



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

Alabama
State Board
of Education

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Contact: Communication
(334) 694-4688
comm@alsde.edu

**ALABAMA SKILLSUSA CHAMPIONED EXCELLENCE AT
NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SKILLS CONFERENCE**

Montgomery, Ala.- Alabama SkillsUSA showed up and truly excelled at this year’s Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference, held in Atlanta, Georgia, on June 1-5.

This highly anticipated conference welcomed more than 22,000 students, teachers, and top-tier representatives from 850 national corporations, trade associations, and regional businesses.

The highlight of the event was the annual SkillsUSA Championships, which featured 114 exciting skill-building and career development competitions for middle, high school, and collegiate students from across the country.

This year’s official event theme was “Champion Your future.” *A total of 349 attendees from Alabama* represented 41 local chapters from across our state.

Alabama students successfully brought home **16 gold, 14 silver, and 5 bronze** national medals. Also, our state had a total of *90 Top Ten competition finalists!*

The 2026 National Leadership and Skills Conference had more than 200 career development exhibits and was one of the largest conferences in the history of SkillsUSA.

SkillsUSA serves over 442,000 student and professional members. Currently, Alabama has more than 30,000 active members with the highest membership in the nation at the Post-Secondary level. This organization is empowering our young people as they become highly skilled professionals, career-ready leaders, and responsible community members.

Nationally, SkillsUSA’s curriculum covers 130 trade, technical, and vital skilled service occupations. It is fully recognized by the U.S. Departments of Education and Labor as an integral part of student career and educational development. Learn more about SkillsUSA national events and conferences at [National Leadership & Skills Conference | SkillsUSA](#)

Alabama students also earned *86 Skill Point Certificates* this year, for meeting or exceeding the cut score for the national competitions they were competing in. Learn more about Alabama SkillsUSA by contacting State Director Carla Plyler at Carla.plyler@alsde.edu

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