

**Maryland FBLA
Board of Directors Update #2
Fall, Regional, and State Conference Information
September 8, 2011**

Dear Maryland FBLA Advisors:

Below is important information regarding 2011-2012 Maryland FBLA conferences. Please review this document in conjunction with the other pertinent documents that were sent with this update. Upcoming conferences will be discussed at the Advisor Training Session sponsored by MSDE in Pikesville on September 21. Included in this update is information on the following:

- [Maryland Fall Leadership Conference – Ocean City, Maryland – October 31 – November 1, 2011](#)
- [Maryland FBLA State Leadership Conference – Hunt Valley, Maryland – April 19-21, 2012](#)
- [Maryland FBLA Regional Conference Information](#)

Maryland Fall Leadership Conference – Ocean City, Maryland – October 31 – November 1, 2011

The Maryland FBLA Fall Leadership Conference will be held at the Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel in Ocean City from October 31 – November 1, 2011. Attached is a TENTATIVE conference agenda. Also attached is a document containing the conference registration fee and payment information/deadlines.

Maryland FBLA State Leadership Conference – Hunt Valley, Maryland – April 19-21, 2012

Hold the date! The Maryland FBLA State Leadership Conference will be held at the Hunt Valley Marriott from April 19-21, 2012. Attached is a TENTATIVE conference agenda and ESTIMATED conference registration fees. I stress that the information in this document is tentative/estimated and is subject to change. However, for planning purposes, this should give you a good idea of what to expect at the conference and the estimated costs for fundraising.

You will notice that we are planning to start earlier on Thursday. Based on feedback we received from many advisors last year and an in effort to accommodate additional competitive events, we will once again conduct some of the competitive events on Thursday afternoon before the opening session. We may need to start competitive events as early as Noon on Thursday, which is earlier than last year. As soon as the details regarding this are finalized closer to the conference, the information will be shared with all advisors.

Maryland FBLA Regional Conferences

Online Testing

All online testing will be completed in each chapter's home school from January 9 –February 7, 2012, regardless of when your regional conference is. If your regional conference is scheduled prior to February 7, students in your region will still have until February 7 to complete their online testing. Results of the online testing will be distributed to all chapters via e-mail on February 13 (tentative). Regional advisors will complete competitive event certificates for the winners and will distribute them to each chapter.

Regional conference dates

The dates of regional conferences are still being finalized. The dates will generally be within the window from mid-January through February 17.

Registration Fee

The state chapter will assess a \$5 registration fee for each student competing in a competitive event at the regional level (both online test events as well as performance events that occur at the regional conference). As such, the \$5 fee collected for students competing in an online test event will be retained by the state chapter to offset the cost of online testing. The \$5 fee for the performance events that occur at the regional conference will be remitted to the chapter

hosting the regional conference. The state chapter will collect all fees and then remit the applicable portion of the fee collected to the chapter hosting the regional conference. This fee will help to offset the regional conference chapter's costs of hosting the conference.

Performance Events at the regional conference

The following events will occur at the regional conference:

Business Ethics
Business Presentation
Client Service
Electronic Career Portfolio (**NEW—this event previously was not a regional conference event**)
Emerging Business Issues
Impromptu Speaking
Job Interview
Public Speaking I
Public Speaking II

Format of your regional conference

The format of the regional conference varies by region. Some choose to offer food, an awards ceremony, workshops, guest speakers, teambuilding activities, and/or other events and activities. The Board encourages students who are not competing in a performance event at the regional conference to attend the regional conference to network with students from other schools, to support the others who are competing from their chapter, and to participate in leadership activities the region may have planned. For many students, the regional conference is the only conference experience they will have.

Once the details of each regional conference are finalized, the regional advisor will e-mail the chapters in their region to let them know what to expect and how to RSVP to let them know who will be attending.

The state chapter will handle competitive event registration using the online registration system as we have in the past and will provide a listing of students competing in each event to the regional conference host school.

Sincerely,

David Jones
Chairman
Maryland FBLA-PBL Board of Directors