

SkillsUSA Idaho

Board of Directors
Policy 2007-005

POLICY FOR INTERNET POSTING FOR SKILLSUSA IDAHO STATE OFFICERS

State Officers using Social Media or other Public Sites

As an officer for SkillsUSA Idaho, you are a public figure. As an officer you represent your school, your state association and the national SkillsUSA association. As you post content to personal social media or other sites, keep in mind that people you do not know (including potential employers) might search for you in cyberspace or Google your name. Be sure your personal materials including comments, photographs, video or sound files would not embarrass you if they were viewed by SkillsUSA staff, business partners, instructors or others.

E-mail addresses

All elected officers must use official SkillsUSA Idaho email for all SkillsUSA correspondence. Be sure to check email daily during your term of office as travel opportunities are often offered via email.

Consequences

If you post inappropriate or unapproved material, you will be on probation as an officer and subject to the consequences of the Board of Directors of SkillsUSA Idaho.

Statement Regarding Internet Posting in Officer's Contract

The following statement will appear on the application for SkillsUSA Idaho State Officer in the Contract Section:

As an officer of SkillsUSA Idaho, I will represent my organization and state with respect. This means that for my term of office any content I post on social media, email, or other sites is subject to review by an authorized adult, such as my advisor or parent/guardian. and I also understand that these sites and my email account will be monitored and I may be requested to remove material found to be disrespectful of SkillsUSA Idaho.

The following reminders apply to all SkillsUSA Idaho members in regard to Internet posting:

Don't forget that your profile and posting onto open forums are public.

Don't post anything you wouldn't want the world to know (e.g., your phone number, address, IM screens name, or specific whereabouts). Avoid posting anything that would make it easy for a stranger to find you, such as where you hang out every day after school.

People aren't always who they say they are. Be careful about adding strangers to your friends list.

It's fun to connect with new friends from all over the world, but avoid meeting people in person whom you do not fully know. If you must meet someone, do it in a public place and bring a friend or trusted adult. With the freedom to post what you want comes the responsibility to do so in your interests not only for today, but also for whom and what you want to be tomorrow. Also think of your personal safety.

Cyberspace can have the effect of creating an illusion of intimacy that could prove dangerous for you in reality. Use the manners and mores of behavior in physical space both in how you present yourself and how you interpret other people on-line as a guide.

Harassment, hate speech and inappropriate content should be reported.

If you feel someone's behavior is inappropriate, react. Talk with a trusted adult, or report it to the authorities. Also, watch what you say! If you post an alleged fact about someone that proves incorrect, you may be liable for damages under either defamation or libel. Moreover, if you post photographs or information about someone that can be construed to be an "invasion of their privacy", or "false light", or "misappropriation of likeness", then you may be liable for a tort under the broad rubric of "privacy."

Don't post anything that would embarrass you later. Think twice before posting a photo or info you wouldn't want your parents or boss to see! Think about not only your marketability today, but who you might want to be in five or ten years when posting an "identify" on the Internet. Remember, you must be willing to go through the bureaucracies of at least three to five search engine companies to remove cached material from the Internet.

Don't mislead people into thinking that you're older or younger. If you lie about your age, reputable sites will delete your profile.

Don't give out your password to anyone, not even your boyfriend, girlfriend or best friend. Be sure to customize your privacy settings on the Privacy page if you are uncomfortable being found in searches or having your profile viewed by people from your school, workplace or regional network. Remember, unless you're prepared to attach something in your profile to a resume or scholarship application, don't post it.

Approval

Based on majority approval of the members of the Idaho SkillsUSA Board of Directors, this policy is approved effective: **11/09/2023**



Chair, SkillsUSA Idaho Board of Directors