

Critical Thinking



FBLA Middle School Competitive Events Guidelines

2022–2023

Case Study Events

Overview

These events consist of a case study. Review specific guidelines for each event.

Eligibility

Each state may submit two entries for these events. Competitors must have paid FBLA national and state dues by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 1 of the current school year.

NLC Registration

Participants must be registered for the NLC and pay the national conference registration fee to participate in competitive events.

Finals

Fifteen finalists, or an equal number from each group in the preliminary round, will advance to the final round.

Critical Thinking

Event Type: I or T

Equipment Setup Time: N/A

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Performance Time: 5 minutes

Warning Time: 4 minutes

Time Up: 5 minutes

Q&A: Yes (3 minutes)

Specific Guidelines

- Individuals/teams will receive a case study related to a challenge or opportunity within their chapter.
- Fifteen minutes will be allowed to prepare, and five minutes will be allowed for the presentation.
- Two (2) 4" x 6" note cards will be provided for each competitor and may be used during the preparation and performance of the case.
- Information may be written on both sides of the note cards.
- Note cards will be collected following the presentation.
- No other reference materials, visual aids, or electronic devices may be brought in or used during the preparation or the performance.
- Individuals/teams should introduce themselves, describe the situation, make their recommendations, and summarize their cases.
- All questions raised in the case must be addressed during the presentation.
- Judges may ask up to three questions following the presentation.

Performance Guidelines

- Presentation of the entry must be conducted by competitors who authored the event.

Penalty Points Deducted by Judges

- Competitors may be disqualified if they violate competitive event guidelines.
- Five points are deducted if competitors do not follow the dress code.
- Five points may be deducted for each instance of not following guidelines.

MIDDLE SCHOOL - CRITICAL THINKING

Rating Sheet

☐ Preliminary Round

☐ Final Round

Evaluation Item	Not Demonstrated	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Content					
Problem is understood and well-defined	0	1-7	8-14	15-20	
Alternatives are recognized with pros and cons stated and evaluated	0	1-7	8-14	15-20	
Logical solution is selected with positive and negative aspects of its implementation given	0	1-7	8-14	15-20	
Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of critical thinking concepts in relation to the topic	0	1-3	4-7	8-10	
Presentation					
Statements are well-organized and clearly stated	0	1-3	4-7	8-10	
Used appropriate eye contact, voice projection, gestures, and posture	0	1-3	4-7	8-10	
Effectively answered questions	0	1-3	4-7	8-10	
Subtotal					/100 max.
Penalty Deduct five (5) points for each instance of failure to follow guidelines.					
Dress Code Penalty Deduct five (5) points when dress code is not followed.					
Final Score					/100 max.
Comments					

Name(s): _____

School: _____ State: _____

Judge's Signature: _____ Date: _____

General Performance Event Guidelines

Performance Guidelines

- Fifteen competitors/teams or an equal number from each section in the preliminary round will advance to the final round. When there are more than five sections of preliminary performances for an event, two competitors/teams from each section will advance to the final round.
- In the case of team events, all team members are expected to actively participate in the performance.
- Each competitor must compete in all parts of an event for award eligibility.
- Competitors cannot be replaced or substituted for prejudged events.
- If competitors are late for a competitive event, there are no guarantees they will get to compete. Competitive event schedules cannot be changed. PLEASE NOTE that competitive events start the morning before the opening session of NLC.
- All competitors must comply with the FBLA dress code.
- No animals (except authorized service animals) will be allowed for use in any competitive events.

Technology Guidelines

- Competitors present directly from a laptop/device for applicable events. Screens and projectors are not allowed for use during competition, and competitors are not allowed to bring their own. Power will not be available.
- Competitors can present with and bring any of the following into the performance as long as it fits on the small table in front of the judges' table or is held by the competitors:
 - Laptop
 - Tablet
 - Mobile phone
 - External monitor that is approximately the size of a laptop monitor
- Participants using laptops or other devices that do not have an HDMI port will need to provide their own adapters.
- Internet access will be provided for:
 - Multimedia & Website Development
 - Video Game Challenge
- Internet access may not be Wi-Fi, so competitors should plan appropriately when selecting laptops/devices on which to present.
- Please note that the reliability of technology cannot always be guaranteed. Always have a backup plan.

General Competitive Event Guidelines

The general event guidelines below are applicable to all FBLA Middle School national competitive events. Please review and follow these guidelines when competing at the national level. When competing at the state level, check the state guidelines since they may differ.

All members and advisers are responsible for reading and following competitive event guidelines.

Eligibility

- **Dues:** Competitors must have paid FBLA national and state dues by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 1 of the current school year.
- **NLC Registration:** Participants must be registered for the NLC and pay the national conference registration fee to participate in competitive events.
- **Deadlines:** The state chair, or designee, must register each state competitor on the official online entry forms by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the second Tuesday in May.
- Each state may submit two entries in all events.
- Each competitor can only compete in one event.
- Each competitor must compete in all parts of an event for award eligibility.
- A team shall consist of two or three members.
- All members of a team must consist of individuals from the same chapter.
- If competitors are late for a competitive event, there are no guarantees they will get to compete. Competitive event schedules cannot be changed. PLEASE NOTE that competitive events start in the morning before the opening session of NLC.
- Competitors may be disqualified if they violate competitive event guidelines.

General Competitive Event Guidelines

Repeat Competitors

- 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.
- **Modified Events:** A competitor may compete in the same event when the event is modified, regardless of placement at a National Leadership Conference. Note, if the only modification is a name change, competitors may not compete in the renamed event if they have previously placed in the top ten at the National Leadership Conference.
- **Chapter Events:** Competitors may compete in a chapter event as many times as they wish, regardless of placement at a previous National Leadership Conference (Annual Chapter Activities Presentation, Community Service Presentation).

Breaking Ties

- **Objective Tests:** Ties are broken by comparing the correct number of answers to the last 10 questions on the exam. If a tie remains, the competitor who completed the test in a shorter amount of time will place higher. If this does not break the tie, answers to the last 20 questions will be reviewed and determine the winner.

- **Performances:** Judges must break ties and all judges' decisions are final.

National Deadlines

- State chair/adviser must register all competitors for NLC competitive events online by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the second Tuesday in May.
- All prejudged components must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the second Tuesday in May.
- State chair/adviser may make name changes only (no additional entries) by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the first Tuesday in June. Competitor drops are the only changes allowed after this date and onsite.

National Awards

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

Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)

- FBLA-PBL meets the criteria specified in the Americans with Disabilities Act for all participants who [submit an accommodation form](#).
- The form must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the second Tuesday in May.

General Competitive Event Guidelines

Recording of Presentations

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