By-laws, who shall be considered Voting Delegates at the Annual State Leadership Conference.

Section 3. It shall be the duty and function of the House of Delegates to:

- a) Enact By-laws, rules, and regulations necessary to carry out the affairs and activities of the organization.
- b) Elect the President, Treasurer, Secretary, Parliamentarian, and Reporter of the organization.
- c) Initiate and/or act on items of business as requested by the State Executive Council and the Board of Trustees.
- d) Elect the National Voting Delegates to represent New York State.

ARTICLE IX - NATIONAL DELEGATES

Section 1. The number of National Voting Delegates shall be in accordance with the directives of the National Constitution. The selection of the National Voting delegates and alternates shall be made according to the New York State By-laws in Article VII.

ARTICLE X - MEETINGS

Section 1. An annual meeting of the New York Secondary Association of SkillsUSA shall be held at such time and place as the Board of Trustees may decide.

Section 2. The SkillsUSA State Director shall be empowered to call special meetings of the SkillsUSA New York Executive Council and/or the Board of Trustees.

Section 3. Parliamentary procedure at all meetings will be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.

ARTICLE XI - FINANCES

Section 1. Local associations shall be responsible for annual state and national dues according to the number of members identifies in their roster in each membership classification.

Section 2. All state and national dues shall be deposited with the National SkillsUSA Financial Officer.

Section 3. Annual dues shall be the total of the New York State dues, as established in Article VIII of the By-laws, and the National dues as established.

Section 4. The NYS SkillsUSA Financial Officer shall report, as of March 1 of each school year, the chartered clubs, which have paid their membership dues in full. Members of these clubs shall be designated as members in good standing and shall have all the rights and privileges set forth in the SkillsUSA New York By-laws.

Section 5. The accounts of the NYS SkillsUSA Financial Officer shall be audited annually by an auditing committee appointed by the SkillsUSA New York Board of Trustees.

Section 6. The fiscal year of the SkillsUSA New York shall be September 1 through August 31.

ARTICLE XII - EMBLEM AND COLORS

Section 1. The Emblem and colors of the New York Secondary Association of SkillsUSA shall be the same as those adopted by National SkillsUSA.

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The Constitution may be amended as follows:

- A proposed amendment must be presented in writing to the SkillsUSA New York State Director at least seventy-five (75) days prior to a State Leadership Conference.
- The proposed amendments shall be reviewed by the State Executive Council and the Board of Trustees.
- Amendments must be submitted to each local association as soon as possible, but not less than forty-five days prior to the state meeting.
- They must then be presented for consideration at an official business meeting of the New York State House of Delegates.
- Amendments to the constitution shall be recommended upon fifty percent plus one affirmative vote of the New York State House of Delegates and approval by fifty percent plus one vote of the Board of Trustees.

Section 2. Only such amendments shall be made as are in keeping with the purposes of the organization as stated in Article II of this Constitution.

SPECIAL NOTES

1. Rules, regulations, and by-laws as are deemed necessary for the proper conduct of this organization shall be adopted.

2. No rule or regulation which is contrary to the Constitution or By-laws shall be adopted.

3. Operating procedures shall be adopted as determined by the State Executive Council and Board of Trustees.

Adopted 4/70

Revised 4/72

Revised 4/83

Revised 6/86

Adopted 4/87

Revised 1/95

Adopted 4/27/95

Revised 5/6/97

Revised 7/4/99

Revised 9/28/03

Revised 12/23/03

Revised 2/2/2004

Revised 4/26/2004

Adopted 4/28/2004

Revised 4/6/2005

Adopted 4/15/10

Revised 11/6/2011

Adopted 4/26/2012

Revised 8/23/2013

Adopted 4/24/14

Revised 2/6/2016

Adopted 4/28/2016