2024-25 Competitive Events Guidelines
Introduction to Public Speaking

Introduction to Public Speaking provides members with the opportunity to develop and present a speech on a topic. This competitive event consists of a presentation component.

Event Overview

Division: High School (9th and 10th grades only)
Event Type: Individual
Event Category: Presentation
Event Elements: Speech
Presentation Time: *5-minute presentation time*
[NACE Connections](#): Career & Self-Development, Communication, Critical Thinking, Professionalism

2024-25 Topic

Develop and deliver a speech based on the following topic:

How volunteerism and community service can shape your future as a leader.

Region

Each chapter may submit one (1) competitor.

State

Each region may submit two (2) competitors for state competition. Preliminary round will take place on Friday; final round will take place on Saturday. An equal number of students from each preliminary group will advance to finals—not to exceed ten (10) finalists.

National

Required Competition Items

Items Competitor Must Provide	Items FBLA Provides
• Conference-provided nametag • Photo identification • Attire that meets the FBLA Dress Code	• N/A

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

Eligibility
- FBLA membership dues are paid by 11:59 pm Eastern Time on March 1 of the current school year or prior to regional competition, whichever comes first.
- Members may compete in an event at the National Leadership Conference (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.
- Members must be registered for the RLC/SLC/NLC and pay the conference registration fee to participate in competitive events.
- Members must stay in an official FBLA hotel block to compete.

- Each chapter may submit one entry; each region may submit two entries; each state may submit four entries.
- Each competitor can only compete in one individual/team event and one chapter event (American Enterprise Project, Community Service Project, Local Chapter Annual Business Report, Partnership with Business Project) at the national level. RLC/SLC competitors may compete in one objective test/one performance event/ and one chapter event.
- Only competitors are allowed to plan, research, and prepare their presentations.
- Each competitor must compete in all parts of an event for award eligibility.
- Picture identification (physical or digital: driver's license, passport, state-issued identification, or school-issued identification) matching the conference nametag is required when checking in for competitive events.
- If competitors are late for their assigned presentation time, they will be allowed to compete with a five-point penalty until such time that results are finalized, or the accommodation would impact the fairness and integrity of the event.
- Some competitive events start in the morning before the Opening Session of NLC. The schedules for competitive events are displayed in the local time of the NLC location. Competitive event schedules cannot be changed.

Recognition
- The number of competitors will determine the number of winners. The maximum number of winners for each competitive event is 10/NLC; 5/SLC; 3/RLC.

Event Administration
- This event has two parts: preliminary presentation and final presentation
- Presentation Information: The Speech
  - **Presentation Time:** 5 minutes (one-minute warning)
  - SLC: An equal number of top scoring competitors from each section in the preliminary round will advance to the final round.
  - The presentation is judged at the RLC/SLC/NLC. Presentations are not open to conference attendees.
  - Competitors are randomly assigned to sections.
  - The speech must be developed around the topic.
  - When delivering the speech, competitors may use notes prepared before the event.
  - No other reference materials such as visual aids, props, handouts or electronic devices may be brought to or used during the event.

Scoring
- The preliminary presentation score will determine the finalists (SLC/NLC only).
- The final presentation score will determine the winners.
- Judges must break ties.
- The decision of the judges is considered final. All announced results are final upon the conclusion of the RLC/SLC/NLC.

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 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/speech time.

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FBLA
Future Business Leaders of America

Introduction to Public Speaking Presentation Rating Sheet					
Expectation Item	**Not Demonstrated**	**Below Expectations**	**Meets Expectations**	**Exceeds Expectations**	**Points Earned**
Topic Incorporates provided topic	*Provided topic is not mentioned in speech*	*Topic is not clearly incorporated into speech*	*Topic was clearly incorporated into speech*	*Topic was clearly incorporated and expanded thoroughly throughout the speech*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Theme Identify and execute a consistent theme	*No theme presented*	*Theme was identified, but not consistent throughout speech*	*Theme identified and consistent throughout speech*	*Personal stories are utilized to expand on the central theme*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Introduction Introduce the topic immediately	*Topic was not introduced*	*Introduction was not clearly presented*	*Introduction was clearly presented, and topic was defined immediately*	*Introduction was clearly presented, and topic was defined immediately with an effective transition into the speech body*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Supporting Information (Body) Include accurate and appropriate supporting information such as research	*Speech did not include supporting information*	*Competitor included one example of supporting information*	*Competitor included two examples of supporting information*	*Competitor included three or more examples of supporting information*	
	0 points	1-9 points	10-16 points	17-20 points	
Conclusion Provide effective conclusion connected to the topic & theme	*Speech did not have a conclusion*	*Conclusion was not clearly presented*	*Effective conclusion was presented*	*Conclusion provides connection to entire presentation*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Speech Delivery Deliver speech with varied facial expressions, eye contact, good posture, voice projection, self-confidence, and poise	*Does not have varied facial expressions and/or poor posture*	*Minimal varied facial expressions and/or poor posture*	*Appropriate varied facial expressions and posture*	*Appropriate varied facial expressions and posture that keeps audience fully engaged*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
	Does not make eye contact	*Minimal eye contact*	*Appropriate eye contact*	*Appropriate eye contact and didn't use notecards*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
	Does not have voice projection	*Minimal voice projection*	*Appropriate voice projection*	*Appropriate voice projection and diction*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
	Competitor did not demonstrate self-confidence	*Competitor demonstrated self-confidence*	*Competitor demonstrated elevated self-confidence and poise*	*Competitor demonstrated elevated self-confidence, poise, and assertiveness*	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Staff Only: Penalty Points (5 points for dress code penalty and/or 5 points for late arrival penalty)					
Presentation Total (100 points)					

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

Comments: