

Maryland FBLA
Advisor Update #2
Competitive Event Updates for 2018-19
October 11, 2018

Dear Maryland FBLA Advisors:

There are several important competitive event updates for the 2018-19 school year. Please take a few minutes to review the following information:

- [Maryland Competitive Events Guide \(updated October, 2018\)](#)
- [Competitive Events Made Easy summary sheet](#)
- [New and modified events for 2018-19](#)
- [Online testing for objective tests for SLC](#)
- [Open Events at the State Leadership Conference](#)
- [National Only Events](#)
- [Eligibility guidelines for Regional Leadership Conferences and the State Leadership Conference](#)
- [Deadline for submitting prejudged materials and reports](#)
- [Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit –Special chapter rebate program](#)
- [Middle Level Competitive Events Program](#)

Maryland Competitive Events Guide (updated October, 2018)

The updated handbook is attached and is posted on the Maryland FBLA website.

Maryland FBLA Competitive Events Guide

http://www.mdfla.org/uploads/3/1/0/0/31006403/maryland_fbla_competitive_events_guide_2018-10_rev_10-18.pdf

The Maryland Competitive Events Guide should be reviewed in conjunction with the National FBLA Competitive Events Handbook and Rating Sheets, which can be found at the following address:

National FBLA Competitive Event Guidelines and Rating Sheets

<http://www.fbla-pbl.org/fbla/competitive-events/>

Competitive Events Made Easy summary sheet

The “Competitive Events Made Easy” summary sheet of all competitive events offered at Regionals and the State Leadership Conference is included in the appendix of the Maryland Competitive Events Handbook. The summary sheet lists who is eligible to compete and what type of competition is held at Regionals and the SLC. Please review the summary sheet in conjunction with the Maryland Competitive Events Handbook for detailed event guidelines and requirements.

New and modified events for 2018-19

New Events

- [Political Science](#) – new event, objective test

Modified Events

- Digital Video Production—video length reduced to 2 minutes
- FBLA Week—revised guidelines
- Outstanding Chapter/Chapter of the Year—revised guidelines

Procedures

- In events that allow the use of laptops, students may use a laptop or other related device. Projectors are not permitted at the SLC. At the NLC, projectors are provided for the final round of performances only.
- Future Business Leader – At the state level, students may compete in this event in addition to one other event at the regional and state conference. If a student qualifies for nationals in this in addition to the other event they competed in at the SLC, they must compete in Future Business Leader at the NLC and will not be permitted to compete in the other event.

Online testing for objective tests for SLC

The objective test for all events that have an objective test component will be administered online at the home school in advance of the SLC. The online testing window for the SLC is:

- **SLC Online Testing Open:** March 4, 2019
- **SLC Online Testing Closes:** March 22, 2019

For events with an objective test and a performance component, all individuals or teams will take the objective test online at their home school. The top ten individuals or teams (depending on the event) with the highest objective test score will advance to the performance round. The top ten individuals or teams will be announced onsite at the SLC. There is not enough time or resources from when the testing window closes until when the SLC begins for the Competitive Events Committee to summarize the results and release the top ten in each event prior to the SLC.

Open Events at the State Leadership Conference

Six open events will be offered at the 2019 State Leadership Conference. Any student participating in the SLC is eligible to participate in Open Events with no limitations per chapter or per event. The Open Events will be offered in three sessions throughout the conference, with two tests being offered each session. A student may take one test in each session based on space availability.

There is no prequalification for these events and three awards will be issued for each Open Event. Preregistration for Open Events will no longer be required or offered. The events will be offered at select times throughout the conference and will be offered on a first come, first serve basis. Once all seats are filled for each event on site, the event will be closed. Open Events will be administered using Scantrons onsite at the conference.

The open events and tentative testing sessions are:

OPEN EVENT TESTING SCHEDULE (<i>tentative</i>)		
Session 1 Thursday, March 28, 2019 2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Session 2 Friday, March 29, 2019 10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Session 3 Friday, March 29, 2019 1 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forensic Accounting• Political Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Relations• Python Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Retail Management• Supply Chain Management

Complete details can be found in the Maryland FBLA Competitive Events Guide.

National Only Events

Three events are offered by National FBLA that offer qualification for competition at the National Leadership Conference without qualification at the regional or state conferences. These events are administered by National FBLA directly and members compete in these events at their home schools. National FBLA will notify the top winners who are eligible to compete in these events at the National Leadership Conference. Refer to National FBLA's Competitive Event Guidelines for more details for the following events:

- LifeSmarts
- Virtual Business Finance Challenge
- Virtual Business Management Challenge

Individuals and teams may participate in these events and also participate in the Regional and State Competitive Events Program. Registration for these events is handled directly with National FBLA, not Maryland FBLA.

If an individual or team qualifies to compete at the NLC in one of these National-only events, they cannot compete in another individual or team event should they qualify at the SLC for an event in the State Awards Program. For example, if a student qualifies to compete at the NLC in the LifeSmarts event and also comes in 1st place at the SLC in Accounting I (and therefore is eligible to compete in Accounting I at the NLC), the student must choose which of the two events they will actually compete in at the NLC. They cannot compete in more than one event at the NLC.

Eligibility Guidelines for Regional Leadership Conferences and the State Leadership Conference

Regional Leadership Conference

For all online test events that are offered at the Regional Leadership Conference, each chapter may enter up to four individuals/teams in each event.

For all performance only events that are offered at the Regional Leadership Conference, each chapter may enter up to three individuals/teams in each event.

A student may only compete in one event at the regional conference with the exception of Future Business Leader. A student may compete in Future Business Leader and one other event.

State Leadership Conference

A summary of the number of students eligible to compete at the State Leadership is as follows:

- For **objective test only** events, five individuals per region are eligible to compete at the SLC. The objective test will be taken online in advance of the SLC.
- For **events with an objective test and a performance component**, five individuals or teams per region are eligible to compete at the SLC. All or teams will take the objective test online in advance of the SLC. The top ten individuals or teams (depending on the event) with the highest objective test score will advance to the performance round.
- For **events with an objective test and a production test component**, three individuals or teams per region are eligible to compete at the SLC. The objective test will be taken online in advance of the SLC.
- For **performance only events**, (those that don't also have an objective test or pre-judged component), three individuals or teams per region are eligible to compete at the SLC. *This eligibility rule applies to Future Business Leader and Job Interview events even though the resume and cover letter must be submitted in advance for pre-judging.*
- For **pre-judged events and reports that are individual or team events**, each chapter may submit four entries at the SLC.
- For **chapter report events**, each chapter may submit one entry at the SLC.

Deadline for submitting pre-judged materials and reports

The receipt deadline for pre-judged materials and reports is 5 p.m. on February 22, 2019. All required materials and reports for the following events must be RECEIVED by the Competitive Events Committee by 5 p.m. on February 22, 2019:

<u>Pre-judged Events</u>	<u>Pre-judged Reports</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Businessperson of the Year▪ Coding & Programming▪ Computer Game & Simulation Programming▪ Digital Video Production▪ E-Business▪ FBLA-PBL Week▪ Future Business Leader (<i>resume & cover letter</i>)▪ Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit▪ Job Interview (<i>resume & cover letter</i>)▪ Mobile Application Development▪ Outstanding Chapter Award of Merit and Chapter of the Year▪ Website Design▪ Who's Who in Maryland FBLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ American Enterprise Project▪ Business Financial Plan▪ Business Plan▪ Community Service Project▪ Local Chapter Annual Business Report▪ Partnership with Business Project

All events that have pre-judged materials (report, URL, etc.) will be uploaded to the Competitive Events Committee electronically. Links to the entry forms to submit the materials for these events can be found in the Appendix of the Maryland Competitive Events Guide.

Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit – Special chapter rebate program

We are pleased to continue the rebate incentive program for being recognized as a Gold Seal Chapter. The guidelines and entry form are included in the Maryland Competitive Events Guide. This is an important event and the Board of Directors is strongly encouraging all chapters to actively participate.

Conference Rebate Program is back for 2019!-----Every chapter recognized as a Gold Seal Chapter at the 2019 State Leadership Conference is eligible for a \$10 rebate for each individual registered for the conference. To qualify for the rebate, your chapter must meet the requirements of the Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit event and submit the entry form and all other required information by the deadline. See the current *Maryland State Handbook – Competitive Events Guide* (revised October 2018) for the entry form, guidelines, and deadline information. All chapters who are recognized as Gold Seal Chapters at the 2019 SLC will receive a rebate check shortly after the conference. The rebate will be calculated as follows: # of paid attendees x \$10. Attendees include all paid attendees from your chapter (advisors, chaperones, guests, students, etc.).

Middle Level Competitive Events Program

National FBLA has established a new Middle Level Competitive Events Program for the 2018-19 academic year. Maryland FBLA will follow all guidelines and policies as established by the National Office with state regulations as listed in the Competitive Events Handbook. Complete details on the Middle Level Competitive Events Program are listed in the Appendix of the Competitive Events Handbook.