



2026 STATE FAIR – Manikin Comb Out Monday September 28 – 10am State Fairgrounds

LOCATION: 13191 Dawn Boulevard in Doswell Virginia 23047 – “Blue Ribbon” Pavilion

ENTRY FEE: \$20.00 per student entering the competition. Payment is due by **September 25, 2026** to SkillsUSA Virginia – 115 Hutcheson Hall (0908), Blacksburg VA 24061. Please register on-line at www.skillsusava.org – opening Event - State Fair - Competitions.

DEADLINE: Registration will close on **September 11, 2026**.

ADMISSION TICKETS:

- Participants must have a Student Competition Ticket (\$8 student and \$12 adult) to enter the Fairgrounds.
- Teachers are responsible for ordering tickets by **September 18, 2026 ONLINE** directly from the State Fair Ticket Office at <https://www.etix.com/ticket/c/0B673755704EB0C7B865819C1BE568E9/4h-ffaadvanced-payment..>
- **Advance** payment schools must print a “Gate 2” entrance sign available on their website and will be allowed to park next to the SkillsUSA competition in “Lot K” or the overflow “Lot L”.
- Schools with **reserved** tickets must bring a check to enter the State Fairgrounds. The State Fair does not accept cash or credit cards at our special entrance gate.

CONTEST SPONSOR: Hair Cuttery

SKILLSUSA HUMAN SERVICES CLUSTER COORDINATOR: Janice Lyons Jackson – Hair Cuttery

CONTEST CHAIR: Amanda MacNeil- Hair Cuttery

SKILLSUSA HOST: Bev Conner – Alumni and Friends

NUMBER OF CONTESTANTS: Competition is limited to 50 contestants. Two students from the first twenty-five SkillsUSA Virginia chapters will be allowed to enter the contest. Addition slots will be offered to any additional chapters wishing to participate or to previously registered schools in the order of registration.

CLOTHING: Students are required to wear the following while competing: Black slacks or knee length skirt, white top with sleeves, (**no low cut necklines or bare midriffs**); black low-heeled, closed toe dress shoes (no tennis shoes). Students must present themselves with a clean professional appearance. Students need to stay in dress for awards.

STATE FAIR SCHOLARSHIPS: The State Fair of Virginia is offering the first place secondary Manikin Comb Out winner a scholarship of \$100.00 to continue their educational pursuit. The State Fair champion **MUST** complete the provided scholarship form before departing the State Fairgrounds.

SCOPE OF THE COMPETITION: Contestants will demonstrate their ability to perform comb out and styling techniques on a preset or straight manikin. Manikins must be styled for evening looks. The manikins will be evaluated for hair styling.

- Manikin will be either pre-set, thermal curled or left straight prior to contest, with no evidence of prior styling.
- Time will be allowed for removal of nets, clips, rollers, etc., prior to comb out time.
- Comb out will be done in the presence of judges. **ALL HAIR MUST BE COMPLETELY BRUSHED THROUGH!** Examples include gelled fingerwaves, ponytails, braids, French twists, or other designs that must be brushed out. Judges will be checking each manikin to see that the hair has been brushed through and that no pre-styling exists.
- NO ORNAMENTATION.
- **Time allowed for comb out - 25 minutes.**
- Contestants will supply all tools necessary to achieve their desired comb out.
- NO ELECTRICAL outlets or appliances will be used during the comb out competition.
- This is an EVENING STYLING COMPETITION. Students are encouraged to demonstrate their maximum artistic flair!
- This is NOT a Fantasy Contest.
- Only the make-up that comes on the manikin from the manufacturer will be allowed - **NO ARTIFICIAL EYELASHES.**

JUDGING CRITERIA: Contestants will be evaluated based on their performance in the following areas:

- Artistic ability
- Balance and design
- Overall appearance

TOOLS AND MATERIALS REQUIRED BY CONTESTANTS: Each participant shall provide the following:

- One-page typed résumé
- All necessary implements and supplies to perform their selected manikin design
- The preset, thermal curled or straight manikin
- Manikin holder
- Drape
- Manikin accessories **WILL NOT** be allowed - NO scarves or jewelry or ornamentation in the hair