

EVENT INFORMATION

Check your membership list to verify that all event participants have been reported as dues-paying members to the state and national offices. **Event participants must be on record as paying state and national dues by March 1, 2017. If dues have not been paid, event participants will be disqualified. If you are entering student names between February 20 and March 1, you should pay for their membership by credit card to ensure credit for their membership payment.**

There were multiple name/procedure changes to the competitive events this year; please be sure to use the posted state handbook and read the event information and correspondence from your regional director carefully.

1. Four new events incorporated at the regional level: Advertising Agri-business, Journalism, Organizational Leadership; top two regional winners eligible to compete at SLC
2. Desktop Application Programming is now called Coding and Programming
3. SLC Online test events: *Banking and Financial Systems, Entrepreneurship, Global Business Help Desk, Management Decision Making, Management Information Systems, Marketing, and Network Design* will now allow top 8 finalists on the preliminary tests to advance to finals on Saturday.
4. SLC only report/performance events (AEP, Business Financial Plan, Business Plan, Community Service, Partnership with Business) should prepare the performance portion of the events. Teams that do not make finals will have an opportunity to present in front of mock judges in order to get feedback on their performances (just like finalists).

Due Dates. Event entries and forms are to be POSTMARKED BY the due dates indicated on the SLC 2017 Calendar. If your chapter's regional conference occurs after March 16, you are not required to include regional conference information in your Local Chapter Annual Report, but it still must be postmarked by the annual due date. **Skill events are due uploaded to the submission site by March 24, 2017.**

Before entering a state event, please review carefully the guidelines included in the 2016-2017 edition of the **Virginia FBLA State Handbook**. The Career and Technical Education Resource Center has made this a live document; we recommend that you do not download a copy but work from the currently published document. If edits are needed for clarification purposes, this allows you to work with the most up-to-date information.

Contestants must furnish their own No. 2 **sharpened** pencils/erasers and cordless calculators that do not beep. **Neither graphing calculators nor any device with memory will be allowed in the testing area.** There are no exceptions to this regulation.

Reports will not be returned to chapters.

Chapters must earn 100 points (60 points for middle level chapters) to be recognized as Honor Chapters.

Refer to the VIRGINIA FBLA STATE HANDBOOK to determine whether or not a second place student at the regional level is eligible to compete at the state level.

First- through fourth-place state winners in all events are eligible for national competition. As regulations have changed drastically for these events, please be sure to read the information for the appropriate level of competition (i.e.—the Virginia FBLA State Handbook for state competition; the Chapter Management Handbook for national competition). The national office accepts subsequent winners; however, there are no state funds for third- and fourth-place competitors. If a student is eligible for national competition and you would like to register them for the event, please complete the NLC confirmation form by the published deadline.

NOTE: Advisers of students eligible for NLC competition MUST attend the NLC meeting immediately following the awards program. **If this is impossible**, advisers MUST designate someone to represent their winners.

State and National Skill Events Testing: State tests for Computer Applications, Database Design and Application, Spreadsheet Application, and Word Processing will be administered by either the regional director or school site testing (ask your regional director which applies for your region). National FBLA will continue the home-state testing procedure for 2017 national skill events. Information concerning the National Skill Tests will be given at the State Leadership Conference. Remember, Format Guides are allowed in the testing area.

State Conference Pre-testing: Preliminary state tests for Banking and Financial Systems, Entrepreneurship, Future Business Leader, Global Business, Help Desk, Management Decision Making, Management Information Systems, Marketing, Network Design and Parliamentary Procedure will be administered on-line prior to the SLC. Information will be sent to the advisers of the regional winners. Finalist will be announced at the conclusion of the Opening Session. I know this is not ideal; however, due to Spring Breaks, we have to allow testing through Wednesday, so we do not receive results until sometime Friday afternoon. We must verify registration of the competitors as well as the results; many years, this is going on DURING the opening session. Please understand that this activity is no different than an Accounting student taking the test at the SLC and finding out Saturday night that they didn't make top 5—your students just didn't have to take the test in business attire!!!