



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 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.

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

- [Host educator's verification form](#)
- [Interview form](#)

Students participating in this competition will create a trifold poster display that includes research on the profession and their experience during the job shadow and interview. Poster sessions are a common way to share educational research and developments at professional conferences. Judges and other FEA students will view poster boards during breakout sessions I and II at the conference. All competitors must stand next to their posters to answer questions and share their experiences.

This is an individual competition. Only two entries per chapter will be considered. Each chapter must select one or two students to represent them. Twenty-four (24) entries total will be accepted for this competition. Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and will be limited to the number of participants.



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Competition Guidelines

- A. The sponsoring teacher must submit the [Online Competition Entry Form](#) **by 5:00 pm on Friday, October 28, 2022.**
- B. The competitor 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 Friday, November 4, 2022.**
- C. **Both forms** must be attached to ONE email and sent to feaconference@fiu.edu. PDF files are preferred. The competitor'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. Students will create a display to reflect the job-shadowing experience, research on the career, interview with the educator, and their insight into a career in the educator's field.
- E. Display boards should be a standard, three-panel display board that unfolds to be 36" tall by 48" wide and include:
 - 1. Summary of the professional's duties and responsibilities.
 - 2. A description of a typical day at the educator's job.
 - 3. Training/education required for the job and where you can get it.
 - 4. Classes that might teach the skills that would be necessary for the job.
 - 5. Your thoughts on the professional's duties and responsibilities.
 - 6. Your thoughts on whether this may be a career you consider for you in the future.
 - 7. Photos are optional.
- F. Students should be prepared to answer questions from and have a discussion with the on-site judges.
- G. All display boards will need to be removed from the competition room before the closing session.

Judging and Scoring

- A. The judges' decision is final.
- B. Competitors agree to be bound by the FEA General Competition Rules.
- C. The entry will be scored using the Spotlight on Education Careers Competition rubric.

How to Enter

- A. All entries for individual and/or chapter competitions must be submitted by the chapter's sponsoring teacher via the [Online Competition Entry Form](#) **by 5:00pm, October 28, 2022.**
- B. Entries submitted by email will not be accepted.

Spotlight on Education Competition

Poster Display

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 student's experience and research with clarity and professionalism.	The presentation display reflects some key facts and details of the student'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 student synthesizes his/her learning from the career exploration experience with skill, clarity, and depth.	The student offers good ideas and insight about the career exploration experience, but stays primarily at a surface-level for analysis.	The student depends significantly on reciting the interviewee's words or provides limited analysis of the career exploration experience.	The display offers very little or no insight or quality analysis into the student's takeaways from the career exploration experience.
Display Board Presentation	The student utilizes the display board to bring out key insights with clarity and professionalism. The display board is attractive in terms of design, layout and neatness and presents the information in a clear and concise manner.	The student utilizes the display board to bring out key insights with some clarity and professionalism. The design and layout could benefit from a small number of tweaks to consistently present the information in a clear and concise manner.	The display board reflects compliance to the guidelines, but the layout does not display the information in a neat, clear and concise manner.	The display board does not reflect compliance with the guidelines. The display may be basic or contain images or text that distracts from the student's messages. Those messages may lack clarity or focus.

Spotlight on Education Competition

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. 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. Limited depth or misunderstanding hindered the presentation from offering the level of insight that it could.</p>