

GENERAL INFORMATION AND RULES

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NEW JERSEY FCCLA COMPETITIVE AND STAR EVENTS

The NJ FCCLA State Competitive Events and the National STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) Events are competitive events in which members are recognized for proficiency and achievement in chapter and individual projects, leadership skills, and career preparation. The NJ FCCLA State Competitive Events and the National STAR Events program offer individual skill development and application of learning through the following activities:

cooperative: *teams* work to accomplish specific goals

individualized: an individual member works alone to accomplish specific goals

competitive: individual or *team* performance is measured by an established set of criteria

Competitive and STAR Events promote the FCCLA mission to focus on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner, and *community* leader. Each event is designed to help members develop specific lifetime skills in character development, *creative* and *critical* thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge, and career preparation.

The Common Core State Standards for Language Arts Literacy, Mathematics and Science, National Family and Consumer Sciences Standards and Career Ready Practices have been utilized in the development of the purposes for each Competitive Event. Please help students identify the value of their participation by understanding the educational goals of each event. When discussing your chapter's FCCLA activities with supervisors, administrators and parents, be sure to include the applicable core standards.

Competitive and STAR Events encourage active student participation and recognize accomplishments of youth. The belief that everyone can be successful is the foundation of these events. Cooperation and competition are stressed in positive, constructive ways.

A special note of appreciation from the FCCLA State Adviser is extended to the FCCLA Advisory Committee, alumni members, Chapter Advisers and State Officers who offered helpful suggestions that assisted in the revision and development of these guidelines.

Best wishes to all chapters for a rewarding leadership experience.

DEFINITIONS

Family and Consumer Sciences courses/programs are offered in grades 6-12. These courses/programs emphasize the acquisition of knowledge and the development of an understanding of attitudes, standards, values, and skills relevant to individuals and family life. Instructional areas included are human development; child care and guidance; apparel and textiles; consumer education; family living and parenthood education; independent living; nutrition; health and food management including resource management and housing and environment. These courses/programs emphasize improvement of the home and the quality of individual and family life and enhance potential employability by implementing activities which help students develop positive communication skills, consumer knowledge, career awareness, technological skills and general workplace readiness skills.

Family and Consumer Sciences related occupations are courses/programs offered in grades 9-12 which emphasize the acquisition of competencies (including skills and job attitudes) needed for securing and holding paid employment at the entry and advanced levels and/or preparing for advancement in occupations utilizing Family and Consumer Sciences education, knowledge and skills. Courses/programs which prepare individuals for paid employment in Family and Consumer Sciences related occupations include child care, guidance, management and service occupations; clothing, apparel, and textiles management, production, and service; food management, production, and services; hospitality; home furnishings and equipment management, production, and services; institutional, home management, and supporting services; and cooperative Family and Consumer Sciences education.

All chapters are under the umbrella of Family, Career & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA).

Types of Members:

There are two types:

- An FCCLA member is a student who is or has been enrolled in a Family and Consumer Science course/program in grades 6-12 and who has paid his/her local (if applicable), state, and national dues.
- An FCCLA *occupational* member is a student in grades 9-12 who has been or is currently enrolled in a Family and Consumer Sciences related occupations course/program and who has paid his/her local (if applicable), state, and national dues.

ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETING

1. All participants in the Competitive and STAR Events must be affiliated FCCLA members of the state and national associations by February 1 of the State Leadership Conference year.
2. If a State Competitive Event occurs prior to February 1 of the State Leadership Conference year, those participating must be affiliated members of the state and national associations by the event date. Those competitive events that occur at the Fall Leadership Conference will affiliate as soon as possible during the school year.
3. A student may compete in a maximum of two (2) events. However, if an individual is the top winner in two STAR Events, he/she must choose in which event he/she will participate at the national level.
4. If a student has a conflict with the scheduling of two events, the student may need to drop one of the events. For example: Cake Decorating requires almost 2 hours of uninterrupted time, making it difficult for students to meet the requirements of two workshops and another competitive event.
5. Event Categories:
 - A. An event category is determined by the participant’s current or previous enrollment in Family and Consumer Sciences course work and grade in school during the school year preceding the National Leadership Meeting.
 - B. Event Categories are defined as:

Junior – FCCLA chapter members through grade 9; and who are identified as comprehensive or occupational members on the affiliation form.

Senior – FCCLA chapter members in grades 10 – 12; and who are identified as comprehensive member on the affiliation form.

Occupational – FCCLA chapter members who have been or are currently enrolled in occupational Family and Consumer Sciences related course work, grades 10-12 and are identified as occupational members on the national affiliation form.

Post-Secondary: Participants must be enrolled as a full time student in a post-secondary program with a major related to the specific competitive event. A post-secondary student must have membership dues paid and plan to compete at the upcoming NLC. This category is limited to specific events. Please see individual event guidelines.

 - A team composed of both junior (through grade 9) comprehensive or occupational and senior (grades 10-12) comprehensive members must enter the senior category.
 - A team composed of both senior (grades 10-12) comprehensive and occupational (grades 10-12) members must enter the senior category.
 - A team composed of both junior (through grades 9) and occupational (grades 10-12) members must enter the senior category.
6. No project can be entered in more than one category or in more than one event. However, projects entered in any event may be included within the Chapter in Review Event.

SERVING SPECIAL NEEDS MEMBERS

FCCLA welcomes the participation of special needs members. The organization does not provide a separate competitive event category for these students. Even though these students are mainstreamed, their needs must be met to provide an educationally valuable and positive experience during competitions. This is a shared responsibility between the local Chapter Adviser and the state organization. Chapter Advisers who are registering special needs students are encouraged to attach information regarding the students’ specific classifications when competitive events registration form is submitted. Please complete the Special Needs Competitive Events Information Form found in the Competitive Event Resources, using the Child Study Team and the IEP as a guide. The state office will work with the Chapter Adviser to provide the necessary support for these FCCLA members.

PROCEDURES FOR PARTICIPATION

1. Competitive and STAR Events Selection

Participants have individual, team, and chapter events from which to choose. When registering for the events and attending the State Leadership Conference, students should have the opportunity to experience all facets of the conference such as workshops, competitive events, and general sessions. If a student is too overloaded with competitive events, he/she loses sight of the leadership development purpose for the FCCLA State Leadership Conference. In addition, students are expected to attend all the general session and two (2) conference workshops in order to be eligible for recognition.

2. Competitive and STAR Events Registration

To register for chapter, individual, team, and/or STAR Events to be conducted at the State Leadership Conference, the Chapter Adviser must complete and **SUBMIT POSTMARKED BY THE DEADLINE DATE** to the FCCLA State Adviser:

- A. a completed TYPEWRITTEN/ NEATLY PRINTED Competitive and STAR Events Registration Form.
- B. a completed STAR Event Registration Form for each participant in Culinary Arts.

Forms postmarked after the deadline date will be DISQUALIFIED and the participant(s) WILL NOT BE SCHEDULED FOR THE EVENT(S).

The deadlines refer to the postmark date, which is the official date stamp placed by the U.S. Post Office and not a postage meter date.

All participants in chapter, individual, team, and/or STAR Events must also be registered on site at the State Leadership Conference **by the Chapter Adviser**. A copy of the chapter's registration confirmation paperwork must be readily available at the time of registration. **Students may not register themselves.**

NO ADDITIONS OR SUBSTITUTIONS will be made after the deadline date or at the State Leadership Conference. Chapter Advisers should review the Competitive Events Confirmation Registration Form. The State Adviser should be notified immediately with schedule conflicts prior to the State Leadership Conference. Conflicts **will not** be changed at the State Leadership Conference Competitive Events registration desk.

3. Competitive and STAR Events Supplemental Materials

A. **All projects must be planned, conducted, and prepared by the participant(s) only.** Supporting resources are acceptable as long as participants are coordinating their use and resources are cited appropriately verbally and/or in print during the presentation to avoid false credit for unoriginal or non-participant work. Chapter Advisers should serve as consultants to ensure entries are well organized, contain substantiated statements, and are written with proper grammar, punctuation and spelling.

B. File Folders

Participant(s) will submit one (1) letter-size file folder containing **three (3) identical sets**, with each set stapled, of the specific items listed for selected events at the Competitive Events registration desk at the State Leadership Conference. The file folders must be labeled in the **upper left corner**:

- Participant(s) name
- School Name
- Chapter Name
- Event Name
- Event Category

4. Use of the PLANNING PROCESS SHEET

- The FCCLA Planning Process Sheet (found in the Competitive Event Resources) should be used as the foundation for every event. The National Organization requires the use of this five-step method to help chapter members and advisers plan individual, group, or chapter activities.
- Be advised that most of the NJ FCCLA State Competitive Events require a complete Planning Process Sheet to be submitted with additional paper work to meet event criteria.
- The National Organization requires the use of the Planning Process for all STAR Events. Although FCCLA does not always require a completed planning sheet "form," a summary of the Planning Process is required to be submitted as part of the project and accompany the entry, except in Culinary Arts and Parliamentary Procedure.

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5. Competitive and STAR Events Identification
 - All chapter, individual, and team participants will be registered and identified by their names and/or their school names.
 - **Each participant is required to wear his/her name tag** received at registration the first day of the State Leadership Conference.
6. Competitive and STAR Events Confirmation Form

Each chapter will receive a Competitive and STAR Events Confirmation Form prior to the State Leadership Conference. Chapter Advisers are requested to review this form with their student(s) to confirm the event(s) entered and scheduled participation time(s). The Chapter Adviser should immediately notify the FCCLA State Adviser or other designated personnel in case of problems or concerns. Conflicts **will not** be changed at the State Leadership Conference competitive events registration desk.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AT THE STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR ADVISERS AND PARTICIPANTS

1. Each Chapter Adviser must register his/her chapter/students during the conference and competitive events registration period upon arrival at the State Leadership Conference. **Students will not be permitted to register themselves or their chapters.**
2. All people attending the FCCLA State Leadership Conference must wear name tags.
3. All Competitive and/or STAR Events participants are required to attend the orientation as part of the Opening General Session, a minimum of two (2) workshops on the first day of the State Leadership Conference, workshops on the second day, all general sessions, and the recognition/awards assembly. Forms will be provided to verify attendance. **Failure to attend required meetings will result in disqualification from the Competitive and STAR Events entered.**
4. Certain Competitive and STAR Events permit the use of a variety of equipment such as projectors, DVD players, lap tops, tape recorders, sewing machines, etc. All equipment must be provided by the participants along with power strips and extension cords. The participants are also responsible to securely store their equipment and to guarantee its safe return.
5. Competitive and/or STAR Event participants should report to the event room approximately ten (10) minutes prior to their scheduled times and check in with the event facilitator. In the event of the Opening General Session running overtime, the competitive events will begin at the end of the general session. Check periodically with the facilitator who is serving as the room consultant to learn about the progression of the event schedule.
6. For specific regulations for each State Competitive and STAR Event, refer to the NJ FCCLA guidelines for that particular event outlining purpose(s), event categories, eligibility, and regulations.
7. Advisers/observers **are not** allowed in any competition areas.
8. Adherence to the rules and regulations and the input of the judges, make the selection of winners final.
9. Human error is always possible. If a Chapter Adviser notices a discrepancy, please file a Competitive Event Inquiry with the State Adviser within one week.

DISQUALIFICATION

Disqualification is an unpleasant situation for all concerned. NJ FCCLA would like to keep disqualification to a minimum and encourage the positive outcomes of participation. The following are reasons for disqualification:

1. Failure to affiliate competing member or chapter by February 1 of the State Leadership Conference year.
2. Failure to attend the required meetings/workshops at the State Leadership Conference.
3. Failure to appear for the event.
4. Failure to demonstrate the Six Pillars of Character, including, but not limited to, disregard for speakers and inappropriate behavior at the evening activities.
5. An individual or chapter who participates in the same event with projects that are the same or similar to previously entered projects.
6. Deceiving the judges by bypassing the established protocol and competing without the proper registration.
7. Fashion garments that do not reflect acceptable standards of modesty as determined by the state office; including, but not limited to lingerie, swimsuits, or wedding gowns.
8. A member participating in an **individual event may not** compete in that event for two consecutive years if the member has placed first and/or represented New Jersey at the FCCLA National Meeting in that event.

POINT DEDUCTIONS

The following point deductions, if applicable, will be subtracted from the total average score:

1. Failure to hand in required event materials at Competitive Events registration at the State Leadership Conference will result in point deductions.
2. Failure to follow dimension rules for displays will result in the loss of two points per inch, up to a maximum of 10 points.
3. Failure to follow page rules or number of copies for Planning Process sheet, summary pages, title pages, written summaries, portfolios, manuals, business plans, presentation outlines, proof of presentation, participant file folder information, or recipes will result in the loss of two points per missing copy or additional page, up to a maximum of 20 points.
4. Failure to bring all necessary supplies/equipment will result in the loss of up to 10 points. This applies to Bread Basics, Cake Decorating, Luncheon Menu and Sewing for Service.
5. Failure to submit garment or file folder at the Competitive Events registration desk will result in the loss of 10 points. This applies to Fashion Runway, Personal Patchwork, Second Stitches (project & folder) and Successories (project & folder).
6. Failure to register entry in the appropriate Fashion Runway division (sportswear, business, evening) will result in the loss of 5 points.
7. Failure to comply with the **NO TALKING** policy during a competition will result in the loss of 5 points. This is particularly important in Bread Basics, Cake Decorating, Lessons in Leadership, Luncheon Menu Showcase, and Parliamentary Procedure.
8. Failure to follow specific event guidelines not listed in any other criteria may result in additional point deductions not to exceed 10 points (i.e. setup, take down, use of props, pointers, visuals, wall space, etc., when not allowed).
9. Failure to follow the instructions regarding the folders size and labeling the folder in the upper left hand corner with the specified information such as the name of participant(s), chapter/school name, event category, and event/project title will result in the loss of two points.

The philosophy of Competitive Events embraces the concept that important learning takes place and every participant is a winner. Therefore, disqualification will only occur in extreme situations. The alternative New Jersey FCCLA prefers is to penalize participants with point deductions as a consequence for procedural violations. The culmination of our members' hard work and effort should come to a positive conclusion with an evaluation from a qualified team of judges who demonstrate an understanding of youth.

COMPETITIVE STAR EVENT INQUIRY

1. The rating sheets for the Competitive and STAR Events will be mailed to the chapters following the State Leadership Conference.
2. In order to file an inquiry regarding a Competitive and/or STAR Event, the Chapter Adviser should write a letter addressed to the FCCLA state adviser explaining the situation he/she wants reviewed. The letter must be postmarked within one week following the receipt of the rating sheets from the State Leadership Conference. When appropriate, the original material(s) to substantiate this concern should be attached to the letter.

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

1. Members and Chapters participating in the individual and team Competitive and STAR Events will receive certificates of participation.
2. Members participating in Competitive and Star Events will receive gold, silver, or bronze medals according to the level of competency reached as follows:

90% to 100%	Gold medal
Between 79% and 89%	Silver medal
Between 70% and 78%	Bronze medal
69% and below	Certificate only (will not be announced)
3. First, second, and third place winners will be selected if there are sufficient entries and they are not deficient in quality. A score of 60 percent or better must be achieved.