

SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE

An individual or *team event*, recognizes participants who address sustainability concerns that adversely impact human health and well-being and who actively empower others to get involved. Participants will research one of the five annual topics, investigate areas where they can make a difference, develop and carry out a project for their home, school or *community* and educate others in their school or *community*. Participants must prepare a *portfolio* and an oral presentation.

ELIGIBILITY & GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Review the **STAR Events Front Pages** for all event requirements, policies, and event requirements before beginning the project.
2. Participants are encouraged to bring a fully charged device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to use for the presentation during the competition.
3. Chapters with multiple entries in this event must submit different projects for each entry. All projects must be developed and completed during the school year leading up to the National Leadership Conference (NLC), within the timeframe July 1 through June 30, and must be the work of the participant(s) only.
4. **Online Orientation** - NLC participants are **encouraged** to view the STAR Events Online Orientation video to ensure they are fully prepared for the NLC. The video will be available in the FCCLA Student Portal under Resources. **Contact your [state adviser](#) for orientation procedures for competitions held prior to the NLC.**
5. **STAR Events Schedule Confirmation** – It is **strongly suggested** that chapter advisers confirm participants' STAR Events schedules in the FCCLA Adviser Portal. Advisers can review students' schedules in the FCCLA Adviser Portal by visiting the Meetings & Events tab, selecting the NLC option, and choosing "Confirm STAR Competition." **Confirming schedules in advance helps ensure that participants are qualified, registered for the conference, and competing in the correct STAR Event. Schedule changes after the published deadline are subject to a \$25 change fee.** Please refer to the FCCLA Website (Competitive Events Dates & Deadlines).
6. Participants who do not follow event guidelines, align with the event definition, or address the current event topic will not have their project evaluated. However, they may still participate in the competition by delivering an oral presentation and will be evaluated based on the presentation.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW NATIONAL DEADLINES](#)

CAREER CLUSTERS ALIGNMENT

Arts & Design	Education & Training	Financial Services
	■	
Hospitality & Tourism	Human Services	Public Service
■	■	

EVENT LEVELS

Level 1: Through Grade 8	Level 2: Grades 9–10	Level 3: Grades 11–12	Level 4: Postsecondary
■	■	■	■

Review the "Event Description and Levels" section of the policies in the front of the guidelines for more information on event levels.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Number of Participants per Entry	Prepare Ahead of Time	Equipment Provided for Competition	Competition Dress Code
1–3	<i>Portfolio</i> and Oral Presentation	Table–Yes Electrical Access–No Wall Space–No Supplies–No Wi-Fi – No	FCCLA Official Dress

PRESENTATION ELEMENTS ALLOWED

Audio	Easel(s)	File Folder	Flip Chart(s)	Portfolio	Props/ Pointers	Skits	Presentation Equipment	Visuals
■	■		■	■	■	■	*	■

*Presentation Equipment may only be used when presenting an *electronic portfolio*. Participants using a *hardcopy portfolio* may not use electronic devices during the presentation.

TOP 5 SKILLS STUDENTS REPORT LEARNING THROUGH PARTICIPATION

Leadership	Public Speaking
Decision Making and Problem Solving	Teamwork
Awareness of Community or World	

SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE BY THE NUMBERS: 2025 - 2026

Participants Nationwide	Type of Event	Nationwide Impact
387	Foundational	50,791

84% of Sustainability Challenge participants indicated this event is extremely or very useful to their future.
30% of Sustainability Challenge participants indicated they would pursue higher education related to the career chosen in their project.

PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS

"The project successfully reached students by using platforms they already engage with, such as social media, and by presenting real data collected from our school. Many students expressed increased awareness of how noise impacts learning and mental health."
—Kansas FCCLA Members

"This impacted my family and community by showing them the importance of changing lifestyles to become more mindful of the environment. By doing small actions, such as switching to natural candles, it eventually changes your mindset to become more mindful of the environment and community health." — Washington FCCLA Members

"This project positively impacted my family, school, and community by increasing awareness about plastic pollution and micro plastics in food and water. My family became more mindful about using reusable water bottles and reducing plastic food packaging. At school, students who attended my presentations learned how micro plastics enter the body and shared ways they could reduce plastic use in their daily lives. By educating others and encouraging small behavior changes, this project helped promote healthier habits and greater sustainability responsibility within my community." — Florida FCCLA Members

SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year FCCLA's collegiate partners award over 13 million in scholarships to the Top 3 placing Level 3 teams/individuals annually at the National Leadership Conference. Scholarship details can be found on the FCCLA Website.

SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE GUIDELINES AND RUBRICS

The STAR Events Guidelines and rubrics are updated annually, and they are an exclusive benefit for FCCLA members. Advisers can access and download the guidelines from the FCCLA Portal.

ADVISER PORTAL