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# FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA

## Pennsylvania State Chapter

### Middle Level Program Fact Sheet 2014-2015

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#### National Office

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#### Pennsylvania State 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.

#### 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, and Department of Defense Dependent Schools worldwide. In Pennsylvania during the 2013-2014 school year, there were 300 active FBLA Middle Level members. FBLA membership is open to students in Grades 9-12 while Middle Level membership is open to students in Grades 5-8. All dues are paid to and processed through the state office.

#### CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

Middle Level members are not permitted to attend the State Leadership Workshop, State Leadership Conference, or the National Leadership Conference. All competitive event testing for Middle Level is at RLC or submitted to state office.

**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 late December or early to mid January

## **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, co-competitive events coordinators, state adviser, and a staff assistant/middle level coordinator 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 / RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

Students have the opportunity to participate in numerous individual, team, chapter, and recognition events as part of the Middle Level competitive events program. The competitive events program is operated at the regional level and the state level. Each chapter may submit to the state level up to five qualifiers in each objective or skill test event. In each written event, chapters may submit one report to the state level. The state is eligible to submit two entries in each event to the national level for recognition. The Middle Level Competitive Events are:

### **COMPETITIVE RECOGNITION**

American Enterprise Project	Computer Slide Show Presentation	Keyboarding Applications II
Business Computations (PA Only)	Current Events (PA Only)	Leadership Concepts (PA Only)
Business Concepts (PA Only)	Desktop Publishing Application	Local Chapter Activities Report
Business Spelling (PA Only)	Employability Skills (PA Only)	Parliamentary Procedure
Career Exploration	FBLA Creed/Code of Ethics/Pledge (PA Only)	Concepts (PA Only)
Community Service Project	Internet Concepts (PA Only)	Personal Finance Concepts (PA
Computer Concepts (PA Only)	Introduction to Business Communication	Spreadsheet
	Introduction to Public Speaking (PA Only)	Technology Concepts (PA)
	Keyboarding Applications I	Web Page Creation

### **INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION**

Outstanding Middle Level Adviser Recognition Outstanding Middle Level Member Recognition  
Outstanding Middle Level Supporter Recognition

### **INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT**

Entrepreneur Level (Level I - Middle Level Business Achievement Award Program) Membership Madness  
Business Level (Level II - Middle Level Business Achievement Award Program) Membership Mania  
Enterprise Level (Level III - Middle Level Business Achievement Award Program)

### **CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT**

Middle Level Chapter Excellence Award Local Recruitment of Chapters  
100 Percent Class Participation FBLA-PBL Adviser Wall of Fame  
Membership Achievement FBLA ML Go-Green Project

### **STATE RECOGNITION**

Largest Local Market Share Largest Percentage Increase in Local Chapter Membership  
Largest Local Chapter Membership Local Chapter Participation in ML Individual Achievement Awards

## **ADDITIONAL PA FBLA CONTACTS**

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## **ENDORSEMENTS**

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.