



Spotlight on Education Competition

Overview

This competition offers students the opportunity to learn from highly skilled educators whose work takes place outside the core subjects. The purpose of this competition is to promote the impact that these instructional-support professionals play in the lives of students. Instructional-support specialists include but are not limited to:

- Special Education Teacher
- Speech Pathologist
- School Psychologist
- Occupational Therapist
- School Administrator
- School Counselor
- School Social Worker
- Librarian
- Non-core subject teacher
- Curriculum specialist

Students will select one specialized instructional-support specialist and will shadow (if possible) and interview him/her. Students will receive permission from the professional to job shadow him/her for a total of two hours. The two hours are not expected to be consecutive; rather they are accumulated over a period of several days or weeks and occur when the professional is actively engaged in his/her work.

Contestants will complete and submit the following two career-exploration documents by the given deadline:

- A. Host educator's verification form
- B. Interview form

Students participating in this competition will create a slide deck or PowerPoint presentation that includes research on the profession and their experience during the job shadow and interview. Students will deliver their presentations live during a Zoom video session on the day of the virtual event. The presentation should not exceed 5 minutes.

This is an individual competition. Only two entries per chapter will be considered. Each chapter must select one or two students to represent them. Sixteen (16) entries total will be accepted for this competition. Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.



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Competition Guidelines

- A. The sponsoring teacher must submit the Online Competition Entry Form **by 5:00 pm on Friday, November 5, 2021.**
- B. The contestant must conduct a 15-minute interview of the host educator. **Interview form** must be submitted **with** the **host educator's verification form** by **5:00 pm on Monday, November 8, 2021.**
- C. **Both forms** must be attached to ONE email and sent to feaconference@fiu.edu. PDF files are preferred. The contestant's full name and the name of this competition must appear in the email subject line. Forms received after this deadline will not be considered.
- D. Student's shadowing experience will include two hours. These hours are not expected to be consecutive; rather they are accumulated over a period of several days or weeks.
- E. Students will create a slide deck presentation to share the job-shadowing experience, research on the career, interview with the educator, and their insight into a career in the educator's field.
- F. The contestant will deliver the presentation live during a Zoom video session on the day of the virtual conference. The contestant must be prepared to share the slide deck presentation in Zoom.
- G. The presentation should not exceed 5 minutes and should include:
 - a. Summary of the professional's duties and responsibilities.
 - b. A description of a typical day at the educator's job.
 - c. Training/education required for the job and where you can get it.
 - d. Classes that might teach the skills that would be necessary for the job.
 - e. Your thoughts on the professional's duties and responsibilities.
 - f. Your thoughts on whether this may be a career you consider for you in the future.
 - g. Photos are optional.
- H. Students should be prepared to answer questions from and have a discussion with the judges.

Judging and Scoring

- A. The judges' decision is final.
- B. Contestants agree to be bound by the FEA General Competition Rules and Code of Ethics for Virtual Events and the decisions of the judges.
- C. The entry will be scored using the Spotlight on Education Careers Competition rubric.

How to Enter

- A. The sponsoring teacher must complete and submit the Online Competition Entry Form.
- B. The link to access the Online Competition Entry Form will be available on the Eventbrite Online Event page.



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Slide Deck Presentation

Points Available	Accomplished 8 – 7	Commendable 6 – 5	Developing 4 – 3	Needs Improvement 2 – 1
Content	The presentation display reflects consistent thoughtfulness and thoroughness and brings out key insights about the contestant's experience and research with clarity and professionalism.	The presentation display reflects some key facts and details of the contestant's experience and research. The content reflects enough insight to achieve moderate impact.	The presentation display reflects compliance to the guidelines but does not explore the material with sufficient depth to achieve strong impact.	The presentation display reflects incomplete understanding or focus. Key insights may be missing, off-topic or superficial.
Depth of Analysis	The contestant synthesizes his/her learning from the career exploration experience with skill, clarity, and depth.	The contestant offers good ideas and insight about the career exploration experience, but stays primarily at a surface-level for analysis.	The contestant depends significantly on reciting the interviewee's words or provides limited analysis of the career exploration experience.	The presentation offers very little or no insights or quality analysis into the student's takeaways from the career exploration experience.
Delivery	The presentation is very engaging. The contestant expresses ideas fluently in own words and is genuinely interested and enthusiastic. The voice mannerisms, body language, and communication skills are exceptional. Slides/presentation materials are exceptional and greatly enhance presentation.	The contestant engages the audience and displays interest and enthusiasm. Voice mannerisms, body language and communication skills are good. Slides/presentation materials are good and enhance presentation.	The contestant displays interest and enthusiasm, but the engagement with the audience is limited. Occasionally, the contestant struggles to find words. Voice mannerisms, body language, and communication skills are generally appropriate. Slides/presentation materials fair and somewhat enhance presentation.	The contestant is unenthused, monotonous and relies extensively on notes. Voice mannerisms, body language, and communication skills are sometimes inappropriate. Slides/presentation materials are below average and slightly enhance the presentation.



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Q&A Presentation

Points Available	Accomplished 8 – 7	Commendable 6 – 5	Developing 4 – 3	Needs Improvement 2 – 1
Q&A	<p>The student's responses demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in the deep experience of exploring this career path.</p> <p>The student displays impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding given his/her experience and research.</p>	<p>The student's responses demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her.</p> <p>The student displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected career based on his/her experience and research.</p>	<p>The student's responses reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.</p>	<p>The student's responses reflected limited understanding or misunderstanding of the presentation guidelines, expectations, or the career to be explored.</p>
Overall Impact	<p>The presentation is thoroughly professional caliber in the expert blending of style, substance, and impromptu responses to questions.</p>	<p>The presentation is commendable for its effort and the presenter's desire to take on this challenge.</p> <p>The student makes straightforward points that could convey greater impact with guided practice in presentation creation and delivery.</p>	<p>The presentation reflects a developing effort in exploring the selected career.</p> <p>Additional depth or articulating understanding would improve the presentation significantly.</p>	<p>The presentation requires a significant re-examining of the career exploration process undertaken for the competition.</p> <p>Limited depth or misunderstanding hindered the presentation from offering the level of insight that it could.</p>