

How do you explain why some people are able to achieve things that seem impossible? Are they super-heroes, creatures bitten by radioactive spiders, or foreign life-forms hailing from far away planets? Most of the time, the answer to that will be no. Whether it's helping out with the community or stepping into your first shift at a job, the power of SkillsUSA and its prevalence throughout every student's professional life will have an iron-welded hold on the nearby future.

From its beginning roots in the 1920s to its establishment as VICA in 1965, to the 50th anniversary today, SkillsUSA has eloquently impacted students' steps into the workforce.

Imagine your first day in the office. You're ecstatic as you fix your jacket and make your first steps into the brightly lit room, rows and rows of concentrated workers and aligned tables cross their way into sight. You've finally made it; You are enabled with a numerous amount of attributes that will make your boss proud. A healthy work ethic, dependability and responsibility, integrity, adaptability, and a strong heart willing to face any challenge. With the guidance of SkillsUSA, you have accomplished your goals and caught those dreams with pure elegance.

Now imagine the very same first day, without the help of Skills.

You enter the building with trembling hands, the air-conditioning flowing right through your skin. You're living off of four hours of sleep and a half-drunken cup of coffee. You stammer as you talk to your manager, and the only thing you can think of is how to get your vision to stop from blurring. Finally getting started, you're in a state of confusion, and for the next sixth months, all your work is mediocrely crafted, if it isn't two weeks late.

Your boss calls you into their office and tiredly, you sit down. With slight reluctance in their voice, your boss announces that you have been fired from your job, due to lack of integrity, unsatisfactory work quality, and for the sheer fact that you have shown up 12 times late because you "overslept".

SkillsUSA has provided many, including myself, the opportunity to get an insight of what the real world is like. As a champion, my aspirations would not be reached without the preparation of professionalism and skills taught by the club itself. This year, I have heightened my ability to display professional skills often desired in the work force, such as how to create the ideal resume, how to prepare for interviews, and how to give time and care for others. My involvement with SkillsUSA has given me an experience that isn't like any other, that will ensure me that I will be a champion in areas of personaisml, workplace, and technical skills.

In the next fifty years, technology will advance at an impeccable rate, leading to a dire need of technical and professional skills, all of which SkillsUSA provides. This club promises the utmost success, as it gives enlightenment on the skills that most people are unaware of. Who will know the correct process of answering interview questions? Who will comprehend the proper employment tactics needed?

A clear sign of Skill's promise of success is shown through the signature SkillsUSA emblem, which symbolizes the true nature of this club. The shield represents patriotism, denoting our advocacy for democracy, liberty, and the American way of life. The gear represents the industrial society, emphasizing the cooperation and interdependence on one another during the endeavor to benefit mankind. Next, the flaming torch represents the light of knowledge and dispels the darkness of ignorance. The orbital circles symbolize technology, and its training needed to accept the challenges of new technical frontiers. And finally, the hands represent the individual, portraying a search for knowledge and success.

The values of unity and teamwork within this club are the most vital; It has helped members fully understand the significance of cooperation. In the workforce, you are almost never alone, you work with others. You communicate, share ideas and compromise. These values are important in and out of the club because regardless of where you are, communication is key. What are heroes without their league of justice, or their sidekicks?

We are the working class heroes of today, who will make it into history and see our names in lights. We do not don capes or masks; we do not wield magic powers or swords. We don red blazers, and the smile of knowing that we have finally reached success. We wield the same powers as a superhero do, independence and strength. We are not the heroes you see in comic books; we are champions at work, leaders of the future.