

Entrepreneurship Participating Event, 2012

Creating an Independent or Franchising Business

Franchising Option Sponsored by the
The International Franchise Association Educational Foundation

Purpose

The purpose of the Entrepreneurship Participating Event (Creating an Independent or Franchising Business) is to provide an opportunity for the participant to develop and present a proposal to form a business.

The Entrepreneurship Participating Event includes the development and presentation of various aspects of a plan to form a business. The event provides an opportunity for a participant to develop and demonstrate mastery of essential skills as they apply to the analysis of a business opportunity, the development of a marketing/promotion plan and the development of a financial plan.

Please note: Franchising businesses are an option within the Entrepreneurship Participating Event. Franchising projects qualifying for international conference competition will compete in a separate section. They will adhere to all the guidelines stated below.

Procedure

- This event consists of the **three-part business prospectus** describing a business the participant wants to develop and the **oral presentation**.
- This event is for **individual participants** only.
- The body of the written entry must be limited to **11 numbered pages**, not including the title page and the table of contents.
- The **Written Event Statement of Assurances** must be signed and submitted with the entry. Do not include it in the page numbering.
- The participant may bring all visual aids to the event briefing. Only approved visual aids may be used during the presentation.
- The oral presentation may be a maximum of 20 minutes in length. The first 15 minutes will include a presentation of and defense for the prospectus followed by 5 minutes for the judge's questions.
- The judge will evaluate the presentation, focusing on the effectiveness of public speaking and presentation skills and how well the participant responds to questions that the judge may ask during the 5 minutes following the presentation.

Skills Assessed

The participant will demonstrate skills needed to address the components of the project as described in the content outline and evaluation forms as well as learn/understand the importance of

- communications skills—the ability to exchange information and ideas with others through writing, speaking, reading or listening
- analytical skills—the ability to derive facts from data, findings from facts, conclusions from findings and recommendations from conclusions
- critical thinking/problem-solving skills
- production skills—the ability to take a concept from an idea and make it real
- priorities/time management—the ability to determine priorities and manage time commitments and deadlines
- the basic steps involved in starting a small business
- the ability to interpret financial statements

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- the ability to self-evaluate personal skills, knowledge, abilities and willingness to take risks
- customer needs
- economic skills

Format Guidelines for the Written Entry

The written entry must follow these specifications. Refer also to the Competitive Event Checklist and the Written Entry Evaluation Form. A Written Event Statement of Assurances must be signed and submitted with the entry. Do not include it in the page numbering.

Title page. The first page of the written entry is the title page. It must include in any order, but is not limited to, the following:

ENTREPRENEURSHIP PARTICIPATING EVENT (Franchising/Independent Business)
Name of DECA chapter
Name of high school
School address
City, State/Province, ZIP/Postal Code
Name of participant
Date

The title page will *not* be numbered.

Table of contents. The table of contents should follow the title page. All activities or original research described in this entry must take place between the immediate past International Career Development Conference and the upcoming State Career Development Conference. The table of contents may be single-spaced and may be one or more pages long. The table of contents page(s) will not be numbered.

Body of the written entry. The body of the written entry begins with Section I, Executive Summary, and continues in the sequence outlined here. The first page of the body is numbered 1 and all following pages are numbered in sequence. Page numbers continue through the bibliography (required) and the appendix (optional).

The participant will present, from the viewpoint of an entrepreneur seeking financing for a new business, a business prospectus, which is a short description of a business plan. It will include three sections:

1. a description and analysis of the business situation
2. a marketing/promotion plan
3. a financing plan

Follow this outline when you write your entry. Points for each section are shown on the Presentation Evaluation Form. Each section must be titled, including the bibliography and the appendix.

- I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
One-page description of the project
- II. DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF THE BUSINESS SITUATION
 - A. Rationale and marketing research
 - B. Introduction: type of business, brief description of major product(s)/service(s) involved
 - C. Self-analysis: actual personal experience and/or training in proposed field
 - D. Analysis of the business opportunity, customer and location: geographic, demographic and economic analysis of trading area, customer and locale of proposed business
 - E. Proposed organization: type of ownership, steps in starting to form business, planned personnel, management skills
- III. PROPOSED MARKETING/PROMOTION PLAN
 - A. Proposed product or service: details of product(s) or service(s) to be offered; potential suppliers or manufacturing plans

- B. Proposed pricing policy: costs, markups, relationship to competitors
 - C. Personal promotion: nonmedia sales plan, staffing and merchandising appeal
 - D. Nonpersonal promotion: media, basic appeal and initial promotion plan
 - E. Place: channel of distribution from manufacturer or service provided to consumer
- IV. PROPOSED FINANCING PLAN
- A. Projected income/cash flow statement: projected budget describing income and expenditures for the first year
 - B. Projected three-year plan: describe planned growth, including financial resources and needs
 - C. Capital and repayment plan: earnings, short-term and/or long-term borrowing, long-term equity, plan to repay borrowed funds or provide return on investment to equity funds
- V. BIBLIOGRAPHY
- VI. APPENDIX
- An appendix is optional. Include in an appendix any exhibits appropriate to the written entry but not important enough to include in the body. These might include sample questionnaires used, letters sent and received, general background data, minutes of meetings, etc.

Checklist Standards

In addition to following the outline above, when preparing your written entry you must observe all of the following rules. The purpose of these rules is to make the competition as fair as possible among participants. Refer to the Written Entry Checklist.

1. The Written Event Statement of Assurances must be signed and submitted with the entry or the entry will receive 15 penalty points.
2. The entry must be submitted in an official DECA written event folio. Folios are available from DECA IMAGES (FOLIO). No markings, tape or other material should be attached to the folio. One photocopy or the original typed document must be submitted. Participants may keep a copy for use in the presentation.
3. Sheet protectors may not be used.
4. The body of the written entry must be limited to 11 numbered pages, not including the title page and table of contents page.
5. The pages must be numbered in sequence, starting with the executive summary. Do not use separate sheets between sections or as title pages for sections.
6. Major content of the written entry must be at least double-spaced (not space-and-a-half). The title page, table of contents, executive summary, footnotes, long quotes (more than three typed lines), material in tables, figures, exhibits, lists, headings, sample letters, forms and financial reports may be single-spaced.
7. Entry must be typed/word processed. Handwritten corrections will be penalized. Charts and graphs may be handwritten. (Judges will be instructed to ignore attempts to achieve a competitive advantage due to the quality of word-processing equipment available.)
8. All material must be shown on 8¹/₂-inch x 11-inch paper. Pages may not fold out to a larger size. No extraneous information may be attached to the pages and tabs may not be used.
9. The body of the written entry must follow the sequence outlined. Additional subsections are permitted.

Presentation Guidelines

- The major emphasis of the prospectus is on the content. Drawings, illustrations and graphic presentations (where allowed) will be judged for clarity, not artistic value.
- The participant will present the prospectus to the judge in a 20-minute presentation worth 100 points. (See Presentation Judging.)

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- The presentation begins immediately after the introduction of the participant to the judge by the adult assistant.
- The participant will spend not more than 15 minutes (after introductions) setting up visual aids and presenting the prospectus to the judge. The participant may bring a copy of the prospectus or note cards pertaining to the prospectus and use as reference during the presentation.
- The judge will spend the remaining 5 minutes questioning the participant. (See Presentation Evaluation Form.)
- The participant may use the following items during the oral presentation:
 - not more than three (3) standard-sized posters not to exceed 22¹/₂ inches by 30¹/₂ inches each. Participant may use both sides of the posters, but all attachments must fit within the poster dimensions.
 - one (1) standard-sized presentation display board not to exceed 36¹/₂ inches by 48¹/₂ inches.
 - one (1) desktop flip chart presentation easel 12 inches by 10 inches (dimensions of the page).
 - one (1) personal laptop computer.
 - one (1) hand-held digital organizer.
 - sound, as long as the volume is kept at a conversational level.
- Only visual aids that can be easily carried to the presentation by the actual participant will be permitted, and the participant himself/herself must set up the visuals. No set-up time will be allowed. Participant must furnish his/her own materials and equipment. No electrical power will be supplied.
- Materials appropriate to the situation may be handed to or left with judges in all competitive events. Items of monetary value may be handed to but may not be left with judges. Items such as flyers, brochures, pamphlets and business cards may be handed to or left with the judge. No food or drinks allowed.
- If any of these rules are violated, the adult assistant must be notified by the judge.

Presentation Judging

The participant, assuming the role of an entrepreneur, has prepared a plan to form a business. As the judge, you are to assume the role of a potential source of capital for the business.

During the first 15 minutes of the presentation (after introductions), the participant will set up any visual aids and present the proposal. Set-up time and presentation time are included in the 15 minutes. Allow the participant to complete this portion without interruption, unless you are asked to respond.

During the final 5 minutes, you may question the participant on his/her proposal. To ensure fairness, you must ask each participant the same three questions (based on the Presentation Evaluation Form):

1. one question on analyzing the description and analysis of the business situation
2. one question on the proposed marketing/promotion plan
3. one question on the proposed financing plan

After asking the questions, you may ask additional questions that seem appropriate, based on your notes, which you may refer to during the presentation, or on the presentation itself.

The Presentation Evaluation Form follows the outline shown in the section entitled Presentation Guidelines, which explains in greater detail what should be discussed in each part. Familiarize yourself with all of the guidelines before starting to evaluate the presentation.

After the questioning period, please thank the participant. Then complete the Presentation Evaluation Form, making sure to record a score for all categories. The maximum score for the evaluation is 100 points. It may help to go through several entries before actually starting to score the entries. Take notes on a separate sheet of paper if you wish to ask the participant about specific areas of the proposal during the presentation.

**Entrepreneurship
Participating Event, 2012**

Participant(s): _____

**Prospectus and Oral Presentation
Evaluation Form**

I.D. Number: _____

| | Exceeds Expectations | Meets Expectations | Below Expectations | Little/No Value | Judged Score |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | | | | | |
| 1. One-page description of the project | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF THE BUSINESS SITUATION | | | | | |
| 2. Rationale and marketing research on the acceptability of the product/service | 5 | 4 | 3-2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| 3. Introduction and self-analysis | 6-5 | 4 | 3-2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| 4. Analysis of the business opportunity, customer and location | 10-9 | 8-7 | 6-5-4 | 3-2-1-0 | _____ |
| 5. Proposed organization | 5 | 4 | 3-2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| PROPOSED MARKETING/PROMOTION PLAN | | | | | |
| 6. Proposed product/service | 5 | 4 | 3-2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| 7. Proposed pricing policies | 5 | 4 | 3-2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| 8. Personal promotion | 5 | 4 | 3-2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| 9. Nonpersonal promotion..... | 5 | 4 | 3-2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| 10. Place | 5 | 4 | 3-2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| PROPOSED FINANCING PLAN | | | | | |
| 11. Projected income/cash flow | 10-9 | 8-7-6 | 5-4-3 | 2-1-0 | _____ |
| 12. Projected three-year plan..... | 10-9 | 8-7-6 | 5-4-3 | 2-1-0 | _____ |
| 13. Capital and repayment plan..... | 5 | 4 | 3-2 | 1-0 | _____ |
| OVERALL IMPRESSIONS | | | | | |
| 14. Overall impression of the presentation and of the participant (articulate, knowledgeable) | 10-9 | 8-7-6 | 5-4-3 | 2-1-0 | _____ |
| 15. Overall impression of the written prospectus | 10-9 | 8-7-6 | 5-4-3 | 2-1-0 | _____ |
| Total Possible Points: 100 | | | | | |
| | | | | Presentation Total Points: | _____ |
| | | | | LESS PENALTY POINTS: | _____ |
| | | | | TOTAL SCORE: | _____ |

Judge: A B C D E F G H I J (circle one)

Business Management &
Entrepreneurship Events