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# FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA

## Pennsylvania State Chapter

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### National Office

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### THE ASSOCIATION

Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) educational association of student members preparing for careers in business or who are just simply interested in learning more about the free enterprise system. The national association has three divisions: FBLA for high school students, PBL for postsecondary students, and a Professional Division for others who would like to affiliate with the association. The FBLA concept was developed in 1937 by Dr. Hamden L. Forkner of Columbia University. In the fall of 1940, official sponsorship of FBLA was accepted by the National Council for Business Education; and on February 3, 1942, the first high school chapter was organized in Johnson City, Tennessee. The Pennsylvania State Chapter of FBLA was founded in 1952. The first high school chapter in Pennsylvania was organized at Blairsville High School in March 1943.

FBLA is endorsed by the following organizations: American Management Association, Association for Career and Technical Education, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Business Education Association, National Management Association, Pennsylvania Department of Education, and U.S. Department of Education.

### PURPOSE

FBLA-PBL provides innovative leadership development programs to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship. Participation in FBLA-PBL can have a direct impact on the direction and success of a young person's career. Millions of students have learned through active membership in FBLA-PBL about the world of business and what is expected of them in the workplace. Organizational goals include:

- \* 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 which contribute to the 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

### MEMBERSHIP

There are over 250,000 active members in over 12,000 chartered chapters in 50 states, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, U.S. Territories, Canada, and Department of Defense Dependent Schools worldwide. In Pennsylvania during the 2015-2016 school year, there were nearly 294 active FBLA chapters organized into 28 different regions with 13,976 members. FBLA membership is open to students in Grades 9-12 while Middle Level membership is open to students in Grades 5-8. Dues are \$12 per member--\$6 state dues and \$6 national dues for students in Grades 9-12. All dues are paid to and processed through the state office.

### CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

**State Leadership Workshop:** a statewide leadership development workshop for local members and advisers that helps prepare them for a successful FBLA year; in 2016, scheduled for November 6-7 at the Harrisburg Hilton Hotel

**Region Leadership Workshop:** a local leadership development workshop sponsored by the local chapters in each of Pennsylvania's 28 regions; usually held in a local high school or college campus during October or November or December

**Region Leadership Conference:** a local activity in which members participate in competitive events to qualify for the State Leadership Conference and to elect region officers for the following school year; held at a local high school or on a participating college/community college/business school campus; usually held in mid December or early to mid January

**State Leadership Conference:** the major event in the PA FBLA year in which qualifying members participate in numerous competitive events, attend leadership development seminars, and campaign for state office; advisers administer the competitive events and participate in professional development sessions; scheduled for April 3-5, 2017, at Hershey Lodge and Convention Center and attended by nearly 4,200 student members and advisers

**National Leadership Conference:** held annually in a major American city in June or July at the conclusion of the year's activities to set the stage for the next school year; qualifying members engage in the competitive events program, participate in leadership development workshops, meet corporate executives, and elect national student officers; in 2017, scheduled for Anaheim, California.

## STRUCTURE

FBLA-PBL is headquartered in Reston, Virginia, and is organized on the local, state, and national levels. Local chapters operate with the guidance of educators as advisers. State chapters are guided by executive directors, state advisers, and Department of Education staff members who report to the national organization. A national Board of Directors, composed of professional educators, business leaders, and division presidents, sets policy and appoints a President/CEO who employs a national staff and directs association programs.

Pennsylvania is governed by its own state Board of Directors that sets policy and appoints an executive director, a conference coordinator, a competitive events coordinator, and a state adviser to conduct the state chapter's activities. The state management team is assisted by the PA Department of Education FBLA Facilitator. PA FBLA members elect nine students state officers annually at the state conference. In addition, PA FBLA is organized into 28 different regions, and each is guided by a region adviser elected from among the advisers in that particular region. The complete PA FBLA Policy/Leadership Handbook is available online to advisers and members at [www.pafbla.org](http://www.pafbla.org).

## COMPETITIVE EVENTS PROGRAM

Students have the opportunity to participate in numerous individual, team, chapter, and recognition events as part of the competitive events program. In most cases, competitive events begin on the region level. Qualifiers then advance to the state conference and possibly to the National Leadership Conference. The competitive events are:

3D Animation	Accounting I	Accounting II
Advertising	Agribusiness	American Enterprise Project
Banking & Financial Systems	Business Calculations	Business Communication
Business Ethics	Business Financial Plan	Business Law
Business Plan	Businessperson of the Year	Business Partnership of the Year
Client Service	Community Service Project	Computer Applications
Coding & Programming	Computer Problem Solving	Cyber Security
Database Design and Applications	Desktop Application Programming	Digital Video Production
E-business	Economics	Electronic Career Portfolio
Emerging Business Issues	Entrepreneurship	FBLA Principles and Procedures*
Future Business Leader	Global Business	Graphic Design
Health Care Administration	Help Desk	Hospitality Management
Impromptu Speaking	Insurance & Risk Management	Introduction to Business*
Introduction to Business Communication*	Introduction to Business Presentation*	Introduction to Business Procedures*
Introduction to Financial Math*	Introduction to Information Technology*	Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure*
Job Interview	Journalism	Largest Local Chapter Membership
Largest % Increase in Chapter Membership	LifeSmarts	Local Chapter Annual Business Report
Local Market Share Award	Management Decision Making	Management Information Systems
Marketing	Microsoft Office Specialist (Excel)	Microsoft Office Specialist (Word)
Mobile Application Development	Network Design	Networking Concepts
Organizational Leadership	Outstanding Adviser	Outstanding Chapter
Parliamentary Procedure	Partnership with Business Project	Personal Finance
Public Service Announcement	Public Speaking I*	Public Speaking II
Publication Design	Sales Presentation	Securities & Investments
Social Media Campaign	Sports & Entertainment Management	Spreadsheet Applications
Virtual Business Management Challenge	Website Design	Who's Who in PA FBLA
Word Processing		<b>*grades 9/10 only</b>

## ADDITIONAL PA FBLA CONTACTS

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**Mr. Derek Selleck**, PA FBLA Competitive Events Coordinator, 623 East Road, Towanda, PA 18848, e-mail: [dselleck@pafbla.us](mailto:dselleck@pafbla.us)

**Mr. Luke Skerpon**, PA FBLA Middle-level Coordinator/Staff Assistant, 14312 Wright Way, Broomfield, CO 80023, e-mail: [lskerpon@pafbla.us](mailto:lskerpon@pafbla.us)

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