



DIGITAL CINEMA PRODUCTION



SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards

2026 Oklahoma SkillsUSA Contest Memo

CONTEST COORDINATOR:

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LOCATION:

Tulsa Technology Center, Riverside Campus, Hanger A
801 East 91st Street, Tulsa, OK, 74132

SET UP:

***The genre, prop, and line of dialogue will be pushed out one week in advance via email to all registered contestants and Advisors on Sunday, April 12th at 12pm Noon. After contestants receive these items, they have one week to complete all the required preproduction, and then bring it with them on the first day of competition (Sunday, April 19th)**

The Tulsa Tech Riverside Campus, Hanger A, will be open at 10am on Sunday, April 19th for set up. This is not a requirement, but it is advised for teams to arrive early to set up computers prior to the start of the briefing. Advisors are not allowed in the competition area once the briefing is finished.

BRIEFING:

Sunday, April 19th at 12noon, Hanger A, Riverside Campus, Tulsa Tech. Contest starts immediately following the briefing and tour. See the full contest agenda below.

ELIGIBILITY:

Open to all active SkillsUSA members enrolled in a program with filmmaking/video production as the occupational objective. Each instructor may register 4 teams in any combination: secondary or post-secondary.

SCOPE OF CONTEST:

A team of two creates a 2:30 to 3-minute creative short film. The team members must be of the same school and same division, both secondary or post-secondary. This is a two-day timed event. The hands-on portion of the contest begins at 12pm on Sunday, April 19th, and pauses at 7pm that night. It resumes the next morning at 8am on Monday, April 20th. The contest ends at 2pm, followed by an interview with the judges.

All footage must be acquired during the contest and filmed within the specified areas. Except for Preproduction, all work must be done between the contest briefing and contest deadline. No stock footage or pictures are allowed. The submission is to be a creative video piece and not a PSA, news story or promotional work (advertisement). It is highly suggested to complete the shooting portion of the film on Sunday and Monday is for editing. Immediately after the briefing, the Contest Coordinator will tour the facility with the teams' designating locations for shooting. All equipment must be left at the contest site overnight on Sunday. No work may be performed on the video from Sunday night at 7pm until Monday morning at 8am. If preferred, equipment may be locked in the Advanced TV classroom overnight.

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. **AI (with the exception of music) is also not allowed to be used during the 2 days of the competition event.** 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.

THEME:

The video must incorporate certain required elements such as a genre, prop and line of dialogue. ***These will be announced via email to all registered contestants and Advisors one week before the competition begins at 12:00pm (Sunday, April 12th). After contestants receive these items, they have one week to complete all the required preproduction, and then bring it with them on the first day of competition (Sunday, April 19th)**

Preproduction:

The required preproduction to be done a week in advance includes: a shot sheet of potential shots, a logline (which is a one-sentence summary or description), a hand-drawn storyboard, and a screen play script. **AI is not allowed to be used when creating preproduction.** Competitors will also submit a resume digitally online.

EQUIPMENT:

Contestants are responsible for all necessary equipment. No equipment is provided. Any type of production equipment is ok to use, and teams may use two computers.

TALENT:

Teams may only use each other for talent. Although other teams may be willing to stand in as talent, this is not allowed.

CONTENT:

This is a school sanctioned event and the content of the short film must be a positive reflection of the SkillsUSA organization and the team's career tech center. If a short film includes any of the following, the film is subject to disqualification:

- Nudity or any sexual content
- Violence and/or gore
- Inappropriate foul language
- Negative content towards a religious group or gender
- Using any personal vehicle

- Using an airplane, unless shown one by the Contest Coordinator
- Using other teams for talent
- Not following any rule outlined by the Contest Coordinator

LENGTH:

The short film must fall between 2:30 and 3-minutes. This does not include the information slate at the beginning. Do not include credits at the end of the video, simply fade to black at the end. **Failure to adhere to the time will result in a 100-point deduction penalty.**

JUDGING:

Entries are judged on the following areas:

- Overall creativity
- Shot sheet/Log line
- Script/storyboard
- Camera Technique
- Lighting
- Audio elements
- Special Effects – Color Grading
- Editing (pacing and structure)
- Titles
- Adherence to Prompt

MUSIC:

Contestants must have all rights to any music used in the video. No copyrighted music is permitted unless the contestant can show documentation of the copyright permission. Teams must show proof of the copyright free music to the contest coordinator. It is suggested that the team bring a printed copy showing the music is copyright free. ****Use of AI Tools to help create music for the film is allowed. (Ex: sites like suno.ai)**

RESUMES:

All contestants are required to submit a typed resume online. A link will be provided by SkillsUSA Oklahoma.

TESTING:

All contestants take one exam prior to the State competition; The Professional Development test. This is administered at the contestant's school in March/April. See your testing coordinator for scheduled dates and times.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

Contestants do not have to wear SkillsUSA official wear on Sunday during the shooting portion of this contest but must adhere to your school's dress code. Bring costumes/props for the shoot portion of the contest.

On Monday, SkillsUSA official dress is required. The official dress for Digital Cinema is;

- White SkillsUSA polo, (or white shirt if your school doesn't have these)
- Black pants or females may wear a black skirt. (must be knee length)
- Males need a black belt

****Socks and hose are optional but if worn must be black and hose must be black or nude.**

AWARDS CEREMONY:

The awards ceremony is Tuesday, April 21st at the Tulsa Arvest Convention Center. Official SkillsUSA attire is required.

2025 DIGITAL CINEMA AGENDA

Sunday, April 19th

12 Noon: Contest Briefing: Tulsa Technology Center, Riverside Campus, Hanger A

12:15pm: Tour of the site by Contest Coordinator for shoot locations.

12:30pm: Contest begins.

7pm: Contest breaks for the night. All materials and equipment are left at the contest site.

Breaks & Lunch are anytime. Advisors may deliver food but are not allowed to stay in the contest area. Riverside Cafeteria is not available but there are vending machines.

(Lunch is on your own this day. Advisors are allowed to bring it to their students)

Monday, April 20th

8:00am: Contest resumes.

(Box lunches will be provided for contestants)

2:00pm: Deadline – Place all submission materials in the contest packet and give them to the contest chair by the deadline. No entries accepted after the 2pm deadline.

- Screenplay Script
- Storyboard
- Shot sheet
- Logline
- Film exported in H264 format and placed on the provided flash drive
- Proof of copyright free music

2:15pm – 4:15pm: Interview and presentation with the judges. Presentation is not being scored. However, each team will view their films with the judges and then will be asked 1 or 2 questions by the judges. (Every team will get the same 1 or 2 questions). All teams (as well as advisors and anyone else) are allowed to be in the auditorium as this process is happening with all teams.