2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines
Mobile Application Development

Mobile Application Development allows members to design and develop a functional mobile app based on a given topic. Members present their app to a panel of judges, demonstrating creativity, user interface design, and technical problem-solving in a mobile platform environment.

Event Overview

Division	High School
Event Type	Team of 1, 2, or 3 members
Event Category	Presentation
Event Elements	Presentation with a Topic

Educational Alignments

|	
Career Cluster Framework Connection	Digital Technology
NACE Competency Alignment	Career & Self-Development, Communication, Critical Thinking, Leadership, Professionalism, Technology

2025-2026 Topic

Design the Future of Member Engagement
Design and develop a mobile application that could serve as the official FBLA member app, helping students stay connected, informed, and engaged with FBLA, its events, and its broader community.

INCLUDE:
- Member profiles
- Calendar for events and competition reminders
- Access to key FBLA resources and documents
- News feed with announcements and updates
- Integration with chapter social media channels

Note: This competition is for educational purposes only. While students are encouraged to design the app as if it were for real-world use, FBLA will not adopt or implement the winning app as its official member platform.
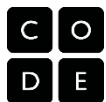
This topic was created in partnership with code.org. Learn more about code.org, resources available, and expanding computer science in your school or district at this link.

District/Region/Section

Check your District's Call to Conference for any district-specific information about presentation events.

State

See below for list of required competition items; Colorado FBLA requires the same items set by National FBLA at our State Leadership Conference. Colorado FBLA will also provide the items listed below, excepting power, a projector, or a screen in the finals round. Presentation events will have a 1-minute

set-up time. Most presentations will happen in a large ballroom, and all competitors will present to the judges in a preliminary round.

National		

Required Competition Items

	Items Competitor Must Provide	Items FBLA Provides
Preliminary Presentation	• Conference-provided nametag • Photo identification • Attire that meets the FBLA Dress Code • Technology and presentation items	• Table • Internet Access
Final Presentation	• Conference-provided nametag • Photo identification • Attire that meets the FBLA Dress Code • Technology and presentation items, including any adapter or cord needed beyond an HDMI connection	• Table • Power • Projector with HDMI cord • Projector screen • Internet Access

Important FBLA Documents
- *Competitors should be familiar with the Competitive Events Policy & Procedures Manual, Honor Code, Code of Conduct, and Dress Code.*

Eligibility Requirements
To participate in FBLA competitive events at the National Leadership Conference (NLC), the following criteria must be met:
- **Membership Deadline**: FBLA national membership dues must be paid to the specific division by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 1 of the current school year.
- **Repeat Competitors**: Members may only compete in an event at the NLC more than once if they have not previously placed in the top 10 of that event at the NLC. If a member places in the top 10 of an event at the NLC, they are no longer eligible to compete in that event at future NLCs, unless the event has been modified beyond a name change. Chapter events are exempt from this procedure.
- **Conference Registration**: Members must be officially registered for the NLC and must pay the national conference registration fee to participate.
- **Official Hotel Requirement**: To be eligible to compete, competitors must stay within the official FBLA housing block.
- **State Entry Limits**: Each state may submit up to four entries per event.
- **Event Participation Limits**: Each member may participate in:
  - One individual or team event, and
  - One chapter event (e.g., *Community Service Project* or *Local Chapter Annual Business Report*).
- **Competitor Responsibility**: Only registered competitors are permitted to plan, research, prepare, and set up their presentations. Advisers and others may not assist.
- **Participation Requirement**: To be eligible for an award, each competitor must complete all components of the event at the National Leadership Conference.
- **Team Composition**: All members of a team must be from the same local chapter.

- **Identification at Check-in**: Competitors must present valid photo identification (physical or digital) that matches the name on their conference name badge. Acceptable forms include a driver's license, passport, state-issued ID, or school ID.
- **Late Arrivals**: Competitors will be allowed to compete until such time that the results are finalized, or participation would impact the fairness and integrity of the event, as determined by Competitive Events staff. If judges have left the competitive event area, it is no longer possible to compete. Five penalty points will be assessed for late arrivals in any competitive event.
- **Event Schedule Notes**:
  - Some events may begin before the Opening Session.
  - All schedules are posted in local time for the NLC host city.
  - Schedule changes are not permitted.

Event Administration
This event consists of two phases: a preliminary presentation and a final presentation.

Preliminary Presentation Details
Timing Structure
- **Equipment Set-Up:** 3 minutes
- **Presentation:** 7 minutes (a one-minute warning will be provided)
- **Question & Answer (Q&A):** 3 minutes
- **Important:** Time allocations are exclusive. The presentation must begin immediately after the 3-minute set-up time concludes. Time may not be shifted between segments. Competitors will not interact with judges during the set-up period.

Venue & Format
- Presentations occur in-person at the National Leadership Conference (NLC).
- Competitors/teams are randomly assigned to presentation sections.
- Presentations will take place in a large, open area with a designated space of approximately 10' x 10', which includes a table and chairs for the judges.
- The preliminary round is closed to conference attendees and audience.

Technology Guidelines
- **Internet Access:** Provided (*Please be aware that internet access at conference venues may be unreliable. Always prepare a backup plan in case the connection is lost or does not work with your device.)*
- Presentations must be delivered using no more than three personal devices (laptop, tablet, mobile phone, or monitor approximately laptop-sized).
- Projectors and projector screens are not permitted, and competitors may not bring their own.
- Wireless slide advancers (e.g., presentation clickers or mice) are allowed.
- External speakers are not allowed; audio must come directly from the presenting device(s).
- Electricity will not be available.

Non-Technology Items
- Visual aids, samples, notes, and other physical materials related to the project may be used.
- Items may be placed on the provided table or on the judges table, if space allows.
- No items may be left with the judges following the presentation.

Restricted Items

- Animals, except for authorized service animals.
- Food, which may be used for display only and may not be consumed by judges.
- Links and QR codes, which may be shown but may not be scanned or clicked by judges at any time.

Research
- Information must be supported by credible, well-documented sources.
- Any use of copyrighted material, images, logos, or trademarks must be properly documented.

Team Expectations
- In team presentations, all members must actively participate in the delivery of the presentation.

Event Specific Information: Presentation should cover the following aspects of the application
- The platform used to develop the application. The following platforms may be used to develop the project: Google's Android, Apple iOS, or Microsoft Windows Phone.
- The solution must run standalone with no programming errors.
- Applications may deploy from a smartphone, tablet, or both, but must be smartphone deployable.
- Applications do not need to be available for download from a digital-distribution multimedia-content service.
- The usability and functionality of the program must be demonstrated to the judges.
- Competitors must show the judges any of the following that are applicable: read me file, source code, documentation of templates/libraries used, documentation of copyright and sources of materials used.
- The presentation should follow the rating sheet and include the following:
  - Design and Code Quality: Explain the design and implementation of the application.
  - User Experience: Map the user journey and explain your UX design rationale. What focus is on the ease-of-use and accessibility of the interface?
  - Application Functionality: Social media integrations

Final Presentation Details

Timing Structure
- **Equipment Set-Up**: 3 minutes
- **Presentation**: 7 minutes (a one-minute warning will be provided)
- **Question & Answer (Q&A)**: 3 minutes
- **Note**: Each time segment is exclusive. Once the 3-minute set-up period ends, the 7-minute presentation time begins automatically. Competitors may not shift time between segments. Competitors will not interact with judges during the set-up period.

Advancement to Finals
- The top-scoring competitors or teams from each preliminary section will advance to the final round in equal numbers.
- The number of competitors or teams advancing to the final round depends on the number of preliminary sections:
  - 2 sections: Top 6 from each section advance
  - 3 sections: Top 4 from each section advance
  - 4 sections: Top 3 from each section advance
  - 5 sections: Top 3 from each section advance

- More than 5 sections: Top 2 from each section advance

Audience & Viewing Rules
- Final presentations may be open to conference attendees, depending on space availability.
- Finalists may not view other presentations in their own event.

Technology Guidelines
- **Internet Access:** Provided (*Please be aware that internet access at conference venues may be unreliable. Always prepare a backup plan in case the connection is lost or does not work with your device.)*
- Presentations must be delivered using no more than three personal devices (laptop, tablet, mobile phone, or monitor approximately laptop-sized).
- If the final round takes place in a conference room, the following equipment will be provided: a projector, projector screen, power access, and a table.
- Competitors using laptops or devices without an HDMI port must bring their own compatible adapters.
- It is the responsibility of final-round competitors to decide whether or not to use the provided technology.
- Wireless slide advancers (e.g., presentation clickers or mice) are allowed.
- Electricity will not be available.

Non-Technology Items
- Visual aids, samples, notes, and other physical materials related to the project may be used.
- Items may be placed on the provided table or on the judges table, if space allows.
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Scoring
- Preliminary round scores are used to determine which competitors or teams advance to the final round from each section.
- Final round scores determine the final rankings and top award winners.
- Judges are responsible for breaking all ties in both preliminary and final rounds.
- All judging decisions are final. Results announced at the National Leadership Conference are considered official and will not be changed after the conclusion of the National Leadership Conference.

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.

Recognition
- A maximum of 10 entries (individuals or teams) may be recognized per event.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- FBLA complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by providing reasonable accommodations for competitors. Accommodation requests must be submitted through the conference registration system by the official registration deadline. All requests will be reviewed, and additional documentation may be required to determine eligibility and appropriate support.

Recording of Presentations
- Unauthorized audio or video recording is strictly prohibited in all competitive events.
- FBLA reserves the right to record presentations for educational, training, or archival purposes. Competitors should be aware that their presentations may be recorded by FBLA-authorized personnel.

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Colorado FBLA

Mobile Application Development Presentation Rating Sheet

Expectation Item	Not Demonstrated	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Design and Code Quality					
Planning Process	*No explanation or description of the planning process*	*Explains the process but does not share tangible planning documents*	*Explains the process and shares tangible planning documents*	*Explains process using industry terminology and displays tangible planning documents*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Appropriate use of classes, modules, and/or components	*No use of classes, modules, or components*	*Use of classes, modules, and/or components*	*Appropriate use of classes, modules, and/or components*	*Expert use of classes, modules, and/or components*	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Appropriate use of mobile app architectural patterns	*No use of architectural patterns*	*Unclear use of architectural patterns*	*Appropriate use of architectural patterns*	*Expert use of architectural patterns*	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Innovation and Creativity	*No innovation or creativity is demonstrated*	*Very little innovation or creativity is demonstrated*	*App is innovative or creative*	*App is innovative and creative*	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
User Experience					
UX Design: User Journey, Design Rationale, Accessibility Features	*No UX design presented*	*Some elements of UX design are presented*	*UX design presented, with details missing*	*UX design presented, with details about the design rationale, user journey, and accessibility features highlighted*	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
User interface is intuitive or clear instructions are provided	*No instructions provided and is not intuitive*	*Instructions provided or app is not intuitive*	*Appropriate & clear instructions are provided*	*App is intuitive and clear instructions are provided*	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Icons/graphical elements are appropriate and consistent	*App does not have a custom icon or graphics*	*App has a basic custom icon and graphics*	*App has an icon that tells something about the app*	*App has an icon that tells something about the app and is integrated into app graphics*	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
User input is validated	*User input isn't validated*	*User input is somewhat validated*	*User input is validated*	*Input validation applied on both syntactical and semantic levels*	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Application Functionality					
Program addresses all parts of the prompt	*Application does not address the topic/problem*	*Application addresses the topic/problem at a minimal level*	*Application fully addresses the topic/problem*	*Application fully addresses the topic/problem, and the correlation is explained in the instructions*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Integrated with social media	*Social media is not incorporated*	*One social media platform is incorporated*	*Two or more social media platforms are incorporated*	*App is integrated to work directly with at least one social media application*	

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Colorado **FBLA**

Expectation Item	Not Demonstrated	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Data Handling and Storage	*No consideration of data handling and storage practices*	*Minimal consideration of data handling and storage practices with basic implementation*	*Adequate data handling and storage practices implemented with attention to data integrity and security*	*Comprehensive and secure data handling and storage practices implemented, ensuring data integrity, accessibility, and protection*	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Documentation and copyright compliance	*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	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Presentation Delivery					
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	
Consistently displays confidence, poised body language, engaging eye contact, and effective voice projection.	*Did not demonstrate any of the listed skills*	*Demonstrated 1-2 of the listed skills (confidence, body language, eye contact, or voice projection)*	*Demonstrated 3 of the listed skills (confidence, body language, eye contact, or voice projection)*	*Demonstrated all skills, enhancing the overall presentation*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Demonstrates the ability to effectively answer questions	*Does not respond to questions or responses are completely off-topic.*	*Provides incomplete or unclear answers that show limited understanding.*	*Responds accurately and clearly to most questions, showing adequate understanding.*	*Responds confidently with clear, accurate, and thoughtful answers that enhance the overall presentation.*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Presentation Protocols					
Adherence to Competitive Events Guidelines	***Competitor(s) Did Not Follow Guidelines***	***Execution Aligned with Guidelines: (All criteria must be met)*** ✓ *Used only allowable technology devices (sizing specs followed; maximum of three)* ✓ *Presentation aligned with the assigned topic* ✓ *Maintained professional boundaries during set-up time (no interaction with judges)* ✓ *Did not leave materials behind after the presentation* ✓ *Links or QR codes were displayed appropriately (not clicked or scanned by judges)* ✓ *Audio was presented without external speakers (preliminary round)* ✓ *Avoided use of food or live animals*			
	0 points	10 points			
Staff Only: Penalty Points (5 points for dress code penalty and/or 5 points for late arrival penalty)					
Presentation Total (110 points)					

Name(s):	
School:	
Judge Signature:	Date:

Comments: