SUMMARY OF CHANGES
CALIFORNIA COMPETITIVE EVENT GUIDELINES – 2023-2024 EDITION   UPDATED OCTOBER 2023

NEW and RETIRED EVENTS from NATIONAL FBLA

- ❑ **Financial Statement Analysis**, **Future Business Educator**, **Introduction to Programming**, **Visual Design**, **Website Coding & Development** are all presentation events starting at the State Leadership Conference. Each event has a pre-judged submission with a live, final presentation for the top-8 teams.
- ❑ **Business Financial Plan**, **E-Business** and **Publication Design** were retired.

MODIFIED EVENTS from NATIONAL FBLA

- ❑ Political Science has been renamed to **Public Policy & Advocacy**. Because this is only a name change, a competitor who placed in the top 10 in Political Science at a previous National Leadership Conference (NLC) **cannot** compete in Public Policy & Advocacy.

PROCEDURAL CHANGES from NATIONAL FBLA

- ❑ Advisers and competitors can now see section (if applicable), state and national guidelines for each event in this document.
- ❑ **100-question objective test time** was adjusted to **50 minutes**.
- ❑ **50-question objective test time** was adjusted to **30 minutes**.
- ❑ **Future Business Leader** and **Job Interview** competitors should now collect their resume and cover letter at the end of their interview and **not** leave it with the judges.
- ❑ **Presentation set-up time** was adjusted to **3 minutes**.
- ❑ **FBLA Mission & Pledge (Middle School) time limit** was adjusted to **3 minutes**.
- ❑ **Impromptu Speaking** and **Introduction to Public Speaking time limits** were adjusted to **5 minutes**.
- ❑ **Public Service Announcement time limit** was adjusted to **7 minutes**.
- ❑ **The new objective test tie breaker will be**
  - ❑ Performance on a pre-selected list of 10 questions
  - ❑ Performance on a pre-selected list of 20 questions
  - ❑ Time
- ❑ **The top four (4) places in Middle School competitions** will now represent California at the National Leadership Conference.

CALIFORNIA FBLA-SPECIFIC CHANGES

- ❑ **Human Resource Management** will now start at the Section Leadership Conference.
- ❑ **Parliamentary Procedure** will now start at the State Leadership Conference.
- ❑ **Production tests** (Computer Applications, Database Design & Applications, Spreadsheet Applications and Word Processing) now require competitors to **place in the top 5 and have a final score of at least 30 to advance to the State Leadership Conference.**
- ❑ **Competitors who do not follow the FBLA Dress Code may receive a five (5) point penalty.** If multiple team members are not in dress code, each team member will receive a five (5) point penalty.

INTRODUCTION

When reviewing guidelines for each event, the "Section," "State" and "California FBLA guidelines" sections collectively represent the California guidelines.

Please refer to the "National" guidelines only if you are competing at the National Leadership Conference.

If you have questions or feedback on the competitive events program, please send an email to your Section Director and/or Competitive Events Coordinator Manuel Rapada at mrapada@cafbla.org.

FBLA MISSION

FBLA's mission is to inspire and prepare students to become community-minded business leaders in a global society through relevant career preparation and leadership experiences.

FBLA GOALS

- ❑ Develop competent, aggressive business leadership.
- ❑ Strengthen the confidence of students in themselves and their work.
- ❑ Create more interest in and understanding of American business enterprise.
- ❑ Encourage members in the development of individual projects that contribute to the improvement of home, business and community.
- ❑ Develop character, prepare for useful citizenship and foster patriotism.
- ❑ Encourage and practice efficient money management.
- ❑ Encourage scholarship and promote school loyalty.
- ❑ Assist students in the establishment of occupational goals.
- ❑ Facilitate the transition from school to work.

ELIGIBILITY

- ❑ **Affiliation:** All participants who enter a competitive event must be part of an affiliated chapter by **their section's conference registration deadline** (for section competition) and **11:59 p.m. Eastern March 1, 2024** (for state and national competition).
- ❑ **Section/State Conference Registration:** Participants must be registered for the section or state conference and pay the conference registration fee to participate in competitive events. Only members who are part of affiliated chapters are eligible for conference registration.
- ❑ **Pre-judged and Production Event Deadlines:** Competitors in pre-judged and/or production events must 1) be a member of an affiliated chapter and registered for the conference and 2) meet the deadline for the pre-judged project and/or production event submission for their work to be sent to judges. Refer to the section and state conference guides for procedures on submitting pre-judged work.
- ❑ **Award Eligibility:** Each competitor must compete in all parts of an event for award eligibility.
- ❑ **Team Makeup:** A team shall consist of one (1), two (2) or three (3) members. Exception: Parliamentary Procedure must be a team of four (4) or five (5) members.
- ❑ **Accounting I:** Participants must not have had more than two (2) semesters or one (1) semester equivalent to a full year in block scheduling in high school accounting instruction.
- ❑ **Transcripts:** In Accounting I, all "introduction" and all middle school events, competitors must submit a PDF copy of the transcript when registering for the section or state leadership conferences. The section and state conference guides will have instructions on how to submit transcripts.

REPEAT COMPETITORS

A competitor may compete in the same event if they have **not** placed in the top 10 at a previous National Leadership Conference (NLC). Exceptions are as follows:

- ❑ **Modified Events:** An individual may compete in the same event when the event is modified. However, if the modification is only a name change, then the member cannot compete in the renamed event.
- ❑ **Chapter Events:** Competitors may compete in a chapter event more than once (American Enterprise Project, Community Service Project, Local Chapter Annual Business Report and Partnership with Business Project).
- ❑ **Pilot Events:** Participation in a pilot event at NLC does not disqualify a member from competing in the same event if it becomes an official competitive event.

Creed: A participant who has placed first at the State Leadership Conference may not compete again.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- **Number of Events:** At section and state conferences, a member may enter in only two (2) active (individual or team) events and one (1) chapter event. Creed does not count as an active event.
- **Photo ID:** Competitors must show an original, official photo ID: School-issued ID or government ID (valid driver's license, DMV ID card, passport, permanent resident card, etc.). A digital school-issued ID (including mobile apps) and a printed copy of a school schedule/transcript (with the student's name and picture) will also be accepted. **NO OTHER EXCEPTIONS.**
- **Dress Code:** Competitors who do not follow the FBLA Dress Code may receive a five (5) point penalty. If multiple team members are not in dress code, each team member will receive a five (5) point penalty.
- **Disqualification:** Competitors may be **DISQUALIFIED** if they 1) are late to their event, 2) do not submit prejudged work and/or production test by the deadline, 3) are not following the FBLA National Dress Code when competing, 4) do not provide photo ID prior to competing or 5) do not follow the competitive event guidelines.
- **Name Badge:** The conference name badge is part of the FBLA Dress Code. Competitors must wear their official conference name badge at the start of the event, or they may receive a five (5) point penalty. NO EXCEPTIONS. Badges may be taken off while presenting. Lost badges can be replaced at Conference Headquarters with a photo ID. A fee will be charged as stated in the conference program.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):** Members with disabilities add an important dimension to the organization. They serve as models within the profession and to the members, as well as provide guidance concerning program needs, sensitivity and accessibility. Advisers can specify special needs by attendee during conference registration.
- **Audiences for Performances:** Unauthorized audio, photo and video recording of performances is prohibited. All electronic devices, including cell phones, must be turned off and put away. Each audience member must follow the FBLA Dress Code and have a name badge. Audience members are not permitted to interact with judges.
- **Additional Materials:** Textbooks, other resource materials and electronic devices may not be used during competitive events, unless allowed in the event guidelines. When event guidelines specify materials or equipment that may be used, **only those materials or that equipment may be used**. If an item is not listed, assume it is not allowed.
- **Awards:** The maximum number of winners for each competitive event is ten (10). Only one (1) award is given to schools competing in chapter events (America Enterprise Project, Community Service Project, Local Chapter AnnualBusiness Report and Partnership with Business Project).

BREAKING TIES

- **Objective Tests:** Ties are automatically broken using the online testing system. The system first compares the number of correct answers on a pre-selected list of 10 questions on the exam. If a tie remains, then the system will review answers to a pre-selected list of 20 questions to determine the winner. If this does not break the tie, then the competitor who completed the test in a shorter amount of time will place higher.
- **Production Tests:** The production test score will be used to break a tie.
- **Future Business Leader + All Case Study Events:** The objective test score will be used to break a tie.
- **Digital Animation, Business Financial Plan, Business Plan, Digital Video Production and All Chapter Projects:** The report/project score will be used to break a tie.
- **All Other Performances:** Judges must break ties, and the judges' decisions are final.

SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions are only allowed for specific team and/or chapter events when advancing to the next round of competition (either section to state or state to nationals). Substitutions must be made before the conference registration deadline. If a member cannot compete in the next round of competition, then you may make a substitution for a team/chapter event under the following guidelines:

❑ <u>Individual/Team Events:</u> If competing as a team in an event, you may substitute one (1) member of a team originally composed of 2 or 3 members. If competing as an individual, no substitutions are allowed and their spot is forfeited to the next eligible competitor.

❑ <u>Individual Events:</u> Substitutions are not allowed for individual events. If an individual cannot participate in the next level of competition, their spot is forfeited to the next eligible competitor.

❑ <u>Parliamentary Procedure:</u> You may make substitutions as long as two (2) members of a team of four (4) or three (3) members from a team of five (5) remain on the team that advance to the next level of competition. Maximum number of substitutions allowed is two (2).

❑ <u>Chapter Events:</u> Substitutions are allowed for chapter events if the chapter participates in the next level of competition (state to national).