



2026 INDIANA SkillsUSA CHAMPIONSHIPS TASK & MATERIALS LIST

SKILL OR LEADERSHIP AREA: HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATION

CONTEST LOCATION:

Indiana State Fairgrounds West Pavilion
1202 E 38th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46205

DATE: Friday April 10, 2026, 3:00 pm-6:00 pm (POSSIBLE WEATHER BACK UP FOR
OUTSIDE PORTION)
Saturday April 11, 2026 (WEATHER PERMITTING A COMPONENT OUTSIDE)

TIME: 6:00 am- concession opens
7:30 am- arrive at West Pavilion
7:45 am- be in contest area
8:00 am- contest begins

PURPOSE

To evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of heavy equipment operation.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

Men/Women:

NO SCHOOL LOGO OR SCHOOL AFFILIATION ANYWHERE ON CLOTHING or IT MUST BE COVERED COMPLETELY

- Official SkillsUSA: A light blue work shirt and navy pants is not required but if you have them please wear them or:
- Work shirt or conference t-shirt (High Visibility shirt/vest supplied by Tech Committee)
- Work pants or jeans (no holes or frays)
- black, brown, or tan leather work shoes/boots
- Hard Hat
- Appropriate dress to be outside in whatever weather conditions we get for the day.
- Safety glasses with side shields or goggles. (Prescription glasses can be used only if they are equipped with side shields. If not, they must be covered with goggles.)

**NO CELLPHONES/ELECTRONIC WATCHES AND OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN
CONTEST AREA**

AWARDS CEREMONY DRESS CODE

*A Dress Code will be enforced during the Awards Ceremony. To accept an award "on-stage," the student must wear the "Official SkillsUSA Uniform," State T-Shirt or the competition attire. **NO SHORTS OR HATS!!!***

EACH COMPETITORS MUST PROVIDE A 1-PAGE RESUME, FRONT PAGE ONLY, AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CONTEST, THERE IS A 10 PT. DEDUCTION IF ONE IS NOT TURNED IN AT THIS TIME. SEE STATE WEBSITE FOR RESUME RESOURCE ON THE CONFERENCE PAGE NO SHEET PROTECTORS OR FOLDERS.

SUPPLIED BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

- All materials, tools and equipment needed for the competition.

STUDENTS MUST SUPPLY:

- Eye Protection
- Safety footwear as described under the Clothing Requirements section of the National Technical Standards
- High visibility T-shirt/vest, hard hat and gloves (may be needed)
- Outdoor attire as needed (may have an outside component)

SCOPE

1. Provided the weather doesn't wash us out, we will have a trenching and backfilling event this year, outside, in the dirt! I was able to attend the nationals last year in Atlanta and we will be doing our best to duplicate the trenching and backfilling exercise that they put on at the Komatsu customer center for nationals. Students will be scored on time, accuracy, safe placement of spoil etc. They will also be backfilling their excavation, so placement and balance of spoil during the trenching exercise will impact their effort during the backfill. We have not finalized which machines will be used for this event yet, but it sounds like a full-sized backhoe/loader is the leading candidate.

2. We will have a laser event again this year, however we plan to do the event outside this year, so it visually matches the type of thing you would measure on the job site. Students should be able to establish elevations with a laser level using a benchmark, calculate slopes, and figure a basic cut and fill. I would remind students to have an awareness of feet/inches vs feet/10ths and know how to convert between the two.

3. We are planning to incorporate a pre-shift inspection/daily maintenance component into the competition this year. You will want to make sure your students know what daily maintenance items/checks should be performed, and where to find information about the daily maintenance requirement of a machine.

4. We are planning to incorporate an event focused on locates. This year there will be a scored locating component at the national competition, put on by Ohio 811. Fortunately, we got to know the guys at Ohio 811, and they have been very cooperative in helping us establish a locating component at the state level. That said Indiana 811 has been unresponsive to both our outreach, as well as the outreach of Ohio 811 on our behalf. So, we will use the Ohio 811 excavator handbook as our guide, in order to match what will be tested at nationals. (I think this is a place we can give the Indiana representative a slight edge at nationals) A link to the Ohio Excavator manual in both English and Spanish is here: <https://oups.org/excavator-manuals/>. Students will be allowed to have a copy of the handbook during the competition, hard copies will be available at the competition. Do we have any students who need the Spanish version?

5. We will still have an operating component inside this year; however, we will be trying to make it more closely match the type of events that we saw inside at the nationals last year.

6. I have not reworked the written exam for this year yet. I would encourage students to know about safety items, machine component identification, aggregate identification, etc.

7. We will be awarding a sponsorship to the winning student to travel to the nationals, because we want to make sure Indiana is represented in Atlanta!

SEE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS AND VERIFICATION
BELOW

SAFETY INSTRUCTION AND VERIFICATION OF TRAINING

I certify that [competitor's name] meets the safety training requirements as outlined in the national technical standards for the SkillsUSA Championships Heavy Equipment Operation competition. Both the instructor(s) and the competitor certify that [competitor's name] has received instruction and has satisfactorily passed examination on the safe use of the heavy equipment that may be used in the competition. We understand that competitors will be removed from competition if proper training has not been provided, and/or they are using the equipment in an unsafe manner.

Signed:

Student Printed Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Contestant Number: _____

Date: _____

Advisor Printed Name: _____

Advisor Signature: _____

Date: _____

*****TURN IN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE COMPETITION ON FRIDAY*****