

NOVA SCOTIA SKILLS COMPETITION OFFICIAL REGULATIONS

1. Eligibility

A. Secondary (Junior & Senior High School)

Secondary level competitors must meet the following criteria in the current school year:

- a) Attend a public or private secondary institute;
- b) Be between 13 and 21 years of age on January 1 during the year of the competition;
- c) Have been earning junior or senior high school credits any time during the current academic year (September to June);
- d) Be registered as a competitor with Skills Canada ~ Nova Scotia (SCNS);
- e) Possess a Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status and be a resident of Nova Scotia. Competitors are responsible for verifying this information if requested;
- f) Completed and submitted a signed release form by a parent or guardian if under the age of 18.

B. Post-Secondary

Post-Secondary competitors must meet the following criteria:

- a) Be enrolled in a community college, university or private school
OR
- b) Be a registered apprentice with the Department of Labour and Advanced Education;
- c) Be 30 years of age or younger on January 1 of the competition year;
- d) Be registered as a competitor with Skills Canada ~ Nova Scotia;
- e) The competitor cannot be a certified journey-person;
- f) Possess a Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status and be a resident of Nova Scotia. Competitors are responsible for verifying this information if requested;
- g) Have been earning post-secondary credits any time during the academic school year (September to June);

- h) All competitors must be able to show either current apprenticeship status and/or proof of age and/or proof of enrollment in a post-secondary institution upon request of the Provincial Technical Committee or Skills Canada ~ Nova Scotia.

2. Registration

Each competition has a limited number of registration vacancies. Registrations are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

However, an objective of the Nova Scotia Skills Competition is to be representative of all regions of Nova Scotia. As a result, registrants from different regions will take priority. If there are several registrants from the same region, some may be placed on the waitlist in the order in which they registered.

There may also be some competitions which require completion of a qualifying competition conducted by the Provincial Technical Committee or instructors of a particular post-secondary course. The competition scope will outline any specific qualifying competition information.

If a student arrives on the day of competition and is not registered with Skills Canada ~ Nova Scotia as a competitor, they may or may not be allowed to compete based on the discretion of the Provincial Technical Committee (PTC). Those who are waitlisted are encouraged to check in at registration on the day of the competition in the event there are no-shows.

Competitors may compete in more than one contest at the Nova Scotia Skills Competition with the following stipulations:

1. Competitor must indicate their first choice contest area. If competitor is registered for other contests, it is understood that new participants will take priority over their registration.
2. If competitor wins a gold medal in their first contest, they must then forfeit their participation in additional contests. In this event, registration fees will not be reimbursed.

3. Payment

A non-refundable registration fee of \$40 per competitor is required for entrance to the Nova Scotia Skills Competition. This fee will provide the opportunity to compete, registration packages for competitors, contest materials, lunch for competitors and awards. Registration fees for cancellations and no-shows are still required and in those cases where they are already paid, they will not be reimbursed.

Please note: Payments must accompany signed release forms, which are due no later than one week prior to competition.

4. Qualification to Skills Canada National Competition

A minimum score of 60% will be required to receive any medal or eligibility to advance to the Skills Canada National Competition. Please see section entitled *Competition Levels* to preview which provincial competitions are eligible for the Skills Canada National Competition.

5. Medals

SCNS awards gold, silver and bronze medal for each contest level. The person or team achieving the highest score is awarded the gold medal. The person or team achieving the second highest score is awarded the silver and the third highest scoring person or team is awarded the bronze.

No matter what their score, all competitors attending the competition will receive a certificate of participation from SCNS.

6. Competition Rules (Day of)

- a) Competitors may not speak to spectators during their contest (this includes teachers and advisors);
- b) Competitors may be disqualified at the judges and PTC Chair's discretion;
- c) Translators, readers, or other assistants (hearing impaired) are permitted in the contest site only by prior arrangement through the SCNS office;
- d) Competitors may be excused for washroom breaks - with an escort, at the discretion of the PTC Chair;
- e) Lunch break will be taken at the discretion of the PTC Chair;
- f) Books, notes, materials and assisting devices are permitted at the discretion of each PTC Chair. These will be identified in the scope or during the orientation session;
- g) Cell phones, smart phones or PDAs must be turned off for the duration of the competition;
- h) Competitors must be on time for their competition - late arrivals may be allowed but no "make-up" time will be permitted. Penalty will be at the discretion of the PTC Chair and Judges;
- i) Any competitor caught cheating will be removed from the competition immediately and will not be able to compete for SCNS competitions again in the future;

- j) Competitors must wear/bring appropriate dress/safety equipment/tools as specified in the competition scope;
- k) All competitors must attend an orientation meeting directly before the competition begins. During this time the project will be explained with expectations, and all safety guidelines will be reviewed.

7. Conflict Resolution

- a) The conflict resolution procedure is in place to ensure all competitors are treated equally and fairly during the Nova Scotia Skills Competition.
- b) Competitors are asked to submit an informal protest, either verbally or in writing to the PTC Chair if they feel they have been treated unfairly.
- c) Protests will only be considered if made within 20 minutes of the conclusion of the competition.
- d) It is encouraged that the competitor discusses the informal protest with the PTC Chair as soon as possible during the contest, so a resolution can be determined. Through discussion, the competitor and PTC Chair will work to determine a resolution to the situation;
- e) If a resolution cannot be found to suit both parties, the PTC Chair must notify SCNS's Executive Director or Competition Coordinator who will bring the issue to the attention of the Conflict Resolution Committee.

8. Contest Cancellation

Skills Canada ~ Nova Scotia reserves the right to cancel a contest if necessary (example: low enrollment). A full refund will be granted to those registered at the time of cancellation.