

2024-25 Competitive Events Guidelines

Career Research



Career Research provides members with the opportunity to present their research on a career that appeals to them. This competitive event consists of a presentation component.

Event Overview

Division: Middle School

Event Type: Individual

Event Category: Presentation

Event Elements: Presentation

Presentation Time: 3-minute set-up time, 7-minute presentation time, 3-minute question & answer time

NACE Connections: Career & Self-Development, Communication, Critical Thinking, Professionalism, Technology

State

Presentations will have a 1-minute set-up time. Check the Call to Conference for any other competitive events information and deadlines.

National

Required Competition Items

<u>Items Competitor Must Provide</u>	<u>Items FBLA Provides</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technology and presentation items• Conference-provided nametag• Attire that meets the FBLA Dress Code	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Table

Important FBLA Documents

- Competitors should be familiar with the Competitive Events [Policy & Procedures Manual](#), [Honor Code](#), [Code of Conduct](#), and [Dress Code](#).

Eligibility

- FBLA membership dues are paid by 11:59 pm Eastern Time on March 1 of the current school year.
- Members may compete in an event at NLC more than once if they have not previously placed in the top ten of that event at NLC. If a member places in the top ten of an event at NLC, they are no longer eligible to compete in that event.
- Members must be registered for the NLC and pay the national conference registration fee to participate in competitive events.
- Members must stay in an official FBLA hotel block to compete.
- Each state may submit four entries.
- Each competitor can only compete in one individual/team event and one chapter event (Annual Chapter Activities Presentation, Community Service Presentation).
- Only competitors are allowed to plan, research, prepare, and set up their presentations.
- If competitors are late for their assigned presentation time, they will be allowed to compete with a five-point penalty until such time that results are finalized, or the accommodation would impact the fairness and integrity of the event.

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- Some competitive events start in the morning before the Opening Session of NLC. The schedules for competitive events are displayed in the local time of the NLC location. Competitive event schedules cannot be changed.

Recognition

- The number of competitors will determine the number of winners. The maximum number of winners for each competitive event is 10.

Event Administration

- This event has two parts: preliminary presentation and final presentation
- Presentation Information
 - **Equipment Set-up Time:** 3 minutes
 - **Presentation Time:** 7 minutes (one-minute warning)
 - **Question & Answer Time:** 3 minutes
 - **Internet Access:** Not provided
 - The presentation is judged at the NLC. Preliminary presentations are not open to conference attendees. The presentation will take place in a large, open area, with a booth size of approximately 12' x 12'.
 - Competitors are randomly assigned to sections.
 - Timing: The presentation time is exclusive to the allotted times. Once the set-up time has been reached, the presentation time automatically begins. The presentation time shall not exceed the stated time, meaning that the set-up and Q&A time cannot be used as presentation time.
 - Technology
 - Competitors present directly from a device which includes a laptop, tablet, mobile phone, or external monitor (approximately the size of a laptop screen). Competitors can present with one or two devices. If presenting with two devices, one device must face the judges and one device must face the competitors.
 - Projectors and projector screens are not allowed for use, and competitors are not allowed to bring their own.
 - Wireless slide advancers (such as a presentation clicker or mouse) are allowed.
 - External speakers are not allowed. Only device audio can be used.
 - Power is not available.
 - Non-technology Items: Materials, notecards, visual aids, and samples related to the project may be used during the presentation; however, no items may be left with the judges or audience.
 - Restricted Items: Animals (except authorized service animals), Food (for display only; may not be consumed by judges during the presentation), Links and QR codes (for display only; cannot be clicked or scanned by judges before, during, or after the presentation)
 - Research: Facts and data must be cited and secured from quality sources.
 - Competitors identify a career of interest and conduct research for the presentation. The presentation must include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - Career interest survey

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- General description of selected career
 - Education, certifications and training needed (*include plans for high school courses to take*)
 - Career outlook and advancement opportunities
 - Average starting salary and benefits
 - A description of a “typical” day in the life of a person in that career
- Final Presentation
 - The above presentation guidelines will be in effect for the final presentation.
 - An equal number of top scoring competitors from each section in the preliminary round will advance to the final round. When there are more than five sections of preliminary presentations for an event, two competitors from each section will advance to the final round.

Scoring

- The preliminary presentation score will determine the finalists.
- The final presentation score will determine the winners.
- Judges must break ties.
- The decision of the judges is considered final. All announced results are final upon the conclusion of the National Leadership Conference.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

- FBLA meets the criteria specified in the Americans with Disabilities Act for all competitors with accommodations submitted through the conference registration system by the registration deadline.

Recording of Presentations

- No unauthorized audio or video recording devices will be allowed in any competitive event.
- Competitors in the events should be aware FBLA reserves the right to record any presentation for use in study or training materials.

Penalty Points

- Competitors may be disqualified if they violate the Code of Conduct or the Honor Code.
- Five points are deducted if competitors do not follow the Dress Code or are late to their assigned presentation time.

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Career Research Presentation Rating Sheet

Expectation Item	Not Demonstrated	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Career Research: Career Interest Survey	<i>Career interest survey not included</i>	<i>Career interest survey taken identified, but no results shared</i>	<i>Career interest survey identified and explains career choice from results</i>	<i>Career interest survey identified, explains career choice from results, and correlates personal interest to this career</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Career Research: Career Description	<i>Career description not included</i>	<i>Career description included, but is vague</i>	<i>Career description is included</i>	<i>Detailed career description included</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Career Research: Education & Training	<i>Education & training not included</i>	<i>Education for career included but not training</i>	<i>Education & training is included, with suggested high school courses included</i>	<i>Detailed information about education, training, and certifications needed, including high school and post high school</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Career Research: Career Outlook	<i>Career outlook not included</i>	<i>Career outlook included, but source is not listed or explained</i>	<i>Career outlook cites source and explains</i>	<i>Career outlook is cited and explained from different sources</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Career Research: Salary & Benefits	<i>Salary not included</i>	<i>Salary is included but not explained</i>	<i>Salary and benefits are included and explained</i>	<i>Salary and benefits are included and detailed</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Career Research: Typical Day	<i>Typical day not included</i>	<i>Typical day included, but is vague</i>	<i>Typical day is included</i>	<i>Detailed typical day included</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Career Research: Other Research	<i>No other research included</i>	<i>Research is included, but doesn't relate to information needed</i>	<i>Research is included, cited, and relates to career area</i>	<i>Additional career information included and detailed</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Quality of presentation design is professional; design elements are appropriate —e.g., color choice, font style, font size	<i>Design lacks professionalism and appropriate design elements</i>	<i>Some elements of professionalism and appropriate design are present</i>	<i>Design quality is professional and appropriate design elements contribute to visual appeal</i>	<i>Design quality is exceptional, a polished appearance, and appropriate design elements enhance visual appeal</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Effectively uses a variety of formatting and visual effects in presentation	<i>Does not effectively use formatting and visual effects causing confusion or distraction</i>	<i>Some visual consistency and relevant effects are present</i>	<i>Visuals and formatting are consistently relevant and enhance the presentation</i>	<i>Visuals and formatting are exceptionally consistent, and significantly elevate the overall presentation</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	

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Expectation Item	Not Demonstrated	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Substantiates and cites sources used while conducting research	Sources are not cited	Sources/References are seldom cited to support statements	Professionally legitimate sources & resources that support statements are generally present	Compelling evidence from professionally legitimate sources & resources is given to support statements	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Statements are well-organized and clearly stated	Competitor(s) did not appear prepared	Competitor(s) were prepared, but flow was not logical	Presentation flowed in logical sequence	Presentation flowed in a logical sequence; statements were well organized	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Demonstrates self-confidence, poise, assertiveness, and good voice projection	Competitor did not demonstrate self-confidence	Competitor demonstrated self-confidence and poise	Competitor demonstrated self-confidence, poise, and good voice projection	Competitor demonstrated self-confidence, poise, good voice projection, and assertiveness	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Demonstrates the ability to effectively answer questions	Unable to answer questions	Does not completely answer questions	Completely answers questions	Interacted with the judges in the process of completely answering questions	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Staff Only: Penalty Points (5 points for dress code penalty and/or 5 points for late arrival penalty)					
Presentation Total (100 points)					
Name(s):					
School:					
Judge Signature:					Date:
Comments:					