Reminder- Clean up is apart of the contest. All tbles and chairs need to be stacked and the whole area cleaned before any one leaves competition floor.

Nails-2026 SkillsUSA Virginia State Leadership Conference and Skills Championships

Date: ***March 09, 2026 - March 11, 2026***

Location: Virginia Beach Convention Center, Virginia Beach, Virginia

March 9:Contest Orientation 4 p.m.
March 10: Contest 8 a.m.

***Sack lunches need to be labeled with contestant number only and will be accepted at registration only**

There will be a mandatory meeting for the advisors and contestants on Monday, March 9,.This will be the time for questions to be answered by the contest chairs**. All resumes, pictures, and descriptions will be submitted at this time.**

Purpose

To evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of nail care.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in the field of cosmetology cluster as the occupational objective

Contest Description

Contestants will demonstrate their artistic and creative abilities to create a Fantasy look.

Reminders

- Contestants should report a few minutes early to the contest site with their name tag turned so that their contestant number is showing.
- The contest is not considered over until the area has been cleaned.
- Contestants must submit Resumes, one page go to www.skillsusava.org State Leadership Conference Announcements for Resume. Resumes should be turned in on Friday, April 4, during the contest orientation meeting.
- No cell phones or Flash Photography of any kind on the contest floor during the Contest (pictures and videos will be allowed after the contest).

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

White Dress Shirt with Black tie or Official SkillsUSA white polo shirt, black dress slacks, black socks, and black leather work or dress shoes or White Dress Shirt or Official white polo top, black dress slacks or skirt, black socks, and black leather work or dress shoes. Shoes should not exceed a 2-inch heel.

Note: Contestants must wear their official contest clothing to the contest orientation meeting. If you have any questions, please refer to the National SkillsUSA guidelines.** For SLC, you may wear a white polo or white button-down.

EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

***The Technical Committee has determined that the **pedicure skill performance will no longer be included in the competition.**

1 – SUPPLIED BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

a.Tables – workspace not to exceed 4 feet.
b.Power outlet

2 – SUPPLIED BY CONTESTANTS

a. Model: The model must be a student member dressed appropriately as described in the required clothing statement. Models are registered as conference participants and are not required to take any test(s) or submit a resume.
b. Disinfectant jar (for implements with disinfection solution)
c. Safety glasses for competitor and model
d. White terry towels (no holes or stains allowed)
e. Disposable towels for the table
f. Water dispenser (optional)
g. All items necessary to complete a basic pedicure.
Note: Implements should be brought to the competition ready to use (i.e., cleaned and disinfected, or new). Note: No light-cured polish.
g. Any items necessary for a mock client consultation on natural nail care services h. All items necessary to complete five (5) sculptured acrylic nails.
Note: Dappen dishes must be covered; monomer, polymer, and primer must be from the same manufacturer; two or more of the four basic acrylic colors (pink, white, clear, or natural) must be used to complete two-tone/French manicure sculpted nails
i. All items necessary to complete five (5) nails with a tip and light-cured enhancement overlay. Can be a hard gel or a hybrid gel/acrylic product.
Note: Gel polish, temporary or no-light gels may not be used
j. Dark red crème lacquer/polish
k. All items allowed to complete the flat nail art application: Medium choices: acrylic paints, polishes/lacquers, colored powders (acrylic and dip), rhinestones sizes 20ss and under, glitters and dust, and adhesives, i.e., gel top coats/glue ***Note:*** No pre-prepared items can be used; items are limited to those intended for use on nails. A topcoat may be used as a sealer
l. A written description of the nail art theme. Themes are to be typewritten, should include pictures, and be contained within a plastic sleeve.
Note: Due at competition check-in
m. A digital photo of nail art to be created during the competition.
n. Portable kit organizer (to transport all items necessary for the competition)
o. Foot stool
p. Plastic bags for disposal and refuse
q. Manicure table lamp and 6' multi-outlet power strip (optional)
r. All competitors must create a one-page resume. See "Resume Requirement" below for guidelines.

Note: Prohibited Items: Electric files/drills, stencils, and props are not allowed

PROHIBITED DEVICES

Cellphones, electronic watches, and/or other electronic devices not approved by a competition's national technical committee are ***NOT*** allowed in the competition area. Please follow the guidelines in each technical standard for approved exceptions. Technical committee members may also approve exceptions onsite during the SkillsUSA Championships if deemed appropriate.

Penalties for Prohibited Devices

If a competitor's electronic device makes noise or if the competitor is seen using it at any time during the competition, an official report will be documented for review by the Director of the SkillsUSA Championships. If confirmed that the competitor used the device in a manner that compromised the integrity of the competition, the competitor's scores may be removed.

SCOPE of the competition

The competition is defined by current industry standards. The competition is divided into two parts: a written exam and a series of testing situations designed to assess knowledge of the nail care industry.

KNOWLEDGE PERFORMANCE

The competition will include a written knowledge exam assessing all aspects of nail care including safety and sanitation, natural nail and foot care, and artificial nails, as well as a written description of the nail art theme.

SKILL PERFORMANCE

The competition will include a series of testing situations, including oral presentations and technical applications. The areas that will be evaluated are customer service, safety and sanitation, natural nail care, artificial nails, and nail lacquer and art application. Observations during each segment and evaluation of the finished product will be considered in the scoring. All segments of work must be completed within the specified time during the competition. For example, during the acrylic/tips and light-cured enhancement, no work may start on the nail art or polish application.

<u>COMPETITION GUIDELINES</u>

1. All competitors must bring a model for the competition.
2. Competitors are not permitted to touch their models before the competition begins or between segments.
3. Conversation between competitor and model is limited. Communication with observers, judges, and other competitors is prohibited during the competition.

4. Disqualification or the assessment of penalty points may occur for the following: a. Any rule not followed, with *no* exceptions
   b. Leaving the competition area before completion of the nail care competition (applies to both competitor and model) without proper escort
   c. Unauthorized use of a product that is not allowed or that doesn't appear in the above listing
   d. Any product that appears to have been altered

5. Competitors should come prepared to do the following:
   a. A three- to five-minute mock nail care consultation on the benefits of natural nail care. The competitor will address the judges as if they are a new client of theirs in the salon. Props may be used. The consultation should include the following points: (1) Recommended natural nail care services; (2) Results the client should expect; (3) The home care products the client would need to purchase and use to obtain these results.
   b. All five (5) fingers of the model's right hand are to be sculpted with acrylic using forms, no tips, in a two-tone/French-manicure (pink and white) technique. Two or more colors of acrylic may be used.
   c. All five (5) fingers of the model's left hand are to have nail tips applied and overlaid with a light-cured gel or a light-cured hybrid acrylic/gel. Any type of tip may be used.
   d. A multiple-choice exam on all aspects of nail care.
   e. Two coats of dark red crème lacquer/polish are to be applied to the model's right hand.
   f. Flat nail art is to be applied to all five (5) fingers of the model's left hand. A specific theme is to be carried through on all five fingers and in a written description. Competitors must have written and submitted a description of the theme they intend to create at the competition check-in. Themes should be typewritten, may be decorated, and must be contained in a plastic sleeve. Diagrams of the art to be created can be used; however, these are limited to the finished product and may not be step-by-step instructions. Judging will be on the overall balance of the use of different media and the creative use of the medium to support the theme, as well as the attention to detail. Once all judging is complete, props may be used to enhance art during the parade of models.

Contest Timing

- Three to five minutes for oral presentation
- Two hours for acrylic, tips, and light-cured enhancement application
- Thirty minutes for the written test
- Ninety minutes for polish and flat nail art applications