

NJ State Only Contests

These events are "NJ Only" state sponsored contests.
There are no national level competitions in these areas.

- **Advanced Haircoloring**
NEW for 2025
2025 Contest Details are listed in the Contest Updates.
- **Basic Residential Wiring**
The competition is skill based and geared around basic knowledge of a residential electrician. All work must conform to the specifications of the latest National Electrical Code and general electrical trade standards. Tasks include the rough-in, wiring and trimming out various circuits.
- **Braiding & Extensions**
Cosmetology students demonstrate their skill in performing braiding techniques and incorporating hair extensions into a hair style.
- **Cosmetology Knowledge Bowl**
A team of 4 Cosmetology students demonstrate their knowledge of the Cos Core standards by presenting answers to questions presented during the quiz bowl. Teams earn points based on point wagers they determine after learning the category of each question.
- **Cosmetology Novice**
Students enrolled in a Cosmetology program with less than 600 Hours of training demonstrate their hands-on skills, knowledge and understanding of the profession.
- **Culinary Quiz Bowl**
A team of four clearly presents the answers to questions within a ten-second time frame using the quiz program KAHOOT.
- **Criminal Justice Quiz Bowl**
A team of 5 Law Enforcement or Criminal Justice students demonstrate their knowledge in the areas of criminal law and procedures, along with their familiarity with current events in criminal justice. After hearing the moderator ask a question, teams have 5 seconds to respond by activating a buzzer. The first team to buzz in can respond to the question to earn points.
- **Custom Auto Painting**
A team of 2 students enrolled in painting, or collision repair programs demonstrate their skills in by creating some kind of creative design on a used automobile hood. Competitors will demonstrate the ability to use skills in surface preparation, primer & painting processes, and design & layout. An interview component and supporting notebook are required to explain the process from start to finish.
- **Design & Build Plywood Challenge**
A team of 2 carpentry students design and build a project based on an identified theme from a single sheet of plywood. Teams create a project drawing to bring to the contest, work from it and submit the finished product to the judges.

- Interior Systems Drywall Installation
The Interior Systems Drywall Installation contest will highlight contestants' skills through the installation of drywall in a commercial construction setting. A team will consist of two contestants.
- Finish Carpentry
The Finish Carpentry contest will assess accuracy, workmanship, the ability to read and interpret blueprints and shop drawings, and the proper use of tools and equipment. Contestant's may be required to install various moldings, window and/or door trim, stairs, doors, windows, and cabinets
- Graphic Arts
Student competitors will create, prepare and print a job with a digital printing device at their home school and bringing the finished piece to the competition along with presenting a power-point of how it was created and printed. Additionally, the students may be required to perform the following tasks on site on the day of the competition:
 - Layout and Pre-Flighting – the re-creating of a design using appropriate page layout software and ensuring its suitability for print output.
 - Performing a production planning exercise to determine the best approach for production of a specific job.
 - Taking a graphic arts knowledge test.
 - Finishing-the operation of a paper cutter and a basic fold on a folding machine
- Landscaping/Horticulture Design
Landscaping/Horticulture students will demonstrate their general understanding of horticulture, landscape and plant care knowledge. The contest includes activities involving identification of live plant specimens, annual and perennial planting, and development of a landscape design within a given budget.
- Manikin Fantasy Make-Up
Students have 2 ½ hours to demonstrate their artistic and creative ability by applying make-up and designing a hair style on a manikin. Contestants supply all necessary items needed to complete their make-up and hair style.
- MRE Culinary Challenge
MRE Culinary Challenge is a "Mystery Basket" Competition for a team of 3 who demonstrate their ability to utilize and display creativity with Military issue MREs. (**MREs** are the main operational food ration for the United States Armed Forces. It originated from the c-rations and k-rations from World War II and is still the U.S. Army's primary ration.) Each teams utilizes a randomly selected 6 MRE pack to create a menu consisting of 2 servings each of an appetizer, entrée, dessert and a hot or cold beverage.
- Ornamental Iron Design
Contest is being Revised for 2025
- Performing Arts
A team of 5 students present a 15 to 20-minute selection form a full-length or one-act plan written for the theatre. The performance is to be created and practiced in advance of the competition and performed on the day of the state contest.

- **Safety Display**
Students have the opportunity to prepare a tabletop display that illustrates a particular safety principle or procedure related to their career training. A student should be prepared to deliver a brief explanation of why they chose the particular safety principle or procedure. The Safety principle or procedure itself should be clearly and completely demonstrated or illustrated within the display and require no further explanation.
- **State Banner Design**
A team of two SkillsUSA members design and produce a NJ SkillsUSA banner. Both members should be prepared to be interviewed about the development and design of their banner.
- **Technology Display**
A team of 2 prepare a tabletop display where the knowledge, underlying theories, and applications of a chosen principle of applied technology is illustrated or demonstrated. Both members of the team make an oral presentation of their chosen principle using the display for illustrative purposes and to enhance understanding.
- **Wedding Cake Decorating**
A team of 2 Culinary Arts or Baking & Pastry Arts students design, construct and decorate a cake that could be used in an actual wedding ceremony. Specific required details will be outlined in the current year's contest update for the two separate contests: Classic Design or Themed Design..