

# 2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines

## Community Service Project (High School)



Community Service Project gives chapter members the opportunity to showcase a service initiative that addresses a need within their school or local community. The project must involve active chapter participation and demonstrate meaningful impact. This event includes a pre-judged asset and a live presentation. Consider submitting your Community Service Project as an activity within the Champion Chapter CTE Celebration.

### Event Overview

<b>Division</b>	High School
<b>Event Type</b>	Team of 1, 2, or 3 members
<b>Event Category</b>	Chapter
<b>Event Elements</b>	Pre-judged Asset and Presentation

### Educational Alignments

<b>Career Cluster Framework Connection</b>	Healthcare & Human Services
<b>NACE Competency Alignment</b>	Career & Self-Development, Critical Thinking, Communication, Leadership, Professionalism, Teamwork

### District

Vermont FBLA does not host district conferences.

### State

Each chapter may submit one team to compete at the State Leadership Conference. See below for a list of required competition items; Vermont FBLA requires the same items set by National FBLA at our State Leadership Conference. Vermont FBLA will also provide the items listed below, except for 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 Armory, and all competitors may present to the judges in a preliminary round.

### National

#### Required Competition Items

	Items Competitor Must Provide	Items FBLA Provides
<b>Preliminary Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conference-provided nametag</li> <li><a href="#">Photo identification</a></li> <li>Attire that meets the <a href="#">FBLA Dress Code</a></li> <li>Technology and presentation items</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Table</li> </ul>
<b>Final Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conference-provided nametag</li> <li><a href="#">Photo identification</a></li> <li>Attire that meets the <a href="#">FBLA Dress Code</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Table</li> <li>Power</li> <li>Projector with HDMI cord</li> <li>Projector screen</li> </ul>

# 2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines

## Community Service Project (High School)



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technology and presentation items, including any adapter or cord needed beyond an HDMI connection</li> </ul>	
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### 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*).
- **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

# 2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines

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This event consists of three phases: a pre-judged asset, preliminary presentation, and a final presentation.

### Pre-judged Asset Details: Report

#### Submission Deadline

- A PDF of the report must be uploaded through the conference registration system by the state-specified deadline.

#### Asset Requirements:

- All content must be original and created specifically for this competition.
- QR codes and links are not allowed in the asset.
- Advisers or others may not assist in preparing the project. It must be created entirely by the competitor(s).
- Assets must be new, original work and may not have been submitted at any previous National Leadership Conference.

#### Judging & Ownership

- Assets will be judged prior to the National Leadership Conference (NLC).
- Pre-judged assets will not be returned. All submitted projects become the property of FBLA and may be published or reproduced for promotional purposes.

#### Research

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

#### Event Specific Information

- **Number of Pages:** The report will be no more than seventeen (17) pages.
- Reports should follow the rating sheet sequence and be formatted to fit on 8 ½" x 11" paper.
- The first page (front cover) should include the name of school, state, name of the project, and school year (2025-2026) on the cover.
- The second page must include a table of contents and each page must be numbered.
- Divider pages and appendices are optional and must be included in the page count.
- Reports must describe chapter activities conducted from the end of the 2025 State Leadership Conference to the end of the 2026 State Leadership Conference.
- Reports must describe one chapter project that serves the community. The project must be in the interest of the community and designed for chapter participation. Include: Description of the project, Chapter member involvement, Degree of impact on the community, Evidence of publicity received, Project evaluation
- *Note:* The report does not need to follow the FBLA Production Test Reference Guide, formerly known as the FBLA Format Guide.

### 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

# 2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines

## Community Service Project (High School)

- **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:** Not provided
- Presentations must be delivered using one or two personal devices (laptop, tablet, mobile phone, or monitor approximately laptop-sized).
- If using two devices, one must face the judges and the other must face the presenters.
- 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

- Pre-judged asset, 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: Competitors should incorporate the following aspects in the presentation

- **Explain Project Development:** Clearly outline the planning process, using a chronological structure and clearly explained strategies.
- **Conduct and Evaluate Research:** Show how research was intentionally planned, carried out, and assessed to guide the project's development.
- **Demonstrate Chapter Involvement:** Show that over 75% of chapter members participated and provide clear, measurable evidence of member engagement and contribution.
- **Show Meaningful Impact:** Demonstrate that the project created a lasting and dynamic change within the school or community, with strong potential to continue or grow.

# 2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines

## Community Service Project (High School)



- **Highlight Promotion and Recognition:** Share how the project was promoted or recognized through multiple channels by the school and/or community.
- **Reflect and Recommend:** Provide an evaluation of the project's outcomes along with thoughtful recommendations for future improvement if the project were to be repeated.

### 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:** Not Provided
- Presentations must be delivered using one or two personal devices (laptop, tablet, mobile phone, or monitor approximately laptop-sized).
- If using two devices, one must face the judges and the other must face the presenters.
- 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

- Pre-judged asset, 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.

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- **Demonstrate Chapter Involvement:** Show that over 75% of chapter members participated and provide clear, measurable evidence of member engagement and contribution.
- **Show Meaningful Impact:** Demonstrate that the project created a lasting and dynamic change within the school or community, with strong potential to continue or grow.
- **Highlight Promotion and Recognition:** Share how the project was promoted or recognized through multiple channels by the school and/or community.
- **Reflect and Recommend:** Provide an evaluation of the project's outcomes along with thoughtful recommendations for future improvement if the project were to be repeated.

### **Scoring**

- The pre-judged asset score will be added to the preliminary presentation round scores to determine which competitors or teams advance to the final round from each section.
- The final presentation score determines the top winners.
- Pre-judged asset score will be used to break a tie.
- 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

# 2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines

## Community Service Project (High School)



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.



# 2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines

## Community Service Project (High School)

### Community Service Project Pre-Judged Asset (Report) Rating Sheet

Expectation Item	Not Demonstrated	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Project has specific goals and provides service to the community and its citizens	<i>Project is not a Community Service Project</i>	<i>Project has specific goals OR provides service to the community and its citizens but not both</i>	<i>Project has specific goals AND provides service to the community and its citizens</i>	<i>Project has quantitatively defined goals and indicates future activities or steps that could be taken to further the work started</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Describe research into school and/or community needs	<i>No evidence of school and/or community research</i>	<i>Research was completed but not clearly outlined</i>	<i>Research clearly completed and clearly outlined</i>	<i>Research was planned, executed, and evaluated</i>	
	0 points	1-8 points	9-12 points	13-15 points	
Describe planning, development, and implementation of project	<i>No evidence of planning, development, or implementation of project</i>	<i>Planning, development, OR implementation explanation is missing</i>	<i>Planning, development, and implementation activities / steps are clearly described</i>	<i>Planning, development, and implementation activities/steps are described and rationale for types of activities is given</i>	
	0 points	1-9 points	10-16 points	17-20 points	
Show evidence of publicity received	<i>No evidence of publicity received</i>	<i>Information about publicity was written in the report but no evidence of publicity is available</i>	<i>Project was recognized within the school and/or community</i>	<i>Project was recognized in more than one way by the school and/or community</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Report benefits to and degree of impact on the school and/or community	<i>School and/or community impact is not addressed</i>	<i>Project was completed and served a purpose</i>	<i>Project created tangible results that benefited the school and/or community</i>	<i>Project impacted the school and/or community to a level that something has dynamically changed, and the project should continue</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Evaluate the project	<i>No evidence of project evaluation is provided</i>	<i>Project was evaluated</i>	<i>Project was evaluated and the evaluation was assessed</i>	<i>Project was evaluated and recommendations for change were given</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
<b>Report Format</b>					
Format and design a business report <small>(Note: does not need to follow Production Test Reference Guide)</small>	<i>Does not format document</i>	<i>Inconsistent formatting, excessive white space, and/or unrelated graphics and/or photos</i>	<i>Consistent formatting throughout the report</i>	<i>Utilizes full bleed, effective use of space, related defined graphics, and consistent formatting</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Include correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling	<i>5 or more grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors</i>	<i>3-4 grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors</i>	<i>No more than 2 grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors</i>	<i>No more than 1 grammar, punctuation, or spelling error</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
<b>Guideline Protocols</b>					
Adherence to Competitive Events Guidelines	<b>Competitor(s) Did Not Follow Guidelines</b>	<b>Execution Aligned with Guidelines:</b> ✓ Report was submitted as PDF ✓ Links or QR codes were not used (unless in citations) ✓ Report was 17 pages or under ✓ Report followed the sequence of the rating sheet & formatted for 8 1/2" x 11" paper ✓ Cover Page with all criteria listed, table of contents included, all pages are numbered ✓ One community service project highlighted			
		0 points	10 points		
<b>Pre-judged Asset Total (100 points)</b>					

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



# 2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines

## Community Service Project (High School)

### Community Service Project Presentation Rating Sheet

Expectation Item	Not Demonstrated	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Describes project development and strategies used to implement project	<i>No evidence of project development or strategies presented</i>	<i>Project development is explained briefly; very limited strategies are utilized</i>	<i>Project development is clearly outlined. More than one strategy is outlined.</i>	<i>Project development is clearly outlined. Strategies are chronological and clearly explained.</i>	
	0 points	1-9 points	10-16 points	17-20 points	
Describes research into school or community needs	<i>No evidence of school and/or community research</i>	<i>Research was completed but not clearly outlined</i>	<i>Research clearly completed and clearly outlined</i>	<i>Research was planned, executed, and evaluated</i>	
	0 points	1-8 points	9-12 points	13-15 points	
Appropriate level of chapter member involvement in project	<i>Chapter involvement is not explained</i>	<i>Participation was limited to 25% of chapter members</i>	<i>The project was clearly a chapter project and participated in by 50% of chapter members</i>	<i>Show what percentage of chapter members participated and provide clear, measurable evidence of member engagement and contribution</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Degree of impact on the community and its citizens	<i>School and/or community impact is not addressed</i>	<i>Project was completed and served a purpose</i>	<i>Project created tangible results that benefitted the school and/or community</i>	<i>Project impacted the school and/or community to a level that something has dynamically changed, and the project should continue</i>	
	0 points	1-9 points	10-16 points	17-20 points	
Evidence of publicity received	<i>No evidence of publicity received</i>	<i>Information about publicity was written in the report but no evidence of publicity is available</i>	<i>Project was promoted/recognized within the school and/or community</i>	<i>Project was promoted/recognized in more than one way by the school and/or community</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Evaluation of project effectiveness	<i>No evidence of project evaluation is provided</i>	<i>Project was evaluated</i>	<i>Project was evaluated and the evaluation was assessed</i>	<i>Project was evaluated and the team has created recommendations for change should the project be repeated</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
<b>Delivery Skills</b>					
Statements are well-organized and clearly stated	<i>Competitor(s) did not appear prepared</i>	<i>Competitor(s) were prepared, but flow was not logical</i>	<i>Presentation flowed in logical sequence</i>	<i>Presentation flowed in a logical sequence; statements were well organized</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Consistently displays confidence, poised body language, engaging eye contact, and effective voice projection.	<i>Did not demonstrate any of the listed skills</i>	<i>Demonstrated 1-2 of the listed skills (confidence, body language, eye contact, or voice projection)</i>	<i>Demonstrated 3 of the listed skills (confidence, body language, eye contact, or voice projection)</i>	<i>Demonstrated all skills, enhancing the overall presentation</i>	
	0 points	1-2 points	3-4 points	5 points	
Demonstrates the ability to effectively answer questions	<i>Does not respond to questions or responses are completely off-topic.</i>	<i>Provides incomplete or unclear answers that show limited understanding.</i>	<i>Responds accurately and clearly to most questions, showing adequate understanding.</i>	<i>Responds confidently with clear, accurate, and thoughtful answers that enhance the overall presentation.</i>	



# 2025-2026 Competitive Events Guidelines

## Community Service Project (High School)

	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
<b>Presentation Protocols</b>					
<b>Adherence to Competitive Events Guidelines</b>	<b>Competitor(s) Did Not Follow Guidelines</b>	<p><b>Execution Aligned with Guidelines: (All criteria must be met)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Used only allowable technology devices (sizing specs followed; maximum of two, with only one facing judges at a time)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Presentation aligned with the assigned topic</li> </ul> </li> <li>✓ Maintained professional boundaries during set-up time (no interaction with judges)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Did not leave materials behind after the presentation</li> </ul> </li> <li>✓ Links or QR codes were displayed appropriately (not clicked or scanned by judges)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Audio was presented without external speakers (preliminary round)                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Avoided use of food or live animals</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
		0 points	10 points		
<b>Staff Only:</b> Penalty Points (5 points for dress code penalty and/or 5 points for late arrival penalty)					
<b>Presentation Total (110 points)</b>					
Name(s):					
School:					
Judge Signature:					Date:
Comments:					