



Ohio

FBLA

HIGH SCHOOL

2025-26

**OHIO FBLA COMPETITIVE
EVENTS GUIDE**

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OHIO FBLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LAST REVISED
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Ohio FBLA Competitive Events Guide

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Major Changes for 2025-26 are highlighted in YELLOW.

Ohio FBLA Competitive Events Guide: This document developed by the State Office contains all the information regarding our state awards program and competitive event regulations. This includes descriptions of every event offered (including national and state events as well as national and state recognition events).

UPDATED RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS & ADVISERS

- **New!** Updated Ohio FBLA [Competitive Events website](#)
- **New!** Ohio FBLA [All-In-One Resource Guide](#), with links to Event Guidelines
 - For a PDF copy, click [HERE](#)
- **New!** 2025-26 Ohio FBLA [Significant Changes to Competitive Events](#) document
- [National FBLA Competitive Events Page](#), includes guidelines and other documents
- National [Competitive Events TOPICS](#), for use with many presentation events

DEADLINE FOR PRE-JUDGED MATERIAL SUBMISSION:

Friday, February 6, 2026

GOVERNING AUTHORITY

Ohio FBLA Board of Directors

The Ohio FBLA Board of Directors delegates all appropriate and relevant authority for the fair and deliberate execution of our state awards program to the Competitive Events Committee. The Board shall approve (or disapprove) all policy and procedure recommendations made by the Competitive Events Committee before they shall become binding but shall not intervene in the fair and deliberate execution of the state awards program unless otherwise stipulated in this document.

Competitive Events Committee

The articles of this document and policies described therein shall be overseen and carried out by the Ohio Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Competitive Events Committee (CEC) consisting of the Competitive Events Director, as chair, one business/community representative, and one local chapter adviser. The following parties shall be ex-officio, non-voting members of the CEC: the Ohio FBLA State Chair and the FBLA State Adviser. The State Adviser shall serve as an ex officio member of the committee representative of the Ohio chapters at large. The Ohio FBLA Board of Directors Chair/State Chair shall be responsible for appointing all members of the CEC. The Chair may invite other members of the Ohio Operations Team, Board of Directors, or Conference Staff (volunteer or otherwise) to provide testimony/reports to the CEC as necessary for the conduct of its business.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Ohio Future Business Leaders of American Competitive Events Guide is to ensure a fair, equitable, and enjoyable competitive events experience for all members of Ohio FBLA and to prevent any unfair advantage or undue harm to any competitor.

EVENT CLASSIFICATIONS

1. INDIVIDUAL OBJECTIVE TESTS

Individual Objective Tests require competitors to complete an online multiple-choice test. Core knowledge areas and objectives of each test can be found by reviewing the specific event guidelines. Each test is 100 questions, and the competitor has 50 minutes for each test. **Students may compete in no more than three (3) Individual Objective tests or Production events. New in 2025-26: All Objective Tests will take place at the 2026 State Leadership Conference. No more remote testing is allowed.** All competitors must provide their own computer/laptop at the State Leadership Conference for testing. Internet access will be provided. **Cell phones are prohibited as a means for taking the test.** For the competitive year 2025-26, the following individual objective tests are offered:

- Accounting (*previously Accounting I*)
- Advanced Accounting (*previously Accounting II*)
- Advertising
- Agribusiness
- Business Communication
- Business Law
- Computer Problem Solving
- Cybersecurity
- Data Science & AI (**New!**)
- Economics
- Healthcare Administration
- Human Resource Management
- Insurance & Risk Management
- Introduction to Business Communication (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Business Concepts (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Business Procedures (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to FBLA (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Information Technology (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Marketing Concepts (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Programming (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Retail & Merchandising (**New!**) (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Supply Chain Management (**New!**) (9th/10th grade)
- Journalism
- Networking Infrastructures
- Organizational Leadership
- Personal Finance
- Project Management (**New!**)
- Public Administration & Management (**New!**)
- Real Estate (**New!**)
- Retail Management (**New!**)
- Securities & Investments

2. PRODUCTION EVENTS

Production Events require competitors to create several documents, products, or resources for evaluation based on specific test instructions. **New in 2025-26: The objective test component has been removed for Production Events.** The *Production Test* is a 2-hour block of time and will occur on-site at a specific time during the State Leadership Conference, and will be scored on-site by judge(s). **Competitors must provide their own computer and any peripheral device(s) they wish to use.** For the competitive year 2025-26, the following Production Events are offered:

- Computer Applications







3. ROLE PLAY EVENTS

Role Play Events require competitors to interact with an individual or panel of judges during the SLC based on a scenario provided on-site by Ohio FBLA. These events will require competitors to check in at the competitive events desk to be eligible to compete. Competitors will be sequestered and given the topic or scenario for their presentation shortly before presenting. **Role Play events have TWO components: (1) An objective test which must be taken during the conference, and (2) The presentation/interaction portion in which the competitor(s) must check-in and be sequestered to receive their topic or scenario.** If a team of more than one is competing, all members of that team must take the objective test *individually* and **at the same time**; the scores are averaged, resulting in the team score for the objective test portion. For the competitive year 2025-26, the following Role Play events are offered:

- Banking and Financial Systems
- Business Management
- Customer Service
- Entrepreneurship
- Hospitality & Event Management
- International Business
- Management Information Systems
- Marketing
- Network Design
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Sports & Entertainment Management
- Technology Support & Services *(previously Help Desk)*

4. PRESENTATION EVENTS


Presentations Events require competitors to give a presentation of a project, speech, or interview to an individual or panel of judges during the SLC. These events will require competitors to check in at the competitive events desk to be eligible to compete. Competitors may be allowed to use technology, equipment, and/or visual aids as part of the presentation. **These events may also require pre-judged components (reports, resumes, etc.) to be submitted in advance or objective test requirements.** For the competitive year 2025-26, the following events are live: *** Asterisk indicates that pre-judged items must be submitted by January 30, 2026.**

- Broadcast Journalism
- Business Ethics *(+ requires objective test, taken individually at the same time)*
- Business Plan 
- Career Portfolio *(previously Electronic Career Portfolio)*
- Coding & Programming
- Computer Game & Simulation Programming
- Data Analysis
- Digital Animation 
- Digital Video Production 
- Financial Planning **(New!)**
- Financial Statement Analysis
- Future Business Educator 
- Future Business Leader  *(also requires objective test)*
- Graphic Design
- Impromptu Speaking
- Introduction to Business Presentation (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Programming (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Public Speaking (9th/10th grade)
- Introduction to Social Media Strategy (9th/10th grade)
- Job Interview 
- Mobile Application Development
- Public Service Announcement
- Public Speaking
- Sales Presentation
- Social Media Strategies
- Supply Chain Management **(New!)**
- Visual Design
- Website Coding & Development
- Website Design

5. CHAPTER EVENTS

For Chapter Events, the local FBLA chapter is registered to compete in the event instead of an individual member or team. **These events usually require a pre-judged report to be submitted in advance, and a presentation to be judged on-site at the SLC.** Although the Chapter is the one competing, the events require that the chapter designate the presenting individual or team at the SLC to prevent scheduling conflicts. If such a conflict is unavoidable, the Chapter may substitute the presenter on-site with permission from the Competitive Events Director. Further, if the Chapter progresses beyond the SLC and wishes to compete at the NLC, they need not maintain the same presenter(s) as the SLC. For the competitive year 2025-26, the following Chapter Events are offered:

*** Asterisk indicates that pre-judged items must be submitted by January 30, 2026.**

- American Enterprise Project  (State Event Only)
- Battle of the Chapters
- Community Service Project 
- Local Chapter Annual Business Report 
- Partnership with Business Project  (State Event Only)

6. RECOGNITION EVENTS

For Recognition Events an individual student or chapter competes for special recognition such as a scholarship or title. These events may follow prejudged or live formats. For the competitive year 2025-26, the following Recognition Events are offered:

*** Asterisk indicates that pre-judged items must be submitted by January 30, 2026.**

- Adviser of the Year 
- Best Campaign Display
- Businessperson of the Year 
- Darlene Allen Scholarship 
- Eleanor Gallagher Award
- Gold Seal Award & Chapter of the Year
- Talent Show
- Who's Who

GENERAL REGULATIONS

All Ohio FBLA state-level competitive events shall be held annually at the SLC unless otherwise recommended by the CEC and approved by the Board of Directors. The completion of competitive events during the SLC shall be overseen by the Competitive Events Committee. Completion of competitive events during the SLC shall be done in accordance with all National FBLA regulations unless otherwise modified herein.

ELIGIBILITY

Section 1 General Eligibility

To be eligible for competition, a competitor must:

- 1) Be a member in good standing with the Local, State, and National chapters of FBLA.
- 2) Have properly registered for the event(s) in which they wish to compete.
- 3) Have not placed in the Top 10 in the event(s) they wish to compete in during a prior SLC.
- 4) Have not placed in the Top 10 in the event(s) they wish to compete in during a prior SLC, where the name of the event has administratively changed. *(Example: Prior Top 10 finishers in Accounting II are ineligible for the newly re-named event Advanced Accounting).*
- 5) Support and uphold the policies and guidelines of Ohio FBLA in their actions throughout the competition (and, if on-site, throughout the conference).

Eligibility shall be assessed annually for all events and conferences.

Section 2 Registration Restrictions

- 1) Any single competitor may register for **up to three (3)** Individual Objective Test or Production Events **and** one (1) Presentation or Role Play Event. Chapter Events are excluded from this restriction.
- 2) Any single competitor may register for as many Recognition Events as they are eligible for in a given year.
- 3) An individual chapter may register no more than four (4) individuals or teams for any given individual or team event.
- 4) An individual chapter may register only one (1) individual or team for any given Chapter or Recognition Event.

COMPETITIVE EVENT REGULATIONS

Section 1 Pre-Judged Submission of Materials & Assets

Pre-judged portions of certain events will require competitors to complete one or more tasks prior to the SLC. These tasks may include reports, creative projects, resumes, or other documents. All pre-judged event tasks must be completed by the yearly due date set by the CEC. Failure to submit tasks in accordance with these regulations is grounds for disqualification. All submissions of pre-judged materials must be uploaded into the Blue Panda system prior to the deadline.

The deadlines for the 2025-26 pre-judged tasks are as follows:

- Written pre-judged materials (e.g. reports and Nominations) – **Friday, February 6th, 2026.**
- Many events have a Pre-Judged component. Please double-check the guidelines for each event.

Section 2 Live Events

Live Events will require competitors to make an in-person presentation to a judge(s) during the conference. All competitors in a live event must check in at the competitive events desk. Individual/Team check-in times will be provided to advisers before SLC as well as made available at the competitive events desk and conference registration desk. All competitors must check in within five (5) minutes before their published check-in time. **Failure to properly check in is grounds for disqualification.** If a live event also requires the completion of a pre-judged task (submission of materials); those tasks shall be governed by the pre-judged event regulations.

Sequestration

Immediately following their check-in, competitors in Role Play Events will be sequestered from the general population of the conference until their competition time where they will be provided with their prompt (and, if applicable, note cards, flip charts, etc.). During sequestration, competitors may **not** have electronic devices of any kind or writing materials such as pens, pencils, and paper. These items must be left in the care of the competitor's respective chapter. For events that require laptops or other presentation equipment, this equipment must not be used while in the holding area. While sequestered a competitor may not communicate with any individuals outside the sequester room. Failure to comply with the rules of sequestration is grounds for disqualification.

The conference does not provide any laptops, projectors, screens, power cords, etc. If competitor is to use any of these devices for a presentation, they must be brought to the conference and set-up/torn down during the performance time.

Section 3 Production Events

Production events *will take place at the conference during allocated times.* Competitors will be responsible for bringing their own computer, power supply/extension cord, peripheral devices (mouse, keyboard) and any USB storage device.

Section 4 Chapter Events

Chapter events shall be governed by individual regulations specified on their individual events regulations.

Section 5 Team Events

If an event allows team entries a chapter may submit a team of no more than three (3) competitors. Team members may not be substituted after registration is complete. **If an objective test is required, ALL participants must take it individually (not as a team), must test at the same time, and may not collaborate during the objective test. The team score is averaged among the individual scores. Teams not adhering to these guidelines are subject to disqualification or having a “zero” score on the objective component.**

Section 6 Recognition Events

Recognition events shall follow the regulations set forth for pre-judged and live events where applicable. The decision of which regulations shall govern such events is at the discretion of the CEC. Recognition events shall be noted as *recognition live* or *recognition pre-judged* to specify under what regulations they shall be judged.

Section 7 Objective Testing

All events that require an objective test will be done on-site at the 2026 State Leadership Conference. The following guidelines must be followed during testing:

- Competitors must provide their own laptop/computer, cables, power source (if needed).
- Ohio FBLA will ensure competitors have internet access for testing purposes.
- Cell phones are unauthorized during the testing – they may not be used in any way. Competitors seen using a cell phone during testing will be disqualified.
- If a Team Event requires an objective test, all competitors must take it individually (not as a team), and must test **at the same time**, and may not collaborate during the objective test. The team score is averaged among the individual scores.
- **Online objective tests are monitored for browser behaviors. Once an objective test has started, no other tab, browser, application or notification may be opened. The testing software must always be active. The testing software will recognize any deviation away from the test; and will stop the test and score the test at the time of the infraction.**

Section 8 Breaking Ties

Ohio FBLA shall use the tie breaking rules set forth in the National Competitive Events Program which are as follows:

- **Individual Objective Test Events:** 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.
- **Production Events:** The highest number of jobs submitted for judging will break a tie; then fastest time.
- **Performance & Role Play Events and Objective Tests:** The objective test score will be used to break a tie based on the tie-breaking criteria of objective tests. This applies to the *Future Business Leader* event, which has performance, objective & pre-judged items – ties will be determined by objective testing scores.
- **Performance & Role Play Events that require pre-judged material(s) submission:** The pre-judged submission score(s) will be used to break any tie. (Exception: The *Future Business Leader* event, see above).
- **Other Performance & Role Play Events:** In cases where the performance or role play is the only scored component in the event, Judges must break ties and all judges’ decisions are final.

DISQUALIFICATION

Any competitor may be disqualified at the discretion of the Competitive Events Director or State Adviser for failing to follow the policies outlined in this document. Disqualifiable offenses include but are not limited to:

- 1) Failing to comply with the FBLA Code of Conduct.
- 2) Blatant disregard for the FBLA dress code.
- 3) Failing to properly check-in for competitive events.
- 4) Using an unauthorized electronic device during objective testing or sequestration.
- 5) Team event objective tests that are not taken individually or at the same time.
- 6) Communicating with other competitors about the content of event tests or scenarios before the completion of the event or retaining unauthorized content from the sequester room.
- 7) Failing to complete all required portions of a particular event (pre-judged materials, objective tests, and performances). The Competitive Events Director may allow a “zero” score on the missing component(s).

Any competitor who feels that their disqualified status was rendered without merit may appeal the decision to the full Competitive Events Committee. Any petition for appeal must be presented by the chapter adviser to a member of the Competitive Events Committee or State Adviser with appropriate evidence of a wrongfully-rendered decision BEFORE the certification of the SLC Winner’s List (typically one week after the conference). Competitive Events Committee decisions are final and may not be overturned except by unanimous action of the Board of Directors.

RESOURCES & LINKS FOR STUDENTS AND ADVISERS

UPDATED RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS & ADVISERS

- **New!** Updated Ohio FBLA [Competitive Events website](#)
- **New!** Ohio FBLA [All-In-One Resource Guide](#), with links to Event Guidelines
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- National [Competitive Events TOPICS](#), for use with many presentation events

The following pages contain individualized regulations and guidelines for Ohio FBLA Recognition Events

1. ADVISER OF THE YEAR

Recognition Event (State Only)

Overview

In this event, an individual local chapter adviser is recognized for their unique achievements and contributions to Ohio FBLA over the past year. Entries for this event are submitted and judged prior to the SLC. The winner of this event is recognized on stage at the National Leadership Conference as the Local Chapter Adviser of the Year representing Ohio FBLA.

Eligibility

Each local chapter may submit one (1) entry for this event.

Procedure

An online PDF report submission must be received by the CEC by the deadline established for that competitive year. The report is comprised of a nomination letter and application. Reports must follow all guidelines as listed on the State Application guidelines and the report must cover all areas outlined by the rating sheet. Refer to the State Competitive Events Guide for the rating sheet.

Judging

All submissions will be graded prior to the SLC. All judges' decisions are final.

Awards

1st place shall be recognized on stage at the SLC for a total of one (1) award.

RATING SHEETS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Nominee's Activities Rating Sheet (excluding nomination letter)

Activity	Possible Points	Maximum Score	Points Earned
Years as an FBLA Adviser	2 per year	20	
Years on Board of Directors	1 per year	5	
Leader in other business/vocational organizations	1 per year	5	
Adviser to State Officer	1 per officer/year	10	
Attendance at SLC	1 per conference	5	
Attendance at NFLC	2 per conference	10	
Attendance at NLC	3 per conference	15	
Students placing in Top Ten at NLC	1 per event	10	
Recruitment of new chapters	2 per chapter	10	
Adviser to a newly formed chapter	5 per chapter	10	
Total		100	

Nomination Letter Rating Sheet

Evaluation Item	Not Demonstrated	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Significant contributions to local chapter projects and activities	0	Contributed to at least 1 local chapter activity. (7 pts.)	Contributed to at least 4 local chapter activities. (14 pts.)	Contributed to 6 or more local chapter activities. (20 pts.)	
Creation of new business-related programs, either for FBLA or for the school system	0	Creation of at least 1 small program (7 pts.)	Creation of at least one large program and at least 3 small programs (14 pts.)	Creation of two or more large programs and four or more small programs (20 pts.)	
Leadership roles in the community	0	Holds at least 1 community leadership role (3 pts.)	Holds at least 2 community leadership roles (7 pts.)	Holds 4 or more community leadership roles (10 pts.)	
Leadership in other school organizations (non-business-related)	0	Holds at least 1 scholastic leadership role (3 pts.)	Holds at least 2 scholastic leadership roles (7 pts.)	Holds 4 or more scholastic leadership roles (10 pts.)	
Other significant factors that lend themselves to being a role model/mentor to students involved in FBLA	0	Evidence of at least 2 significant factors. (5 pts.)	Evidence of at least 4 significant factors (10 pts.)	Evidence of 6 or more significant factors (15 pts.)	
Nomination Letter Total Points (75 points)					
Nominee's Activities Total Points (100 points)					
Total Points (175 maximum)					

2. BATTLE OF THE CHAPTERS

Chapter Event (State Only)

Overview

In this event, one (1) team from each chapter will compete on stage during a general session of the SLC. The team will be asked a question pertaining to FBLA's history, regulations, and important information.

Eligibility

Each local chapter may submit one (1) team of up to three (3) individuals for this event. The event does not proceed to National competition.

Procedure

During a general session, each chapter will be invited to send one (1) team of up to three (3) individuals to the stage to compete in Battle of the Chapters. The teams will be placed in alphabetical order by school name. Beginning with the beginning of the alphabet in even years and the end of the alphabet in odd years the judge shall begin asking each team questions about FBLA one question at a time. If the team correctly answers the question the judge will move on to the next team. If the team incorrectly answers the question that team shall receive a strike. The judge will then pose the same question to the next team. If three teams in a row fail to answer the question correctly the judge will announce the answer to the failed question and ask the next team a new question. Once a team receives its third strike they are eliminated from the competition.

Once only two teams remain; if one fails to answer a question correctly, regardless of the number of strikes earned, they shall be eliminated provided the other remaining team answers the question correctly. If both teams fail to answer the question neither shall be eliminated, the judge shall announce the answer to the failed question and continue by asking the team who answer incorrectly second a new question.

The final team remaining on stage shall be considered the winner.

Judging

A judge shall be on stage for the duration of the event administering questions and strikes. All judge's decisions are final.

Awards

1st through 10th place shall be awarded on stage at the SLC for a total of ten (10) awards.

3. BUSINESSPERSON OF THE YEAR

Recognition Event (State Only)

Overview

In this event, an individual in the business community is recognized for their unique achievements and contributions to Ohio FBLA over the past year. Entries for this event are submitted and judged prior to the SLC. The winner of this event is recognized on stage at the National Leadership Conference as the Business Person of the Year representing Ohio FBLA.

Eligibility

Each local chapter may submit one (1) entry for this event.

Procedure

An online form must be received by the CEC by the deadline established for that competitive year. The report is comprised of a nomination letter and resume. Nomination letters must follow all guidelines as listed on the State Application guidelines and the letter must cover all areas outlined by the rating sheet. Refer to the State Competitive Events Guide for the rating sheet.

Judging

All submissions will be graded prior to the SLC. All judges' decisions are final.

Awards

1st place shall be awarded on stage at the SLC for a total of one (1) award. Judges' rating sheets shall not be returned to competitors.

RATING SHEET ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Evaluation Item	Not Demonstrated	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Years of commitment as a Professional Member (excludes student and PBL membership) - 2 points per year - maximum 10 points					
Promotion of FBLA through presentations and seminars	(0 pts.)	Participated in at least 1 presentation or seminar. (3 pts.)	Participated in at least 2 presentations or seminars. (7 pts)	Participated in 4 or more presentations or seminars. (10 pts.)	
Involvement in chapter projects and activities	(0 pts.)	Contributed to at least 1 local chapter activity. (3 pts.)	Contributed to at least 2 local chapter activities. (7 pts)	Contributed to 4 or more local chapter activities. (10 pts.)	
Financial assistance to/sponsorship of activities	(0 pts.)	Contributed to at least 1 local chapter activity. (3 pts.)	Contributed to at least 2 local chapter activities. (7 pts)	Contributed to 4 or more local chapter activities. (10 pts.)	
Participation in FBLA activities at the chapter level	(0 pts.)	Participated in at least 1 local chapter activity. (3 pts.)	Participated in at least 2 local chapter activities. (7 pts)	Participated in 4 or more local chapter activities. (10 pts.)	
Participation in FBLA activities at the state/national level	(0 pts.)	Participated in at least 1 state chapter activity. (3 pts.)	Participated in at least 2 state chapter activities. (7 pts)	Participated in 4 or more state chapter activities. (10 pts.)	
Evidence of leadership roles in the community	(0 pts.)	At least 1 community leadership role. (1 pts.)	At least 2 community leadership roles. (3 pts)	4 or more community leadership roles. (5 pts.)	
Evidence of leadership roles through employment	(0 pts.)	At least 1 employment leadership role. (1 pts.)	At least 2 employment leadership roles. (3 pts)	4 or more employment leadership roles. (5 pts.)	
Evidence of significant contributions to youth	(0 pts.)	At least 1 contribution. (1 pts.)	At least 2 contributions. (7 pts)	4 or more contributions. (10 pts.)	
Evidence of significant contributions to community through community service	(0 pts.)	At least 1 contribution. (1 pts.)	At least 2 contributions. (7 pts)	4 or more contributions. (10 pts.)	
Other significant factors that lend themselves to being a role model/mentor to students involved in FBLA	(0 pts.)	At least 1 other factor. (1 pts.)	At least 2 other factors. (7 pts)	4 or more other factors. (10 pts.)	
Total Points (100 maximum)					

4. DARLENE ALLEN SCHOLARSHIP

Pre-Judged Recognition Event (State Only)

Overview

In this event, an individual senior student is recognized for their unique achievements and contributions to Ohio FBLA over their years in FBLA and rewarded with a \$500 scholarship to help them continue to be a leader in college. Entries for this event are submitted and judged prior to the SLC.

Eligibility

Each local chapter may submit an uncapped number of entries for this event. The event does not proceed to National competition.

Procedure

A written PDF report must be received by the CEC by the deadline established for that competitive year. Reports must follow all guidelines as listed on the State Application guidelines and the report must cover all areas outlined by the rating sheet. Refer to the State Competitive Events Guide for the rating sheet.

Judging

All submissions will be graded prior to the SLC. All judges' decisions are final.

Awards

1st place shall be awarded on stage at the SLC for a total of one (1) award. Judges' rating sheets shall not be returned to competitors.

RATING SHEET ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

2025-26 ESSAY PROMPT:

In five (5) pages or less: What life skills has FBLA taught you? How do you feel that FBLA is shaping the future of tomorrow's leaders? What FBLA experiences do you think will have a positive impact on your future career? How have you been active in your chapter? Be sure to consider moments big and small.

Darlene Allen Senior Scholarship Rating Sheet

Evaluation Item	Not Demonstrated	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Resume					
Clear and concise presentation of facts with logical arrangement	Resume lacks one or more sections normally found on a resume and is difficult to navigate. (0 pts.)	Resume lacks one or more sections normally found on a resume or is difficult to navigate. (1 pt.)	Resume has all sections normally found on a resume and is easily navigated by the reader. (2 pts.)	Resume has all sections normally found on a resume, is easily navigated by the reader, and is graphically pleasing to the eye. (3 pts.)	
Correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, and acceptable business style.	10 or more errors. (0 pts.)	Up to 9 errors. (1 pt.)	Up to 5 errors. (2 pts.)	0 errors (3 pts.)	
Evidence of leadership roles in FBLA	Has held no leadership roles (0 pts.)	Has been a local officer for at least 1 year. (1 pt.)	Has been a local officer for at least 2 years or a State officer for at least 1 year. (2 pts.)	Has been a local officer for 3 or more years, a state officer for 2 or more years, or, a national officer for at least 1 year. (3 pts.)	
Evidence of business skills (education, work, or community service)	3 or fewer business courses, jobs or internships, or business-related community service activities (0 pts.)	4 to 5 business courses, jobs or internships, or business-related community service activities (1 pt.)	5 to 9 business courses, jobs or internships, or business-related community service activities (2pts.)	10 or more business courses, jobs or internships, or business-related community service activities (3pts.)	
Evidence of scholarly excellence	GPA less than 3.0 and no honors, ap, or College credit courses (0 pts.)	GPA less than 3.0 or No honors, ap or college courses (2 pts.)	GPA 3.0 and some honors, ap, or college credit courses (4 pts.)	GPA 3.5 or higher, and a majority of courses are honors, ap or college credit plus (6 pts.)	
Essay (typed, 12pt., Times New Roman, double-spaced, black)					
Clear and concise response to the essay topic	The essay does not clearly address the prompt and exceeds set page limits. (0 pts.)	The essay does not clearly address the prompt or exceeds set page limits. (2 pt.)	The essay clearly addresses the prompt and does not exceed set page limits. (4 pts.)	The essay clearly addresses the prompt, does not exceed set page limits, and all included material forwarded the argument or story. (6 pts.)	
Correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, and format.	15 or more errors. (0 pts.)	Up to 14 errors. (2 pt.)	Up to 7 errors. (4 pts.)	0 errors (6 pts.)	
Creativity	15 or more errors. (0 pts.)	Up to 14 errors. (2 pt.)	Up to 7 errors. (4 pts.)	0 errors (6 pts.)	
Content of response	Response did not address all parts of the prompt and did not include realistic positives and negatives. (0 pts.)	Response did not address all parts of the prompt or did not include realistic positives and negatives. (8 pts.)	Response addressed all parts of the prompt and included realistic positives and negatives. (16 pts.)	Response addressed all parts of the prompt, included realistic positives and negatives, and proposed workable solutions for the negatives identified. (24 pts.)	
Total Points (60 maximum)					

5. ELEANOR GALLAGHER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Pre-judged Recognition Event

Overview

The Eleanor Gallagher Achievement Award Recognizes the highest achieving student at SLC each year. The award is given in honor of State Chairperson Emeritus Eleanor Gallagher.

Eligibility

Each participant at the State Leadership Conference is automatically entered in, and eligible for, this award.

Procedure

For all non-chapter events at SLC each participant will be awarded points based on their placement in that event. Each 1st place award will be worth 10 points, 2nd place 9 points, and so on until 10th place which will be worth 1 point. The participant with the most points wins.

Judging

Results will be calculated based on the official results of all other non-chapter competitive events. There is no subjective judging in this event.

Awards

1st through 2nd place shall be awarded on stage at the SLC for a total of two (2) awards.

6. GOLD SEAL AWARD / CHAPTER OF THE YEAR **Updated 2025-26**

Pre-judged Recognition Event

Overview

In this event, a chapter is recognized for its unique achievements and contributions to Ohio FBLA and its local community over the current year. Entries for this event are submitted and judged prior to the SLC. *(Note: NLC Attendance will be based on the 2025 NLC in Anaheim, CA).*

Eligibility

Each local chapter may submit one (1) entry for this event. The top two (2) schools will be recognized at NLC.

Procedure

All Chapters are automatically entered into this event and awarded points based on chapter activities completed since the previous SLC and competitive rankings in events for the current SLC.

Judging

A judge or panel of judges will calculate the final scores on the second day of SLC. All judges' decisions are final.

Awards

All schools that reach the minimum point requirements will be awarded the title of Gold Seal Chapter. The top three (3) schools will receive special recognition at SLC. The Top (4) schools will be recognized at NLC. The top school by score will be recognized as the Ohio FBLA chapter of the year and the Chapter adviser's registration for NLC will be paid for by the State.

More Information About National Programs:

Champion Character (we will utilize the **first three sections** in which deadlines are due prior to our State Conference): https://www.fbla.org/media/2025/08/2025-2026-HS-Champion-Chapter-Poster_18x24.pdf.

BAA – Business Achievement Awards: <https://learn.fbla-pbl.org/baa>. BAA Participation consideration for SLC Gold Seal Chapter must be achieved by January 30, 2026 (state deadline).

RATING SHEET ON FOLLOWING PAGE

GOLD SEAL AWARD RATING SHEET

Activity	Point Structure	Maximum possible points	Minimum points
Champion Chapter participation	Champion Chapter (first three categories -- Summer Starter, Shaping Success, Service Season) score divided by 25	204	25
BAA participation (State Deadline 1/30/26)	1 pt for every student completing level 1 2pts for every level 2 etc.	100	10
SLC attendance (2026 SLC)	1 pt for each current year attendee 2 pts per competitor	200	Pts equivalent to 25% of membership attending.
NFLC attendance (2025 NFLC)	2 pts per attendee	100	Pts equivalent to 5% of membership attending.
NLC attendance (2025 NLC)	2 pts per attendee, 4 pts per competitor	200	Pts equivalent to 10% of membership attending.
Participation in chapter events	10 pts per event for registering and competing in Chapter Events	50 (if enter all 5 chapter events)	0
Nominations for recognition awards	10 pt for submitting a nomination (Adviser of the Year, Businessperson of the Year, Darlene Allen Scholarship, Who's Who)	40 (if enter all 4 recognition events)	0
Submit an Open Event Test to SLC	5 points for each 50-question multiple choice test submitted to the CEC for SLC consideration by Jan. 30	15 (three tests max)	0
Parliamentary Procedure	25 points for competing in the Parliamentary Procedure Team Event at the SLC.	25	0
Current State Officers	5 pts per officer	N/A	0
Current National Officers	15 pts per officer	N/A	0
Total Points		934 + Officer Pts.	

Changes for 2025-26 Highlighted in Yellow

7. WHO'S WHO

Pre-Judged Recognition Event

Overview

In this event, an individual is recognized for their outstanding achievements in Ohio FBLA over the past year. The event consists of a prejudged submission consisting of a nominating letter, resume, and cover letter, and an interview with the Board of Directors.

This event also functions as the State's process for screening National Officer Candidates. Any student wishing to run for national office must compete in this event the year in which they seek the State's endorsement for National Office.

Eligibility

Each local chapter may submit one (1) entry for this event. First place will be recognized at NLC.

Procedure

A written PDF report must be received by the CEC by the deadline established for that competitive year. Reports must follow all guidelines as listed on the State Application guidelines and the report must cover all areas outlined by the rating sheet. Refer to the State Competitive Events Guide for the rating sheet.

During SLC entrants will be interviewed by interested members of the Board of Directors for the "position" of representing the State at NLC.

Judging

Failure to submit any required written material will be grounds for disqualification prior to the interview portion.

For the interview portion, each interviewer shall give interviewees a score from 1 to 10 with 10 being highly suited to represent the state and 1 being unsuited to represent the State. Judges may consider performance in the interview and any pre-submitted materials. All judges' decisions are final.

Awards

1st place shall be awarded on stage at the SLC for a total of one (1) award. Judges' rating sheets shall not be returned to competitors.

RECOMMENDED INCLUSIONS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Who's Who Participation Rating Qualities

It is recommended that nominating letters, resumes, and/or cover letters include the following information:

Years in FBLA

Years as a Chapter, State, or National Officer

Attendances at SLC, NFLC, or NLC

Placing in Top Ten at SLC

Efforts to recruit new members

If the applicant is a member of a newly formed chapter

Evidence of Leadership in FBLA (planning, promoting, organizing, or participating in chapter activities and other events.

Evidence of leadership in school or local community.

Evidence of business experience, skills, or leadership roles.