

# 2023-24 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

**Equipment Provided by Competitors:** Technology and presentation items

**Equipment Provided by FBLA:** Table

### State

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

### National

#### *Policy and Procedures Manual*

- Competitors should be familiar with the Competitive Events Policy & Procedures Manual, found on the Competitive Events page on [www.fbla.org](http://www.fbla.org).

#### *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 in order to participate in competitive events.
- Members must stay in an official FBLA hotel in order 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 a presentation time, they will be allowed to compete until such time that results are finalized, or the accommodation would impact the fairness and integrity of the event. Competitive events start in the morning before the Opening Session of NLC.

#### *Recognition*

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- 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
  - 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
    - 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
  - 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.
  - Competitors present directly from a laptop/device. Screens and projectors are not allowed for use, and competitors are not allowed to bring their own. Power will not be available.
  - Competitors can present with and bring any of the following technology into the presentation as long as it fits on a small table or is held by the competitors:
    - Laptop
    - Tablet
    - Mobile phone
    - External monitor that is approximately the size of a laptop monitor
  - Materials, 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.
  - When the equipment set-up time has elapsed, the timer will automatically start the presentation time.
  - No animals (except authorized service animals) will be allowed for use in any competitive event.
  - Facts and data must be cited and secured from quality sources.
- Final Presentation
  - The above presentation guidelines will be in effect for the final presentation.
  - An equal number of 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.

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### *Scoring*

- The preliminary presentation score will determine the finalists.
- The final presentation score will determine the winners.
- Judges must break ties. All judges' decisions are final.

### *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 Competitive Event Guidelines or the Honor Code.
- Five points are deducted if competitors do not follow the Dress Code or are late to arrive for their presentation time.

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### Career Research Presentation Rating Sheet

Expectation Item	Not Demonstrated	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned	
<b>Content</b>						
<b>Career Research</b> Career Interest Survey Career Description Education & Training Career Outlook Salary & Benefits Typical Day Other Research	<i>Career interest survey not included</i> 0 points	<i>Career interest survey taken identified, but no results shared</i> 1-6 points	<i>Career interest survey identified, explains career choice from results, and correlates personal interest to this career</i> 7-8 points	<i>Explains personal interest and skills related to career chosen.</i> 9-10 points		
	<i>Career description not included</i> 0 points	<i>Career description included, but is vague</i> 1-2 points	<i>Career description is included</i> 3-4 points	<i>Detailed career description included</i> 5 points		
	<i>Education &amp; training not included</i> 0 points	<i>Education for career included but not training</i> 1-2 points	<i>Education &amp; training is included, with suggested high school courses included</i> 3-4 points	<i>Detailed information about education, training, and certifications needed, including high school and post high school</i> 5 points		
	<i>Career outlook not included</i> 0 points	<i>Career outlook included, but source is not listed or explained</i> 1-2 points	<i>Career outlook cites source and explains</i> 3-4 points	<i>Career outlook is cited and explained from different sources</i> 5 points		
	<i>Salary not included</i> 0 points	<i>Salary is included but not explained</i> 1-2 points	<i>Salary and benefits are included and explained</i> 3-4 points	<i>Salary and benefits are included and detailed</i> 5 points		
	<i>Typical day not included</i> 0 points	<i>Typical day included, but is vague</i> 1-2 points	<i>Typical day is included</i> 3-4 points	<i>Detailed typical day included</i> 5 points		
	<i>No other research included</i> 0 points	<i>Research is included, but doesn't relate to information needed</i> 1-2 points	<i>Research is included, cited, and relates to career area</i> 3-4 points	<i>Additional career information included and detailed</i> 5 points		
	<b>Quality of presentation design is professional; design elements are appropriate — e.g., color choice, font style, font size</b>	<i>Design lacks professionalism and appropriate design elements</i> 0 points	<i>Some elements of professionalism and appropriate design are present</i> 1-6 points	<i>Design quality is professional and appropriate design elements contribute to visual appeal</i> 7-8 points	<i>Design quality is exceptional, a polished appearance, and appropriate design elements enhance visual appeal</i> 9-10 points	
		<b>Effectively uses a variety of formatting and visual effects in presentation</b> 0 points	<i>Does not effectively use formatting and visual effects causing confusion or distraction</i> 1-6 points	<i>Visuals and formatting are consistently relevant and enhance the presentation</i> 7-8 points	<i>Visuals and formatting are exceptionally consistent, and significantly elevate the overall presentation</i> 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	
<b>Presentation Delivery</b>					
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	
<b>Staff Only:</b> Penalty Points (5 points for dress code penalty and/or 5 points for late arrival penalty)					
<b>Presentation Total (100 points)</b>					
Name(s):					
School:					
Judge Signature:					Date:
Comments:					