



Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)



PURPOSE

To provide SkillsUSA members with an opportunity to develop and demonstrate knowledge and skills they will need to respond to their community's immediate needs in the aftermath of a disaster, when emergency services are not immediately available.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to active SkillsUSA high school or college/post-secondary members enrolled in career and technical education programs with Law and Public Safety as the occupational objective. This competition requires a **team of two**. Each school may send two teams.

Student competitors **must** be enrolled in, or just have **completed** (within the current membership year), a law and public safety, or other closely related technical, skilled, or service occupation.

Student competitors cannot have competed in similar events in any other CTSO CERT related competition (i.e., HOSA CERT Skills) at the state or national level in the previous year.

Competitors may not be currently or formerly employed with a law enforcement agency.

This contest DOES NOT advance to the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENT

Class D: Contest Specific — Blue Attire

- Official SkillsUSA light blue work shirt.
- Navy pants - must be work-style pants (e.g. Dickie's) or BDU/tactical style (e.g. 511). Black or brown belt.

- Solid black, brown or tan leather work safety shoes or tactical style boots (with protective toe cap). Not having a protective cap carries no penalty. Shoes must be professional/police style. No tennis/running style shoes.

These regulations refer to clothing items that are pictured and described at: www.skillsusastore.org. If you have questions about clothing or other logo items, call 1-888-501-2183.

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the technical committee: All necessary materials for the competition not specified elsewhere.
2. Provided by the competitors
 - a. Pens and #2 lead pencils with eraser
 - b. Watch that show time in seconds (digital or second hand)
 - c. Helmets
 - d. Goggles
 - e. Vests
 - f. Blankets (2)
 - g. Work gloves
 - h. Disaster Kit (container or backpack) with the following items:
 - i. Barrier supplies for each competitor:
 1. Box of exam gloves
 2. Goggles or safety glasses
 3. NP95 masks
 - ii. 4x4 dressings
 - iii. Pressure bandages
 - iv. Triangular bandages
 - v. Scissors
 - vi. Flashlights
 - vii. Victim tags (8) and pen or marker
 - viii. Plain paper or note cards for writing triage documentation and labeling treatment areas if needed
 - ix. Masking tape
 - x. Tourniquet
 - xi. Clip board

RESUME REQUIREMENT

Competitors must create a one-page resume to submit online. SkillsUSA South Carolina competitors should submit their resume by the deadline published on the competition updates page of our website. Failure to submit a resume will result in a 10-point penalty.

Your resume must be saved as a PDF file type using file name format of “Last Name_First Name.” For example, “Amanda Smith” would save her resume as Smith_Amanda. If you need assistance with saving your file as a PDF, visit the Adobe website for more information.

Note: Check the Competition Guidelines and/or the updates page on the state website.

PROHIBITED DEVICES

Cell phones 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. Technical committee members may also approve exceptions onsite during the SkillsUSA Championships if deemed appropriate.

Penalties for Prohibited Devices

If a competitor's electronic device makes noise or if the competitor is seen using it at any time during the competition, an official report will be documented for review by the SkillsUSA Championships director. If confirmed that the competitor used the device in a manner which compromised the integrity of the competition, the competitor's scores may be canceled.

SCOPE OF COMPETITIONS

The competition is defined by industry standards as identified by the SkillsUSA technical committee. The following is a list of resources and materials used in the formation of the competition:

- [Community Emergency Response Team \(CERT\) | FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/operations/CommunityEmergencyResponseTeam)
- https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/cert-trainings?language=en_US
- CERT Training Manual

KNOWLEDGE PERFORMANCE

The competition includes an exam assessing the knowledge of the team in emergency response. The exam covers parts of each area emphasized in the CERT manual. Each team member takes the exam individually. The collective scores from the test are worth 150 points. See Appendix A for a study guide.

Competitors are also required to take the SkillsUSA professional development test. This test is worth 50 points. 200 points come from this section.

SKILLS PERFORMANCE

Several skills will be performed for evaluation. The skills will come from CERT training materials. Areas include emergency medical skills, victim carries, cribbing, building evaluation, fire extinguisher use, search and rescue, utility controls, and other skills taught in CERT training. There may be as few as 3 and as many as 6 skill evaluations. See Appendix B for a list of possible evaluations. These will be combined for 800 points for this section.

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. Each team must work independently without assistance from instructors, other competitors, or observers. Contact with competitors must be coordinated through designated event staff only. Any violation of this may disqualify the competitor.

2. Cell phones, iPads/tablets, smartwatches, wearable technology or any other electronic device is prohibited from the competition area.
3. Only competitors, judges, and event staff are allowed in the competition area at any time. Observation is limited to the area designated by the judges or event staff. The outdoor competition area may only be accessed by judges, competitors, and event staff. Any violation of this may disqualify the competitor.
4. No one may contact judges in any way and at any time without the expressed permission of the competition coordinator.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

The list below is not exhaustive but represents most terms and topics on the test. This test may be updated year to year, so do not assume content will be the same year to year.

- Review guide to be added - check back later in the school year

APPENDIX B

The list below is not exhaustive but represents the range of possible competition skill evaluations and scenarios:

- Triage victims
- Set up an evacuation area
- Setting up a disaster medical operations treatment area
- Establishing IRC
- Evaluate building for structural damage classification
- Conduct search operations for a building or house
- Search marking
- Head to toe evaluation
- Shutting off/on utilities
- Shelter in place
- Leveraging and cribbing
- Victim carries
- Fire size-up
- Fire extinguisher use
- Hazmat placard & NFPA 704 identification
- Disaster medical operations - all skills in Unit 3 & 4