

2026-2027 Competitive Events Guidelines

Public Service Announcement

Public Service Announcement (PSA) gives members the opportunity to create a 60-second video that raises awareness about a specific issue. Members research the topic, define a clear objective, and develop a compelling message. The event includes a presentation component where the PSA is shown to judges and the creative and production process is explained.



Event Overview	
Division	High School
Event Type	Team of 1, 2, or 3 members
Event Category	Presentation
Event Elements	Presentation with a Topic

Event Information:	
<u>National Leadership Conference:</u> Timing Structure: • Equipment Set-Up: 3 minutes - o No interaction allowed with judges during this time. • Presentation: 7 minutes - o A one-minute warning will be provided • Question & Answer (Q&A): 3 minutes 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. Important Notes: • Internet Access: Provided - o Please be aware that internet access at conference venues may be unreliable. Always prepare a backup plan in case the connection is lost or does not work with your device. • Event Schedule Notes: - o Some events may begin before the Opening Session. - o All schedules are posted in local time for the NLC host city. - o Schedule changes are not permitted.	<u>State/Region:</u> Review Region and State Sections further on in this document.

*** Event specifics are continued below. Review the document in its entirety.

2026-2027 Topic

Every Bite Counts: Reducing Food Waste

Create a public service announcement (PSA) that encourages individuals and families to reduce food waste through thoughtful planning, responsible consumption, and sustainable habits.

How can your message inspire others to reduce food waste and make a positive impact on their community and the environment?

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Region

This is not a region event.

State

State Eligibility

Each chapter may enter two (2) teams of 1, 2, or 3 members of active local chapters in FBLA Connect, the FBLA membership system. An active chapter is defined as having members “pending or paid” at the time of the “state-only” registration published on the PA FBLA website.

In order to be registered for this event, student data is imported into Blue Panda, the event registration and competitive events management system, from FBLA Connect. Students are imported and able to be registered only if identified as having “pending or paid” membership. “Paid” membership is defined as a dues payment for the student received by National FBLA; “pending” membership is defined as membership for which payment is due to National FBLA 60 days from the date the student appears on the membership invoice.

Members may compete in an event more than once if they have not previously placed in the top ten of that event at NLC. If a member places in the top ten of an event at NLC, they are no longer eligible to compete in that event at RLC, SLC, or NLC.

It is the responsibility of the local chapter adviser

- to pay membership dues for all competitors by the published submission deadline for this event and to register students through Blue Panda by the published deadline.

Finalists for this event will be an equal number advancing from the State Qualifying Round to a maximum of 15. Finalists will be notified by the PA FBLA Executive Director/State Chairman by the date indicated on the FBLA website. Finalists will be required to give an oral presentation at the SLC.

State Procedure

State Qualifying Round

1. Competitors will be allowed to select a presentation time on the published date from a set timeframe once registration has closed. Once a presentation time has been selected, it cannot be changed. If a competitor does not select a time to present, one will be randomly assigned from the remaining time slots. At the selected presentation time, competitors will join a Zoom meeting. Competitors will then give their presentation to a panel of judges during the meeting.
2. Competitors may join Zoom individually from multiple computers or as a team from one computer.
3. Competitors may join Zoom from school, home, or other location.
4. Competitors may be seated or standing during the Zoom presentation.
5. **The participants must comply with the PA FBLA Dress Code which can be found at <https://www.pafbla.org/about-pafbla/dress-code/>. If the participants do not comply, points will be deducted UNLESS there is an egregious violation.**
6. Competitors will be allowed to share their screens during the presentation.
7. Competitors will not be allowed to use chat, whiteboard, or any other features in Zoom other than to share their screen.
8. Presentation should cover the following aspects of the PSA
 - The PSA video is shown to the judges.

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- Research, form an objective for the PSA, and create a no-longer-than 60-second video on the topic. Facts and data must be cited and secured from quality sources.
 - The presentation should demonstrate an understanding of the topic with a learning objective for the intended audience; major findings from the topic research; the script writing process; use of different video techniques; a list of equipment and software used; and copyright or sources for the project and PSA.
 - The production must be original content; competitors may not use previously published video clips in the videos submitted for competitions.
9. The competitors must perform all aspects of the presentation (e.g. speaking, set-up, operating AV equipment, etc.) Other representatives of the chapter may provide no additional assistance.
 10. The competitors must be visible to the judges.
 11. Visual aids and samples specifically related to the project may be used in the presentations.
 12. Advisers may not participate during the actual delivery of the presentation, including assisting with setup, distribution of handouts, operation of audiovisual equipment, etc.
 13. Five (5) minutes will be allowed to set up and remove equipment or presentation items.
 14. Seven (7) minutes will be given to describe the project and the results obtained.
 15. At the end of six (6) minutes, a timekeeper will give a one-minute warning, and at seven (7) minutes the timekeeper will announce "TIME". When time is called, the presenter must end the presentation.
 16. Following each presentation, the judges will conduct a three-minute (3) question-and-answer period.
 17. Links and QR codes (for display only; cannot be clicked or scanned by judges before, during, or after the presentation).
 18. The Zoom presentation will not have an audience.
 19. Up to 15 finalists will be announced based on the qualifying round score.
 20. After the announcement of the finalists, presentations can be changed in preparation for the state competition.
 21. The qualifying round score will not be used in the final round.

Conference Requirements

1. The event consists of two parts: (1) qualifying round presentation and (2) an oral presentation.
2. Participants are required to complete both parts to be eligible to win an award.

Oral Presentation

1. **The participants must comply with the PA FBLA Dress Code which can be found at <https://www.pafbla.org/about-pafbla/dress-code/>. If the participants do not comply, points will be deducted UNLESS there is an egregious violation.**
2. The participants must perform all aspects of the presentation (e.g., speaking, set-up, operating AV equipment, etc.) Other representatives of the chapter may provide no additional assistance.
3. Visual aids and samples related to the project may be used during the presentation; however, no items may be left with the judges or audience.
4. Advisers may not participate during the actual delivery of the presentation, including assisting with setup, distribution of handouts, operation of audiovisual equipment, etc.
5. Presentation should cover the following aspects of the PSA
 - The PSA video is shown to the judges.

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- Research, form an objective for the PSA, and create a no-longer-than 60-second video on the topic. Facts and data must be cited and secured from quality sources.
 - The presentation should demonstrate an understanding of the topic with a learning objective for the intended audience; major findings from the topic research; the script writing process; use of different video techniques; a list of equipment and software used; and copyright or sources for the project and PSA.
 - The production must be original content; competitors may not use previously published video clips in the videos submitted for competitions.
6. Links and QR codes (for display only; cannot be clicked or scanned by judges before, during, or after the presentation).
 7. The chapter must provide the computer for the event. An LCD projector, screen, table, and electrical power will be provided on-site. Participants that will be utilizing Apple products or other devices that do not have an HDMI port will need to provide their own adapters.
 8. Internet access is provided as Wi-Fi or cable. Internet access may not be Wi-Fi, so competitors should plan appropriately when selecting devices on which to present. Please note that internet reliability at any conference venue cannot be guaranteed. Always have a backup plan in case internet connections go down.
 9. Five (5) minutes will be allowed to set up and remove equipment or presentation items.
 10. Seven (7) minutes will be given to describe the project.
 11. At the end of six (6) minutes, a timekeeper will stand until noticed and hold up a colored timecard indicating one minute is left, and at seven (7) minutes the timekeeper will stand and hold up a colored timecard indicating time is up. When time is called, the presenter must end the presentation.
 12. Following each presentation, the judges will conduct a three-minute (3) question-and-answer period.
 13. The performance is open to all conference attendees, except performing participants of this event. If participants of the event view other presentations before or after their scheduled presentation time, they (or their team if they are part of one) will be disqualified.

State Judging

A panel of judges will select the finalists, and all decisions of the judges are final.

Judges must make a definitive decision on ranking. Ties are not permitted. The decision of the judges is final.

State Awards

The state will present a maximum of ten (10) awards at the State Leadership Conference.

National Conference Eligibility

The first-, second-, third-, and fourth-place award-winning projects at the State Leadership Conference are eligible for entry at the National Leadership Conference. All NLC qualifiers will be expected to present a seven-minute (7) oral presentation of the project at the NLC.

In the event that the local chapter of the first-, second-, third-, or fourth place winning project cannot attend the National Leadership Conference or does not wish to have its project submitted for competition at the National Leadership Conference, it is the responsibility of the:

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local chapter adviser

- to contact the PA FBLA Executive Director/State Chairman about not participating at the National Leadership Conference.

PA FBLA Executive Director/State Chairman

- to contact the next eligible award winner about participating at the National Leadership Conference.

National

Required Competition Items

	Items Competitor Must Provide	Items FBLA Provides
Preliminary Presentation	• Conference-provided nametag • Photo identification • Attire that meets the FBLA Dress Code • Technology and presentation items	• Table • Internet Access
Final Presentation	• Conference-provided nametag • Photo identification • Attire that meets the FBLA Dress Code • Technology and presentation items, including any adapter or cord needed beyond an HDMI connection	• Table • Power • Projector with HDMI cord • Projector screen • Internet Access

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:
 - o One individual or team event, and
 - o One chapter event (e.g., *Community Service Project* or *Local Chapter Annual Business Report*).
- **Competitor Responsibility:** Only registered competitors are permitted to plan, research, prepare, and set up their presentations. Advisers and others may not assist.

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- **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 Administration

This event consists of two phases: a preliminary presentation and a final presentation.

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
- **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:** Provided (*Please be aware that internet access at conference venues may be unreliable. Always prepare a backup plan in case the connection is lost or does not work with your device.*)
- 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

- 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.

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- 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: Presentation should cover the following aspects of the PSA

- The PSA video is shown to the judges.
- Research, form an objective for the PSA, and create a no-longer-than 60-second video on the topic. Facts and data must be cited and secured from quality sources.
- The presentation should demonstrate an understanding of the topic with a learning objective for the intended audience; major findings from the topic research; the script writing process; use of different video techniques; a list of equipment and software used; and copyright or sources for the project and PSA.
- The production must be original content; competitors may not use previously published video clips in the videos submitted for competitions.

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.

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Technology Guidelines

- **Internet Access:** Provided (*Please be aware that internet access at conference venues may be unreliable. Always prepare a backup plan in case the connection is lost or does not work with your device.*)
- 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

- 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 response to the topic

- The PSA video is shown to the judges.
- Research, form an objective for the PSA, and create a no-longer-than 60-second video on the topic. Facts and data must be cited and secured from quality sources.
- The presentation should demonstrate an understanding of the topic with a learning objective for the intended audience; major findings from the topic research; the script writing process; use of different video techniques; a list of equipment and software used; and copyright or sources for the project and PSA.
- The production must be original content; competitors may not use previously published video clips in the videos submitted for competitions.

Scoring

- Preliminary round scores are used to determine which competitors or teams advance to the final round from each section.
- Final round scores determine the final rankings and top award winners.

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- Judges are responsible for breaking all ties in both preliminary and final rounds.
- 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 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.

Important FBLA Documents

- Competitors should be familiar with the [Competitive Events Operations Manual](#), [Honor Code](#), [Code of Conduct](#), and [Dress Code](#).

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Public Service Announcement Presentation Rating Sheet

Expectation Item	Not Demonstrated	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Learning Objective <i>Demonstrates understanding of the topic and creates an objective for the intended audience</i>	<i>No understanding of event topic OR incorrect topic used, and no objective created</i>	<i>Unclear understanding of the topic with or without a learning objective</i>	<i>Clear understanding of the topic with a learning objective</i>	<i>Expert understanding of the topic with a learning objective for the intended audience</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Research <i>Explain the major findings from the topic research</i>	<i>No explanation of research or findings</i>	<i>Unclearly explains findings from topic research</i>	<i>Clearly explains findings from topic research</i>	<i>Clearly explains the finding from topic research with provided evidence for support</i>	
	0 points	1-8 points	9-12 points	13-15 points	
Script <i>Describe the design development and script writing process</i>	<i>No description of design development and script writing</i>	<i>Unclearly describes the design development and the script writing process</i>	<i>Clearly describes the design development and script writing process</i>	<i>Clearly describes the design development and the script writing process with supporting evidence</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Techniques <i>Explain video and audio techniques used to create the PSA</i>	<i>No explanation of use or implementation of audio or video</i>	<i>1-2 techniques used to create the PSA</i>	<i>3-4 techniques used to create the PSA and described</i>	<i>5 or more techniques used to create the PSA and described using expert terminology</i>	
	0 points	1-8 points	9-12 points	13-15 points	
Equipment & Software <i>Explain at least 3 types of equipment and/or software used to create PSA</i>	<i>No explanation of equipment and software</i>	<i>1 form of equipment or software utilized to create the PSA</i>	<i>2 forms of equipment or software utilized to create PSA</i>	<i>3 or more forms of equipment or software were used to create the PSA and described using expert terminology</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
Copyright/Sources <i>Copyright and source information is noted and documented, and video content is original</i>	<i>Copyright and source information not addressed or addressed incorrectly AND video content is not original</i>	<i>Material violates copyright guidelines; sources are not addressed OR video content is not original</i>	<i>Copyright and source information is documented, and video content is original</i>	<i>Copyright compliance and source information is documented using visual representation, and video content is original</i>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	
PSA Video Presentation	<i>PSA is not shown during the presentation</i>			<i>PSA is shown during the presentation</i>	
	0 points			5 points	
Presentation Delivery					
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>	
	0 points	1-6 points	7-8 points	9-10 points	

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Presentation Protocols			
Adherence to Competitive Events Guidelines	Competitor(s) Did Not Follow Guidelines	Execution Aligned with Guidelines: (All criteria must be met) ✓ Used only allowable technology devices (sizing specs followed; maximum of two, with only one facing judges at a time) ✓ Presentation aligned with the assigned topic ✓ PSA was no longer than 60 seconds ✓ Maintained professional boundaries during set-up time (no interaction with judges) ✓ Did not leave materials behind after the presentation ✓ Links or QR codes were displayed appropriately (not clicked or scanned by judges) ✓ Audio was presented without external speakers (preliminary round) ✓ Avoided use of food or live animals	
	0 points	1-10 points	
Staff Only: Penalty Points (5 points for dress code penalty and/or 5 points for late arrival penalty)			
Presentation Total (110 points)			
Name(s):			
School:			Section:
Judge Signature:			Date:
Comments:			