



CONTEST DESCRIPTION

Workplace Safety

SECONDARY

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1 THE SKILLS FOR SUCCESS FOR CAREERS IN THE SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY

The Government of Canada has updated the previous Essential Skills framework to the new Skills for Success model in response to the evolving labour market and changing skill requirements. This model outlines nine fundamental skills Canadians need to thrive in work, education, training, and daily life.

Skills/Compétences Canada aims to highlight the importance of these skills, vital for success in trade and technology careers. Competitors can see how Skills for Success are integrated into contest descriptions, projects, and project documents. Recognizing these skills during the competition helps competitors match tasks with specific skills necessary for success and understand how these skills apply within their trade or technology programs and future careers.

The nine key Skills for Success, validated for workplace success, are:

1. Numeracy
2. Communication
3. Collaboration
4. Adaptability
5. Reading
6. Writing
7. Problem Solving
8. Creativity and Innovation
9. Digital

These Skills for Success are detailed in sections 2.4 and/or 3.2 (to be completed by SCC) of your Contest Description and, if relevant, in your Project and supporting documents.

2 CONTEST INTRODUCTION

2.1 Description of the associated work role(s) or occupation(s)

https://www.skillscompetencescanada.com/en/skill_area/workplace-safety/

2.2 Purpose of the Challenge

To assess competitors' understanding of OHS principles and ability to perform OHS-related duties, including:

- Identifying hazards, recommending and identifying existing control measures
- Displaying an understanding of hazard control
- Effectively communicating OHS information

2.3 Duration of contest

11 hours

2.4 Skills and Knowledge to be tested.

- Knowledge of OHS principles
- Ability to identify and assess workplace hazards and to recommend corrective action⁷
- Ability to recognize and discuss hazard controls⁷
- Ability to effectively communicate OHS information²

Skills for Success – ²Communication, ⁷Problem Solving

3 CONTEST DESCRIPTION

3.1 List of documents produced and the timeline for when competitors have access to the documents on the Skills/Compétences Canada website

DOCUMENT	DATE OF DISTRIBUTION
Test Project	December 2025
Competition Worksheets	Morning of Competition

3.2 Tasks that may be performed during the contest:

Hazard Identification:

A fundamental principle of Occupational Health and Safety is recognizing, assessing and controlling hazards in the workplace. The Hazard Identification activity requires the competitor to demonstrate these skills by assessing and suggesting controls for hazards they identify in a simulated workplace. For this activity, the competitors will be asked to:

- Identify the hazards, and for each
- Define the hazard type (physical, biological, chemical, ergonomic, safety, psychological)⁷.
- Suggest the best type of control (elimination, substitution, engineering, administrative, PPE)⁷
- Identify controls already in use
- Indicate the potential hazards the controls are meant to mitigate
- Record all findings on the hazard identification answer sheet⁶

A Test Project has been developed and contains additional preparation information for this activity.

Hazard Control:

Observing people at work and identifying hazards is one skill used by the Health and Safety professional to assist in reducing / eliminating injury / illness in the workplace. In this section of the competition, competitors will be asked to observe a competition site.

Based on the competition sites selected, competitors will be asked to identify the hazard controls and explain how the controls implemented this hazard.^{2,6,7}

Competitors will observe the competition and collect information which they will use to provide written answers to a series of questions found on the Hazard Control worksheet.⁶

OHS Research / Written Presentation:

For this activity, the competitor will perform the role of an OHS professional researching an OHS issue at a fictional workplace, in order to develop recommendations to the employer.

The competitor will be assigned an OHS issue by the NTC, which they will research, and for which they will develop recommendations.^{5,6}

Once the recommendations have been developed, the competitor will prepare an oral presentation to be delivered to the judges for evaluation.²

In addition, a copy of the recommendations will be submitted to the judges at the time of the oral presentation.⁶

OHS Proficiency Exam:

Each competitor will complete a multiple-choice examination that will test their understanding of different components of hazard classifications and the hierarchy of controls.

For reference:

OHS Professional – To contribute to the maintenance of a safe and healthy work environment by implementing and monitoring OHS systems and processes in their workplace. This includes managing OHS administrative processes, conducting training and effectively using a range of OHS tools and processes to implement OHS programs and drive compliance.⁴

1. To initiate, promote and implement site-level activities to improve OHS.
2. To contribute to the implementation and monitoring of critical controls.⁷
 - 1.1. Knowledge
 - 1.2. Analyze and evaluate information
 - 1.3. Problem solving⁷
 - 1.3.1. Uses communication and engagement skills, including negotiation and conflict management skills, to initiate, promote and support change.²
 - 1.3.2. Uses mentoring skills to develop OHS capability of site operational and OHS personnel.
3. Please note: no presentation software will be used. Laptops / Tablets will be used for research, preparation and recommendations.
4. Intent of this activity is to research the assigned scenario and develop recommendations to be discussed with the employer.

5. Electronic devices are required for this activity – competitor’s will use their own tablets / laptops to research and develop the recommendations⁹.
6. A Test Project has been developed and contains additional preparation information for this activity.
7. Competitors will be judged on how well they organize and communicate the key points of their recommendations.
8. Cue cards are permitted to use for the presentation.

Skills for Success –²Communication, ⁴Adaptability, ⁵Reading, ⁶Writing, ⁷Problem Solving, ⁹Digital

4 EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, CLOTHING

4.1 Equipment and material provided by Skills/Compétences Canada

- Copy of the Hazard Identification Answer booklet
- Copy for the Hazard Control Answer booklet

4.2 Equipment and material provided by the competitor.

- Competitors are required to bring their own device and software to the competition. Each competitor can choose their own device and software so their workflow and process are like what they are familiar with.

4.3 Required clothing provided by the competitor.

- No competition specific clothing required

5 HEALTH AND SAFETY

5.1 Safety program

SCC has implemented a comprehensive safety program as health and safety is an integral part of our competitions. Our safety program includes guidelines and procedures to make the work environment in each skill area safer.

5.1.1 Safety manual

As part of our program a safety manual has been created to monitor and document health and safety within each skill area. It includes a definite plan of action designed to prevent accidents. The safety manual will be provided for every skill and these instructions must be followed and respected by all participants and officials at the SCNC.

5.1.2 5.1.2 Safety workshop

During orientation, Competitors will participate in a Safety workshop and they will be expected to work and maintain a safe working area during the competition. Any Competitor breaking any health, safety, and environmental rules, may be required to undertake a second safety workshop, this will not affect the Competitor’s competition time.

5.2 List of required personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by Skills/Compétences Canada.

- Safety vests for the Hazard Control Search activity

5.3 List of required personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the competitor.

- Competitors do not need to bring any PPE

6 ASSESSMENT

6.1 Point breakdown

TASKS	/100
Hazard Identification	30
Hazard Control	30
OHS Research / Presentation	30
Proficiency Exam	10
Late Penalty	(-5)

7 CONTEST SPECIFIC RULES

Contest specific rules cannot contradict or take priority over the Competition Rules. They do provide specific details and clarity in areas that may vary from contest to contest. Any additional contest rules will be reviewed during the competitor orientation.

TOPIC/TASK	CONTEST SPECIFIC RULE
Late Penalty	Competitors must attend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition Orientation • Each activity on time (Hazard Identification / Hazard Control Search / OHS Research & Presentation)
Use of technology - USB, memory sticks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitors will be allowed the use of USB or other storage devices
Infrastructure -equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of a template brought by the Competitor is prohibited.
Use of cell phones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitors are not allowed to use their cell phones during the competition except if competitors wish to listen to music with headphones / ear buds during the OHS Research component of the OHS Research & Presentation activity.

8 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

8.1 Interpreter

If a competitor requires the help of an interpreter once onsite during the competition, the Skills/Compétences Canada Provincial/Territorial offices must advise Skills/Compétences Canada National Secretariat a minimum of 1 month prior to the competition or this service may not be guaranteed.

8.2 Ties

- Tiebreaker #1: Highest mark in Hazard Identification
- Tiebreaker #2: Highest mark in Hazard Control
- Tiebreaker #3: Highest mark in OHS Research / Presentation.

8.3 Competition rules

Refer to the competition rules of the Skills Canada National Competition which can be found on our website.

9 NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBER ORGANIZATION	NAME
Newfoundland and Labrador	Lisa Kavanagh
Prince Edward Island	Erin Carver
New Brunswick	Paul Landry
Ontario	Marius Scoupi
Manitoba	Jayson Santos – Chair
Saskatchewan	Beth Antoshkiw – Co-Chair
Alberta	Craig Skelly
British Columbia	Ammar Kavazovic
Yukon	Chelsea LaRose

Contact the Skills/Compétences Canada national secretariat for any questions or concerns: nathaliem@skillscanada.com