

## ACCSC ACCREDITATION ALERT

**To:** ACCSC Accredited Institutions and Other Interested Parties  
**From:** Michale S. McComis, Ed.D., Executive Director  
**Date:** November 2, 2015  
**Subject:** ACCSC SkillsUSA Scholarship

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ACCSC is pleased to announce a new annual SkillsUSA Scholarship established by the Commission to help students enrolled in a SkillsUSA program to attend the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC). It is the Commission's hope that this scholarship will help to encourage more schools to join SkillsUSA for the benefit of students as well as faculty, staff, and their vocational communities.

Annually beginning with the 2016 SkillsUSA competition in Louisville, Kentucky June 20-24, 2016, ACCSC will award a \$1,500 SkillsUSA scholarship to help pay for a student's travel expenses to attend and compete at the conference.

The award will be based on the student's commitment to excellence in technical skills, work ethic, and leadership as well as how the student will use the opportunity to compete at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference to be an ambassador for the skilled trades and workforce development.

The ACCSC SkillsUSA scholarship eligibility requirements, application form, and procedures will be available on the Commission's website beginning in early February 2016. The Commission plans to award the scholarship in May.

If your institution does not currently participate in SkillsUSA, the Commission strongly encourages institutions to explore the possibilities and benefits of membership. Here's what one ACCSC school said about SkillsUSA:

*SkillsUSA created opportunities for my students that went beyond the academic scope. It is the only national organization designed exclusively for students preparing for technical, skilled, health, and service careers. By offering opportunities for leadership, competitive events, and awards from the local to international levels, this organization will unite your school in a common bond and create an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to develop technical, academic, and employability skills geared toward the workforce. - Paul Amigh - SkillsUSA Advisor & Lead Faculty, YTI Career Institute*

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### About SkillsUSA



SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry representatives working together to ensure that America has a skilled workforce to help each student to excel. SkillsUSA is a national organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in technical, skilled, and service occupations in a wide array of fields from healthcare occupations to welding. SkillsUSA was formerly known as VICA (the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America). Timothy W. Lawrence, Executive Director of SkillsUSA gave the Keynote Address at ACCSC's 2015 Professional Development Conference and made a compelling case that every institution that offers vocational programs can benefit from working with SkillsUSA. SkillsUSA along with advocates such as ACCSC's 2014 Key Note Speaker Mike Rowe and hundreds of employers from small businesses as well as major U.S. corporations, is taking employability skills training and development to new levels.

For information on getting started with SkillsUSA, go to [www.skillsusa.org](http://www.skillsusa.org) or call 844.875.4557.