



## Regional 2020-2021 Contest Catalog

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# GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS (Virtual)

### Contest Description

The purpose of this competition is to evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of graphic communications. This contest is open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in programs with graphic communications as the occupational objective. Students will complete live over the Zoom platform in lieu of an in-person competition.

### Regional Competition

Students will compete in this **competition live** over the Zoom platform **(Date TBA)**.

Students should be ready to present at their scheduled time. The contestant schedule will be emailed to the advisor/contestants by Friday, December 11, 2020. Changes cannot be made to scheduled time slots. **Resumes must be submitted** to SkillsUSA California (details to follow).

*Production Layout* - Competitors will be given specifications to create a print-ready design project. All files will be provided, and it will be judged according to how well the project matches the specifications.

*Prepress Workflow* – Competitors will troubleshoot a digital file. The file will be in Adobe InDesign format. Competitors should have the skill to create a preflight profile and correct typical errors such as color mode, image resolution, overset text, missing fonts, folds, bleeds, etc

*Production Planning* - Competitors will be given a production planning test. Competitors will be asked to calculate paper quantity, paper cost, impression counts, and labor costs for a specific print job.

### Knowledge Performance

*All SkillsUSA California contest projects are subject to change due to any unforeseen facility, staffing or site-related issues. Please use these materials as a reference to prepare students for the potential contest project. SkillsUSA California regional and state contest projects are developed by state technical committee members to align with the national technical standards.*



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- Students will take a short, written, multiple-choice test of general graphic communication questions modeled after PrintED / SkillsUSA National Technical Standards.
- They will take a production planning math test where they will calculate impressions, labor costs, and paper needs, etc. (A sample of the production planning project is shown below)

### **Skills Performance**

- Students will demonstrate prepress workflow by correcting an InDesign file in preparation for print production.
- Students will be given a page layout project and work through a logical process to create a print-ready project.
- Students will use their own computers and appropriate licensed software. If students are using trial software or newly-installed software, please test it to make sure it works prior to the contest.

### **Student Materials List**

- Computer with software installed and functioning. Adobe CC InDesign must be installed and functioning to complete the Production Layout and Prepress Workflow portions of the contest. (IDML files will be provided for backward compatibility)
- One-page Resume (SkillsUSA)
- Calculator
- Pencil and paper
- Computer with high-speed internet capability and camera to use applications such as Zoom. The minimum recommended internet bandwidth speeds for joining Zoom meetings, accessing on-demand curriculum and other online operations is 2.0 Mbps up and down. You can test your current internet speeds by following this link: <https://www.speedtest.net/>. Allow the page to load and click on GO.

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### **Clothing Requirements**

Official Dress is NOT required for Regionals. Clothing must be unbranded with no words, images, or logos. SkillsUSA or SkillsUSA California attire is recommended.

**Sample Production Planning Project:** This is an example of the types of problems to be calculated. The parameters will change in the competition.

The quantity of 200,000 4.25" x 5.5" postcard to be printed two-color (2/0) on 110# Index Bristol (23 x 35 parent size) 500 sheets per carton, \$90.00 per 1,000. Your press prints 5,000 impressions per hour. Press time is \$80.00 per hour. Your press sheet size is 11" x 17".

1. How many press sheets can be cut from the parent size sheet?
2. How many full size sheets are needed to print this job, not including spoilage/make ready?
3. How many full size sheets are needed for this job with 5% spoilage/make ready?
4. How many cartons must be purchased (round up to the nearest carton)?
5. How much will the cartons cost (not including tax)?
6. How long will it take to run this job?
7. How much will the labor cost to run this job?
8. How many times will the press sheet run through the press?
9. Can this be printed in an 8-hour shift?
10. What is the total cost for running this job (not including tax)?

**Note: Check the National Contest Guidelines and/or the updates page on the SkillsUSA website and the SkillsUSA California Competitive Events page:**

- [www.skillsusa.org/compete/updates.shtml](http://www.skillsusa.org/compete/updates.shtml)
- <https://www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/contest-descriptions/>
- <https://www.skillsusaca.org/competitive-events-2>

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