



## GENERAL COMPETITION GUIDELINES

- Registration in the competitive events at the FEA Regional Conference at FIU is by invitation only.
- 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 27, 2023**.
- Entries submitted by email will not be accepted.
- All competitors must be registered to attend the conference on the Eventbrite registration site. Competitors that are not registered on Eventbrite will be disqualified.
- All individual competitions are open to high school FEA members. All chapter competitions are open to high school FEA chapters.
- High school FEA members may enter one competitive event only. This can be an individual event or one chapter event.
- The number of entries allowed per school varies by competition. FEA sponsoring teachers may enter one team for each of the chapter events. The number of entrants is capped for the individual and chapter events.
- All submitted materials must reflect original work from the 2023–2024 school year. Material that may have been created or submitted in previous years is ineligible.
- Some competitions may require the submission of materials prior to the day of the conference. All competition materials must be submitted by **5:00pm, Friday, November 3, 2023**. Failure to submit the required materials by the submission deadline will result in disqualification.
- Some competitions may allow the use of AV materials. All relevant files and resources should be brought to the competition site on a USB drive. All Prezi files should be downloaded to the USB drive. Internet access will not be



## GENERAL COMPETITION GUIDELINES

available during the competition. Competitors should bring their own pointing device if needed.

- Competitors must report to their assigned competition room on time. **Failure to report at their scheduled time can result in disqualification.** Competition schedules will be emailed to the sponsoring teachers one week prior to the conference. Be sure to check the schedule prior to your arrival.
- Competitors are expected to dress in business-casual attire. (See the section Competition Dress Code for details on what is acceptable.) Points will be deducted from the entrant's score for failure to follow the stated dress code.
- Spectators may not coach or offer any verbal or nonverbal assistance to a competitor during that competitor's assigned time slot with the judges. A breach of this guideline may result in the disqualification of the competitor.
- Spectators may not record any competition without the prior consent of the competitors and judges.
- Sponsoring teachers and chaperones are prohibited from approaching judges to discuss scoring or feedback. All questions or concerns should be brought to the attention of an FEA Regional Conference at FIU office staff member.
- Certificates will be awarded to all competitors participating in individual competitions and to schools participating in chapter competitions. Awards will be presented to the top three entries in each of the individual categories and the top two entries in each of the chapter categories.
- The judges' decisions are final.

### Competition Dress Code

- All competitors are expected to dress in business-casual attire when competing. Refer to the



## GENERAL COMPETITION GUIDELINES

guidelines below for a detailed explanation of what is and is not permissible as “business casual.

- **Slacks, Pants, and Suit Pants**  
Slacks that are similar to Dockers and other makers of cotton or synthetic material pants, wool pants, flannel pants, dressy capris, and nice-looking dress synthetic pants are acceptable. Inappropriate slacks or pants include jeans, sweatpants, exercise pants, Bermuda shorts, short shorts, shorts, bib overalls, leggings, and any spandex or other form-fitting pants such as those people wear for biking.
- **Skirts, Dresses, and Skirted Suits**  
Casual dresses and skirts, and skirts that are split at or below the knee are acceptable. Dress and skirt length should be at a length at which you can sit comfortably in public. Mini skirts, skorts, sun dresses, beach dresses, and spaghetti-strap dresses are inappropriate.
- **Shirts, Tops, Blouses, and Jackets**  
Casual shirts, dress

shirts, sweaters, tops, and polo shirts are acceptable. FEA Chapter polo shirts are encouraged. Inappropriate attire includes tank tops; midriff tops; shirts with potentially offensive words, terms, logos, pictures, cartoons, or slogans; halter tops; tops with bare shoulders; sweatshirts, and t-shirts unless worn under another blouse, shirt, jacket, or dress.

- **Shoes and Footwear**  
Conservative athletic or walking shoes, loafers, clogs, sneakers, boots, flats, dress heels, and leather deck-type shoes are acceptable. Flashy athletic shoes, thongs, flip-flops, and slippers are not acceptable.
- **Hats and Head-Covering**  
Hats are not appropriate inside the building. Head covers that are required for religious purposes or to honor cultural traditions are allowed.



## GENERAL COMPETITION GUIDELINES

### Citations, References, and Copyrighted Material

- All ideas, text, images, and sound from other sources used for the competition must be cited in competition submissions.
- Competitors are strongly discouraged from using copyrighted material in their competition entries. If copyrighted material is used, written permission must be obtained for the rights to display and present media-related materials at the FEA Regional Conference at FIU. All permissions obtained to use copyrighted material must be included with the entry submission. This requirement applies to graphics taken from the web and other media-related materials. It does not apply to artifacts collected for a project.
- Plagiarism is strictly prohibited in all documents submitted. Judges can disqualify students from competing if it is determined that

any part of their documents has been plagiarized.

### Electronic Devices

- Recording devices are not allowed in competitive events.
- Special approval from the event coordinator and the competitor is required before any event may be recorded.
- All electronic devices—including but not limited to, cell phones, iPads/tablets, electronic readers, smart watches, etc.—must be turned off unless otherwise noted in specific event regulations.
- No electronic communication devices of any kind are permitted during competition.