

2025 OKLAHOMA SLSC STATE MEMO

Photography

NO SUBSTITUTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED AFTER FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2025

THERE WILL BE NO SUBSTITUTIONS ALLOWED ON-SITE AT THE CONFERENCE

Tentative-Information is subject to change, check back often

Please double-check all registrations prior to the deadline. This includes secondary versus postsecondary as well as contests

***Contest will follow national technical standards unless otherwise stated in the state memo.**

The 2025 Oklahoma SkillsUSA **Photography** will be held **Monday, April 28th, 2025**, 9:00 a.m. and will be hosted at **Arvest Convention Center, formerly known as Cox Convention Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma.**

CONTEST FEES

In addition to the regular conference registration, there will be a lunch fee of \$20.00. This charge is to provide a boxed lunch during the contests for contestants. This fee will be added to the contestant's registration when it is completed online.

CONTEST TESTING

Contestants will be judged on their SkillsUSA knowledge through the Professional Development test and a knowledge test based on their contest area, unless otherwise stated in the state memo. Testing will be completed online and proctored through their technology centers. Online testing opens March 14, 2025, and closes April 4, 2025.

LUNCH

A box lunch will be provided to the contestants, paid for through registration. Students will stay in the contest area during lunch. Students will not work on a computer at this time, but may be asked to step into the Q&A session with Judges.

SETUP

The contest setup is Monday, April 28th from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00a.m. The contest begins at 9:00 a.m. and instructors will not be allowed to help set up after this point. The location of the set-up will be provided to contestants before the contest.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

Contestants will follow official contest dress as described in the national technical unless otherwise stated in the state memo. Students cannot wear any identifying information on their uniform that will associate them with a school or technology center.

Class E: Competition Specific – Business Casual

- Official SkillsUSA White Polo Shirt
- Black Dress Slacks, Black Khakis or Black Dress Skirt
- Comfortable Closed Toe Shoes

CELLPHONES AND OTHER SMART DEVICES

Cellphones, electronic watches and/or other electronic devices not approved by a competition's 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. **If a competitor is seen using an unapproved device during the competition, an official report will be documented for review. If confirmed that the competitor used the device in a manner which compromised the integrity of the competition, the competitor's scores may be removed.**

INDUSTRY AWARDS

***** Prizes are the responsibility of the individual contests. Prizes are not guaranteed and are not supplied at the SkillsUSA Oklahoma at the state level.**

At the time of writing this memo, prizes have been donated by Think Tank Photo.

It would be greatly appreciated if **each participating school furnished an industry award.** Industry awards should be labeled with the name and address of the award supplier so that an appropriate "Thank you" may be sent, must be accompanied by an *industry award donation information sheet* (available on the Oklahoma SkillsUSA website). **Please bring prizes to the Conference Hall at the Arvest Convention Center, on Sunday, April 27th between 12-4pm or Monday, April 28th between 8am-5pm.**



VENTURE • OBSERVE • CONNECT™

AWARDS CEREMONY

Winners will be recognized at the General Session on Tuesday morning, April 29th at 9am.

All competitors must wear official SkillsUSA dress to the Awards Session, where winners are announced. Competitors who are not dressed appropriately or lack official attire will be denied access to the awards stage. Students must be present when their contest is announced. If a student is improperly dressed, absent, or misses their contest being called, the production will not be paused for any reason, and they will forfeit their opportunity to go on stage to receive the award. No exceptions will be made. No hats or sunglasses will allow to be worn on stage.

- Official dress for men: Official blazer, jacket or sweater; black dress slacks; white dress shirt; plain black tie with no pattern or SkillsUSA black tie; black socks and black shoes.
- Official dress for women: Official blazer, jacket or sweater; black dress slacks or knee-length skirt with business like white, collarless blouse or white blouse with small, plain collar that may not extend onto the lapels of the blazer, and black dress shoes.

SCOPE OF CONTEST

The Photography State Contest will consist of three portions:

- A submitted themed image
- A field assignment
- A Q&A with the judges

Themed Image:

Contestants will submit an image following a theme. This year's submitted theme image is: **Portrait**. The themed image does not need to be taken in a studio, but attention to lighting and location needs to be considered. A candid portrait should not be submitted. Participants will submit **two copies** of a printed 8x10 images. These images should not be matted or mounted. Photos that are not 8x10 will not be accepted. Students will place their contestant number on the back of the image at contest check in, no names or schools should be listed.

Field Assignment:

Judges will give contestants a theme at the beginning of the contest. Contestants will be given two hours to capture an image they believe represents the given theme. The photos will be captured inside the Tulsa Arvest Convention Center, formerly known as Cox Convention Center, **contestants do not have permission to leave the Arvest Convention Center, formerly known as Cox Convention Center. Contestants will be DQ'd if they leave the parameter of the convention center.** They can go anywhere inside the convention center that the public and observers can go. Contestants are not allowed to go into the parking garage of the convention center.

Contestants should not interact with anyone when competing. It is understood students from the same school may trade equipment, but they should not assist each other with the technical or compositional side of the photo. Other photography students can be used as a model if they agree to do so.

At the conclusion of the two-hour shoot period, students will be given two hours to edit their images. Each contestant will select four images to submit. Contestants will submit one .jpg image, edited however they see fit. This image should be their best image of the shoot. The contestants should also submit one 4 image contact sheet. Contact sheets should be 2x2 and made in either Photoshop or Lightroom, and shouldn't include anything apart from the images. The best image selected to submit, on its own, should be included along with three other images that the contestant likes. **STUDENTS NEED TO UNDERSTAND HOW TO CREATE A CONTACT SHEET.** Help will not be given in creating a contact sheet.

Judges Q&A:

Contestants will have a two-to-three-minute question and answer session with the judges. The judges will ask photography related questions that may include the contestant's submitted themed image. The submitted themed image will be judged before Q&A, and the Q&A will have no impact on the scoring of the submitted image. The Q&A will occur by a random number draw during the field assignment editing time and through lunch.

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

Supplied by technical committee:

- Worktables with space for personal computers
- Chairs
- Electrical outlets

Each contestant will need to bring the following:

- Resume
- One DSLR or Mirrorless camera with removable lens capabilities (If the competitors' camera does not have a removable lens, they may be asked to show the judges it has a manual exposure mode.)

- All needed accessories for the camera (battery, memory cards, lens)
 - There are no restrictions on camera equipment accessories. Students may use tripods, monopods, lens, or filters. Contestants may also bring props, but the field assignment theme will not be released early.
- Computer with USB and/or SD Card Slot (laptop preferred). Ensure the student knows the password.
- Related software (Photoshop recommended, students will have to be able to create a 2x2 contact sheet.)
- 2 8x10 photos (submitted theme images) will be turned in at the beginning of the contest. One photo will be judged, one photo will be presented to the general public.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have any questions about the contest, please contact:

Mitchell Alcala, Oklahoma State University

Mitch.alcala@okstate.edu

Afton Jameson, CV Tech

ajameson@cvtech.edu

National Technical Standards can be found on Absorb, which you can access with professional SkillsUSA membership. Technical are updated periodically, please check regularly.