**2019-20 CHANGES OF NOTE**

**STATE & NATIONAL CONFERENCE BALANCE PAYMENT POLICY**

Please mail conference registration payments by the payment deadline as usual.

BUT, if payment is not received prior to state/national conference –

All current and past due balances MUST BE SETTLED in order to receive registration materials for contestants/schools. All Balances remaining upon registration check-in must be paid at that time by check, cash, or credit/debit card (plus 4% card processing fee). “The check is in the mail” will NOT be accepted for a deferment of payment, and payment will STILL be required upon registration check-in. If you pay by school or personal credit/debit card and the check comes in after the conference, your card will be refunded.

**AWARDS – PRIZES/PLAQUES/MEDALLIONS**

All Awards (Prizes, Plaques, Medallions) must be picked up at the conference awards ceremony, either personally or have someone there to pick them up for you / the school if contestant is not present. SkillsUSA North Carolina will NOT hold or mail/ship awards to winners who were not present or picked up.

**REGIONAL OFFICER ELECTIONS**

Beginning in 2020, Regional Officers will be elected IN THE FALL at our State Leadership Workshop at Camp Dixie. They will not be elected at the Regional Rally conferences.

Students that are elected as regional officers at the fall State Leadership Workshop at Camp Dixie and complete the required school visit (see Regional Officer Application Packet) will receive FREE Regional and State Conference registration the following spring!

**SKILL PROJECT SHOWCASE Changes**

1.  The "Individual" and "Team" identification will be removed and the 2 former registration classifications will be combined.  The number registered for the showcase will identify how many medallions are to be awarded.

2.  No "Sub-Categories" will be made for any trade area.  Judging will be done BASED ON THE SCORING RUBRIC, and NOT in comparison to other entries in the same category that might be difficult to compare. (For instance, SPS Digital Media might have visual, audio and print entries, but will not be divided down.  SPS Automotive/Transportation might have automotive, aircraft, and collision entries, but will not be divided down,)

3.  Entries will be judged IN THE CATEGORY THEY ARE ENTERED.  For instance, if contestant enters a metal bed frame, it will be judged in the category that he/she enters it in - Either SPS Metalworking OR SPS Cabinet/Furnituremaking.  Judges will NOT reclassify it into a SPS category they feel it should have been in.  It will be judged as entered, with that category as the primary focus (either metal OR furniture).

4.  SPS Automotive has been renamed SPS Transportation, allowing for any transportation-related project to be entered.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

The Hotel Reservations Process has changed for this year, in order to get quicker confirmations of reservations. Please note in Appendix C the new process which should expedite reservations confirmations. Hotel forms are now accessible from our website at <https://www.skillsusanc.org/competition-guidelines>.