

# 2025 OKLAHOMA SLSC STATE MEMO

## Broadcast News Production

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

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

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

The 2025 Oklahoma SkillsUSA **Video News Production** will be held April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and will be hosted at **Tulsa Technology Center, Riverside Campus, TV Production Studio, 801 East 91<sup>st</sup> Street, Tulsa, OK, 74132**

- **Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**  
2-5pm: Practice on the studio equipment & EZ News software. The cafeteria is not open but vending machines are available.

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### **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**

Lunch will be provided for contestants

### **RESUME- Change to submission type please for 2025 please read**

All contestants will submit a digital resume prior to contest day. Contestants will receive an email to the address used to register the contestant for contest with instructions and link to access the SkillsUSA Competitor Portal page. The email will contain contestant's username and contestant number, which are required to login to the Competitor Portal.

Deadline to submit resume is April 22, 2025.

### **BRIEFING:**

Contest briefing takes place on a rotating basis prior to the start of the team's contest time on Monday, April 28th. Teams have staggered start times starting at 8:30am in 30-minute increments. Contact the Contest Coordinator for your team's start time.

**PRACTICE:**

Practice time on the studio equipment is Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm. An instructor will be available to show contestants the studio equipment and allow time for them to practice with it. The instruction is also given for the EZ News teleprompter software. The instructor is only available to help with the technical equipment and not to help with the actual contest.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Open to a team of four active SkillsUSA members enrolled in career and technology programs with media technology and or news broadcasting as part of the curriculum. Must be from the same school and same division such as Secondary or Post-Secondary. Each school may enter 4 teams; teams must be comprised of the same division.

**SCOPE OF CONTEST:**

The team will write, produce, and complete a three-minute news cast as if it were a Live Broadcast.

1. Each team shall be comprised of four student members. Two students will serve as the news anchors, one student will serve as the team's director/technical director in the control room, and one student will serve as the studio floor director.
2. Each team will receive an identical set of newswire stories (printed or electronic) and an identical set of corresponding picture files to be used as voice-overs, if desired. Contestants will work as a team during their assigned contest preparation time to develop their own newscast rundown and production script based on available newswire story facts and context. The teams have two-hours to complete this portion of the contest.
3. Contestants will review wire service content which must at least include four stories but can be more: international news, national news, regional/local news, and sports news stories.
4. An appropriate number of rundowns and scripts must be printed during preparation time, including at least one clean copy for the judge(s). The exact number will be determined at contest orientation.
5. Immediately following the team's assigned prep time, each team will be allocated a total 20-minute session in the control room/studio contest space for practice. When the team

is ready, notify the contest chair to declare your readiness to record the contest entry. The team is given one take (as live) for the three-minute newscast. This must be done within the 20-minute session and penalties accrue for going over the time.

6. Only the designated round is judged. Points are deducted for not hitting exactly 3-minutes for the contest entry.

### **JUDGING:**

The following is the judging criteria:

- News Value
- Accuracy
- Diction/Pronunciation
- Pacing
- Team Chemistry
- Following Rundown & Direction
- Follow Scripts, Eye contact with Camera
- Credibility
- Timing & Energy
- Rundown Completeness
- Director/Technical Director Direction
- Timing & Switching
- Floor Direction
- Rundown Accuracy

### **SCRIPTS/RUNDOWNS:**

A copy of the script and rundown needs to be printed during the prep time for each of the judges. This information is given during the briefing.

### **EQUIPMENT:**

All equipment is provided by the contest site to include video switcher, video play back, character-generator, 2 lavalier microphones, headset communication system, teleprompter & software, a preparation room with 2 computers per team & printer.

### **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.

### **CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:**

For the anchors:

- Official SkillsUSA red blazer or official SkillsUSA red jacket
- Button-up, collared, white dress shirt (accompanied by a plain, solid black tie or SkillsUSA black tie), white shirt (collarless or small-collared) or white turtleneck, with any collar not to extend into the lapel area of the blazer
- Black dress slacks or black dress skirt (knee-length at minimum)
- Black closed-toe dress shoes

Note: Wearing socks or is no longer required but if you do, socks must be black, and hose can be black or nude color.

For the Director/Technical Director & Floor Manager:

- Official SkillsUSA white polo shirt
- Black dress slacks or black dress skirt (knee-length minimum)
- Black closed-toe dress shoes

*Note:* Wearing socks or hose is no longer but if you do, socks must be black, and hose can be black or nude color.

### **2025 State Video News Production Agenda**

#### **Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

2-5pm: Practice on the studio equipment & EZ News software. The cafeteria is not open but vending machines are available.

#### **Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**

Contestants have staggered start times starting at 8:30am in 30-minute increments. The Contest Chair will notify you of your team's start time. Your team's contest briefing at right before their time. The two-hour preproduction time starts when the briefing ends. Briefing and contest take place at Tulsa Technology Center, Riverside Campus, TV1 Production Classroom. Lunch is available at the Riverside Campus. It is highly suggested that teams have lunch either before or after their competition.

Lunch & Breaks is on your own. No lunch is provided for this contest. Once contestants enter the contest area, they must remain until their contest is finished, with the exception of a restroom break.

The judges are available for feedback once all the teams have competed and scored. This is optional and teams are free to leave once they compete.

## **INDUSTRY AWARDS**

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

Please contact the chair with prizes that will need to be checked in. **Each participating school is expected to furnish 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 awards area at the Arvest Convention Center, to the Conference Hall on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> between 12-4pm or Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> between 8am-5pm.**

## **AWARDS CEREMONY**

Winners will be recognized at the General Session on Tuesday morning, April 29<sup>th</sup> 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 be allowed 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.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you have any questions about the contest, please contact **the Contest Chair, Teresa Piper** or **Program Specialist Ricky Gunkel**.

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