

NETWORK DESIGN

The ability to evaluate the needs of an organization and then design and implement network solutions is a valuable skill in today's connected workplace. This event provides recognition for FBLA members who demonstrate an understanding of and ability to apply these skills.

OBJECTIVE TEST COMPETENCIES (may include, but not limited to)

- network installation—planning, configuration, and topology
- problem solving and troubleshooting
- network administrator functions
- configuring network resources and services
- configuration of Internet resources
- security
- backup and disaster recovery

PERFORMANCE COMPETENCIES

- analyze the computing environment and needs
- demonstrate an understanding of the case
- explain, discuss, describe recommendations
- demonstrate good communication skills
- apply critical thinking/problem solving
- demonstrate ability to work as a team
- answer questions effectively

NBEA STANDARDS REINFORCED BY EVENT

Communication: technological, organizational

Information Technology: computer architecture, operating systems, environments, utilities, systems analysis and design, communications and networking infrastructures, network applications

Management: technology and information management

CAREER CLUSTER(S): Information Technology

ELIGIBILITY

The top five winners at the regional conferences may enter this event. If a chapter has no winners in the top five, it may enter one team that must be composed of two (2) to three (3) members.

1. All participants must be on record in the FBLA state and national offices as paying dues by February 15.
2. Participants must be selected in accordance with the regulations of the local chapter and the state association.
3. No more than one (1) team member may have won first place in this event at a previous State Business Leadership Conference nor entered this event at a prior National Leadership Conference.
4. Participants failing to report on time will not be permitted to compete.
5. Participants must adhere to the dress code established by the Board of Directors, or they will not be permitted to participate in the competitive event.

OVERVIEW

This event consists of two (2) parts: an objective test and a performance component. A one-hour objective test will be administered based on the competencies listed. Team members will take one objective test collaboratively. Nongraphing calculators will be provided.

Every effort will be made to provide online computerized testing at the state level. If this is not possible, participants must furnish their own No. 2 pencils and erasers. No graphing calculators, Palm Pilots, or other memory storage devices are allowed.

A case study will be given outlining a small organization and its computing environment and needs. Participants will then be required to analyze the situation and recommend a network solution to address the issues raised in the case study.

PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

1. The fifteen (15) teams with the highest scores on the objective test will be scheduled for the performance. The order of performance will be drawn at random by an impartial person in the event office. Winners are based on performance. In the event of a tie, the objective test score will be included to determine the final rank.
2. Team members will report to the preparation room twenty (20) minutes before their performance time and will receive the case study. Team members will be given twenty (20) minutes to prepare their case to present. Teams will report to the performance room at the end of twenty (20) minutes.

3. Two (2) 4" x 6" note cards will be provided for each team member and may be used during the preparation and performance of the event. Information may be written on both sides of the note cards. Note cards will be collected following the presentation.
4. A flip chart and markers will be provided.
5. No reference materials, visual aids, or electronic devices may be brought to or used during the preparation or performance.
6. Teams have seven (7) minutes to present the case.
7. Teams should introduce themselves, describe the situation, make their recommendations, and summarize their case. All team members must participate in the presentation.
8. A timekeeper will stand at six (6) minutes and again at seven (7) minutes. When each team is finished, the time used will be recorded. A five (5) point deduction will be made for presentations over seven (7) minutes.
9. Following each presentation, judges will conduct a three (3) minute question-answer period.
10. Performances are open to conference attendees who are not performing participants of this event.

JUDGING

Objective tests will be machine graded. Ties will be broken based on the last ten questions and in groups of ten thereafter if a tie still exists.

The performance portion of this event will be evaluated by a panel of judges. All decisions of the judges are final. In the event of a tie, the objective test score will be included to determine the final rank.

STATE AWARDS

The number of awards presented at the State Business Leadership Conference is determined by judges and/or number of entries. The maximum number will be five (5).

NATIONAL ENTRIES

Washington State may enter two (2) winning teams for national competition.



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Performance Rating Sheet

Evaluation Item	Not Demonstrated	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Points Earned
Content					
Described the situation	0	1-3	4-7	8-10	
Resolved problem	0	1-5	6-10	11-15	
Used correct terminology	0	1-5	6-10	11-15	
Presented an effective strategy	0	1-10	11-20	21-30	
Technology					
System appropriate for size of business	0	1-5	6-10	11-15	
Technology is currently available or being developed	0	1-3	4-7	8-10	
Future needs are considered	0	1-3	4-7	8-10	
Meets the needs of the company	0	1-5	6-10	11-15	
Delivery					
Thoughts and statements are well-organized and clearly stated; appropriate business language used	0	1-2	3-4	5	
Team members are forceful and show self-confidence, poise, and good voice projection	0	1-2	3-4	5	
All team members participate actively during the presentation	0	1-3	4-7	8-10	
Demonstrated the ability to effectively answer questions	0	1-3	4-7	8-10	
Subtotal					/150 max.
Time Penalty Deduct five (5) points for presentations over seven (7) minutes. Time:					
Penalty Deduct five (5) points for failure to follow guidelines.					
Dress Code Penalty Deduct five (5) points when dress code is not followed.					
Final Score					/150 max.
Objective Test Score (To be used only in the event of a tie.)					

Student Name(s):			
School:			
Judge's Signature:		Date:	

Judge's Comments:

VERIFICATION
(scores checked)
 Administrator