



**SkillsUSA California
Audio/Radio Production
2017 Regional Contest Guidelines**

PURPOSE:

To evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding teams for excellence and professionalism in the fields of audio/radio production.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENT

For men: Official SkillsUSA white polo shirt with black dress slacks, black socks and black leather shoes.

For women: Official SkillsUSA white polo shirt with black dress slacks or knee-length skirt, black socks or black or skin-tone seamless hose and black leather shoes.

These regulations refer to clothing items that are pictured and described at: www.skillsusastore.org. If you have questions about clothing or other logo items, call 800-401-1560 or 703-956-3723.

Note: Contestants must wear their official contest clothing to the contest orientation meeting.

ELIGIBILITY

This contest is open to teams of two active SkillsUSA members enrolled in career and technology programs with audio/radio production as an occupational objective.

SCOPE OF THE CONTEST

This contest will follow the National SkillsUSA Technical Standards. Please contact your Regional Coordinator for current year's standards.

The contest will be divided into four portions: a written exam that will assess knowledge in industry standards, a production script assignment to be completed in teams of two people, an interview with judges, and a 30-second radio newscast that will be recorded and edited on site (meaning all work must be done between contest briefing and designated turn in time).

1. KNOWLEDGE PERFORMANCE

All contestants will take a written knowledge test during the orientation. Teams' scores will be averaged for the final team scorecard.

2. NEWSCAST SCRIPT

Contestants will create typed scripts detailing their newscast for the skill performance. Scripts must match produced newscast. A digital copy of the script in .rtf (Rich Text Format) must be included on the submitted Flash Drive.*

*Flash drives may not be returned.

3. SKILLS PERFORMANCE

1. Contestants with work within their team and talent/interviewees to produce their work. No outside consultation or coaching allowed during the contest.
2. The judge or contest coordinator will explain the challenge or theme during orientation. After the orientation, teams must produce a script including all program copy (see "Script" below). Teams will then begin collecting location sounds and interviews (as needed). On the second day of the contest, teams will have designated editing time and space.
3. Teams are to produce (plan, write, voice, record, edit, compile, etc.) a 30-second radio production such as a PSA, NPR-style soundscape, sound rich news story, sound and interview only news story, etc.
4. Audio, sound effects, interviews, music tracks, etc. will be gathered on location as needed to convey the assigned theme. Pre-recorded music may be used if licensed to the team (proof required).
5. The 30-second production must include sponsorship information which will be provided by the contest coordinator during orientation.
6. All teams will submit their projects including final audio production and script on a USB flash drive with a filename chosen and shared by the contest coordinator or judge. (Flash drive will not be returned).
7. Final Productions will be submitted on the flash drive in .FLAC format.
8. Scoring will focus on
 - a. Professional-grade audio/radio production based on the National SkillsUSA Technical Standards.
 - b. Quality of the audio.
 - c. Conveyance of the subject, theme, and information to the listener.

All audio clips* must be acquired after the contest has begun and must be recorded within the areas specified by the field assignment. *Exceptions include tracks and effects licensed to your team.

4. INTERVIEW WITH JUDGE(S)

During the orientation, teams will schedule their interview with the judge(s). The interview will occur after teams have submitted their flash drives. The interview will be a time to discuss contestants' audio/radio production as well as professional skills.

ORIENTATION

The orientation meeting will be held when the contest begins. The agenda of the meeting will include:

1. Overview of contest requirements and description of the challenge or theme
2. Collection of contestant resumes.
3. Checking of official contest dress.
4. A written exam on SkillsUSA Audio/Radio Production National Technical Standards
5. Q&A with Contest Coordinator

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the contest coordinator:
 - a. Orientation
 - b. Production review computer
2. Supplied by the contestants:
 - a. Submission Folder containing a flap to hold the USB Flash (thumb) Drive and paper materials
 - b. USB Flash (thumb) Drive (will be left at contest location)