



FCCLA/Knowledge Matters Virtual Business Challenge
National Championship Round
April 3-7, 2023

Dear Qualifiers and FCCLA Advisers,

Congratulations on having your FCCLA members qualify to compete within the final round of the FCCLA Virtual Business Challenge – Personal Finance Track! The Knowledge Matters team would like to commend your students on their amazing accomplishment, and to thank you and your chapter for your participation. Thank you for allowing your members to get involved within this competition, and for providing them with the necessary support.

The final round of this event will take place online and will begin on **Monday, April 3 at 10AM** Eastern Time. FCCLA members who qualified should log in to the online Virtual Business account that they used during the qualifying round(s) by visiting vb.knowledgematters.com. Once logged in, qualifiers will see a course named "FCCLA VBC Personal Finance Finals," and they should click on the course name in order to access the competition page. Once on the competition page, qualifiers should click on the "Run Sim" link in order to launch the competition file.

Participants will enter the simulation and see a city. The sim character will already be created and named, and an apartment with a 12-month lease will have already been selected. The name, "John," has been given to the simulated character. Please use this name when applying for jobs within the simulation file.

Participants will start off with \$7,000 cash and they will need to get a job, eat, sleep, pay bills, etc. They will have control over most items listed under the Actions menu except for the investing actions, homeowner's insurance and change withholding. They also won't be able to purchase a car. None of the actions will be set up for students prior to entering the competition file. Participants will be responsible for filing taxes at the beginning of each new year. The simulated character is starting off with some work experience and education. Please check the Resume report under the Reports menu in order to see the character's work and education history.

The goal is for participants to increase their sim character's net worth as much as possible while working through the simulation for a period of virtual time. When teams first open the file, the simulated date will be January 2, 2027. As teams work through the competition simulation file and their file is saved, their score will be recorded on the scoreboard. Participants will be able to run the simulation file until January 2, 2042, but they are not required to run the file until this date. If teams haven't reached this date, and they wish to restart the file, they may do so through the option found under the File menu. If teams reach the stop date for the file, and if participants wish to work through the file again, they will have to contact Knowledge Matters to restart the file. Participants will be ranked on their net worth, and they will be able to view the rankings by clicking on the scoreboard icon found on the competition page (the same page where they will access the simulation file).



Unlike the qualifying rounds, during the final round the competition simulation file will not reset automatically after the participants reach the simulated stop date for the file. Participants will need to contact Maureen Ginley at Ginley@KnowledgeMatters.com and request that their competition simulation file be reset if they would like to try again. However, PLEASE NOTE that if a team requests for their competition file to be reset, THEIR SCORE WILL BE DELETED AND THEY WILL DISAPPEAR FROM THE SCOREBOARD (completely wiped out). This is unlike the qualifying rounds where a team's best score would always be the one that we used for the ranking no matter how many attempts the team made at completing the file. During the final round, it will be the score from the most recent competition file that will be used to rank the team.

Participants have until **5PM Eastern Time on Friday, April 7** to access the file and have at least one save completed in order to be considered in the rankings for this final round. No scores will be accepted after this date/time. Please contact Maureen Ginley (Ginley@KnowledgeMatters.com) if you have any questions about this information.

Thank you for your participation and good luck to all of the VBC qualifiers!

Best regards,
Knowledge Matters Team