



GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION

Failure to follow the stated guidelines could result in disqualification of student competing.

All students wishing to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference must complete 3 required steps:

1. Be an Active-level paid national member of Educators Rising for the current school year. State level membership must be paid, if applicable.
2. Sign up to compete at the national conference and submit any required materials by the stated deadline through the Student Resources section in the EdRising Membership Portal.
This is NOT done automatically if you competed at a state or regional conference.
3. Register to attend the Educators Rising National Conference.

LEVELS OF COMPETITION

- The breakdown of grades noted below is used to designate levels for competition entries. Not all competitions are open to all divisions.
 - Middle School level — Grades 7, 8
 - High School Junior Varsity level — Grades 9, 10
 - High School Varsity level — Grades 11, 12
 - Collegiate level – Undergraduates only
- Teams consisting of students from varying grade levels will be placed in the division for the grade level of the most senior member.
- If there are not at least three competitors registered for a competition in a division, the competitors will be moved to the next highest division. The collegiate division will compete in their own division regardless of the number of competitors.
- For dual entries consisting of students of varying grade levels, the entry will be placed in the division for the grade level of the most senior member.
- **For competitions:** Teacher leaders may enter up to two students per school in each individual event per division and one team for team events per division.
 - All team events must have at least two students (and no more than four) per school to qualify.
 - For teams consisting of students of varying grade levels, the team will be placed in the division for the grade level of the most senior member.
- If a competitor is from a state that holds state competitions and contests, they must first qualify in that given event at their state conference before competing in that event at the Educators Rising National Conference. Contact your state/regional coordinator to see if your state offers competitions and contests. Visit bit.ly/EdRisingAffiliates to contact your state/regional coordinator.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

NOTE: General rules and regulations apply to all competitive events and are in addition to each event's specific guidelines.

Eligibility

- Students must be a paid Active-level student member of Educators Rising no later than February 1 of the year in which they are competing.
- Students may enter up to a total of two events. This can be either two individual events, two team events, or one individual and one team event.
- **For contests:** Teacher leaders may enter up to two entries (individual or dual) per school in each event per division.
 - Dual means two students participating.
- For states that offer state-level competitions, the top ten places in each competition for each division offered by the state will be eligible to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference; for contests, entries scoring 97-100 will be eligible to advance to nationals; no other entrants from states that offer the competition or contests at the state level will be eligible for those state-level-offered competitions and contests.
- For states that do not offer state-level competitions or contests, students may register to compete in

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those events at the Educators Rising National Conference. This applies to all Educators Rising national competitions and contests.

- For example, if you want to compete in Impromptu Speaking but place eleventh or lower in your state-level Impromptu Speaking competition or don't compete in the state level competitions at all — you unfortunately can't compete in Impromptu Speaking at the Educators Rising National Conference this year. If you live in a state that didn't hold an Impromptu Speaking state-level competition, you may register to compete in that event at the Educators Rising National Conference.

Competition Entries

- All submitted materials must reflect original work from the 2020-2021 school year. Material that may have been created or submitted in previous years is ineligible.
- **In order to be scheduled to compete in a national competition or contest, all competitor applications, national dues and required materials must be submitted by the deadline stated in the Student Resources Section of the EdRising Membership Portal.**
 - Each competition guideline will identify what materials are required for submission prior to the competition. Failure to submit required materials by the submission deadline will result in disqualification.
 - ***Students who have won state-level competitions must also submit their entries on the national website by the deadline to compete at the national conference. Your state does not do this for you.***
- For entries in national competitions, competitors must submit or bring to the event all required materials described in the national competition guidelines. Any materials or forms submitted at previous state or local presentations need to be resubmitted for the national competition in order to count in national competitions.
- All video files that are submitted in advance must be in .mp4 format. Videos that are not in this file format will not be accepted and will be immediately disqualified. Videos will not be accepted by mail. The maximum file

size for any video submitted in advance is 2 GB. **All competitors should also bring a copy of the video file on a USB drive to the conference.** Educators Rising competitions comply with FERPA in regard to student privacy and video security. Competitors are responsible for ensuring that their competition videos comply with local and state requirements regarding student privacy.

- Except when explicitly specified, the internet may not be used during a competition presentation at the Educators Rising National Conference. 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 may not be available during the competition. Students should bring their own pointing device, if needed.

Conference Registration, Attendance, and Participation in Events

- **All competitors must attend the Educators Rising National Conference.** Conference dates and location will be posted on the Educators Rising website and Membership Portal.
- Competitors must report to their assigned areas on time. Failure to report at their scheduled time can result in disqualification. Competition schedules will be posted in the Educators Rising Membership Portal one month prior to the conference. Be sure to check these schedules 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 contestant during that contestant's assigned time slot with the judges. A breach of this guideline may result in disqualification of the contestant.
- Teacher Leaders, Chaperones, and Parents are prohibited from approaching judges to discuss scoring or feedback. All questions or concerns should be brought to the attention of a national office staff member.

Competition Dress Code

All competitors are expected to dress in business-casual attire when competing. Refer to the guidelines below for a detailed explanation of what is and is not permissible as "business casual."

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- **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 in which 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. Educators Rising 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 of the building. Head covers that are required for religious purposes or to honor cultural tradition are allowed.

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 competitive entries. If copyrighted material is used, written permissions must be obtained for the rights to display and present media-related materials at the Educators Rising National Conference and to post media-related materials on the Educators Rising website. All

permissions obtained to use copyrighted material must be included with entry submission. (Note: This requirement applies to music used in videos, graphics taken from the internet, 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 competing if it is determined that any part of their documents have 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.

Student Responsibilities for Competitions and Contests

- Students and advisors must routinely check the EdRising Membership Portal for updated information about general rules and competitive event guidelines
- Students who participate in any Educators Rising competitive event are responsible for knowing all updates, changes, and clarifications related to that event.
- For Competitions: Certificates will be awarded to the top 10 entries. Awards will be presented to the top three entries in each category. For Contests: Ribbons will be awarded to the top three entries in each category.
- Entrants grant Educators Rising the right to use and publish the submission in print, online, or in any media without compensation.
- Entrants grant Educators Rising the right to post photos of students for promotional purposes on the Educators Rising website, Membership Portal, and social media sites.



ENTRIES WILL BE SUBMITTED THROUGH THE ED RISING MEMBERSHIP PORTAL (members.pdkintl.org) IN THE STUDENT RESOURCES SECTION. HAVE ANY QUESTIONS? CALL 800-766-1156 OR EMAIL INFO@EDUCATORSRISING.ORG.

CHECKLIST FOR APPLYING FOR EDUCATORS RISING NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Ready to compete at Nationals?

Here is a checklist to help you get prepared, registered, and on the official schedule for nationals!

SUBMISSIONS OPEN: **FEBRUARY 1, 2021 8:00 A.M. EASTERN TIME**

DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR ON-SITE SCHEDULING: **APRIL 19, 2021 5:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME**

- Review the full national competition guidelines and rubric.** Check the Resources Section in the EdRising Membership Portal. Some processes may be different from your state/regional conference.
- Log in to the EdRising Membership Portal, go to the Educators Rising High School Resources section, and click on the Student Resources tab.** Select the competition you are interested in from the list. Read the guidelines and rubrics and then click Apply, which will take you to the national competition online platform.
- Complete the online application, upload any required documents/videos, and submit.** Depending on your competition, some of these items are judged **before** the conference so make sure they are in their final form. Recommendation: Have someone proofread your documents prior to submitting them. Many points have been lost in past years by competitors who had many spelling, grammar, and mechanics errors in their work.

You must complete and submit the online application by the deadline stated in the Student Resources section of the EdRising Membership Portal to be scheduled to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference. Participating at a state or regional conference does not provide a pass on completing this process.

- Print and save your confirmation email.** You will need this information when you register for the conference.
- Register to attend the Educators Rising National Conference.** All national conference information, including how to register, can be found in the Resources section of the EdRising Membership Portal.
- Find out when you are scheduled to compete on-site.** Competition schedules will be posted in the EdRising Membership Portal one month prior to the conference. After this date, you can log in and go to the Resources section to find the posted schedules.
- Practice, practice, practice!** The best way to prepare for your on-site competition is to practice in front of your peers. Recommendation: Reread the National Competition Guidelines and Rubric for your competition.
- See you at Nationals!** The top 10 for each competition and the top three contest winners will be announced at the National Conference Awards Celebration on the final day of the conference. Don't miss your chance to be recognized! Be sure that when you plan your transportation for the conference that you can attend this final celebration.



PROJECT VISUALIZE CONTEST

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual/Dual — Open to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: Middle School, High School Junior Varsity, High School Varsity, Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

Participation in service projects helps students develop real-world skills such as leadership, problem-solving, teamwork, communication, and time management. As rising educators, you have a chance to make a difference in your community. Have you taken part in a service project with your Educators Rising Chapter this year that has especially impacted you? Great! This is your chance to share your enthusiasm and all that you learned by visualizing your experience with that special service project, all the while envisioning your future in education and honing in on the critical thinking and communication skills necessary to make that vision a reality.

The presentation must highlight one Educators Rising chapter project in which all presenters participated that was completed during the 2020-2021 school year.

Contest Guidelines

DISPLAY BOARD

- The bulletin board must not exceed the dimensions of 36" x 48" tri-fold display. The depth of the display cannot be more than 10 inches.
- All attachments for the bulletin board must be incorporated on the front side in an original, coherent, and creative manner.
- Attached information and decorations must not exceed more than 6 inches beyond display's edges.
- The display must prominently highlight the name of the project.
- The display must include photos or original illustrations of the project.
- All items used to create the bulletin board may be purchased, handmade, or computer-generated. All computer-generated content must abide by the Educators Rising copyright policy.
- The display must include a summary sheet in the

lower right side of the tri-fold containing:

- Title of the project
- The name of the school, district, and city/state.
- A 300-500-word summary of the project must be pasted on the tri-fold, which incorporates:
 - The purpose and objectives of the project.
 - A description of the activities.
 - A description of the involvement of chapter members, peers, faculty, and community stakeholders in the project.

PRESENTATION: An interactive session with judges

- The presentation should be original, creative, relevant, and engaging and include information in the project summary.
- Each presentation is to be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes.

- C. Presenters will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one-minute remaining when they reach the four-minute mark.
- D. A five-minute Q&A section will follow the presentation to allow judges to ask questions.
- E. Contestants will take their materials with them after the presentation.

Judging and scoring

1. The judges' decisions are final.
2. Scoring is based on the Project Visualize Contest rubric.



PROJECT VISUALIZE CONTEST

LEVEL (MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY, HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY, COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Summary Sheet	The summary sheet contains title of project, names of presenters, school, district, city, and state.	The summary sheet does not include one or more of the following: title of project, names of presenters, school, district, city, and state.
Title of Project	Project title is displayed.	Project title is not displayed.
Purpose and Objectives	Contains purpose and objectives	Does not contain purpose and objectives
Description of Activities	Contains description of activities	Does not contain description of activities
Description of Chapter Involvement	Contains details of involvement by chapter members	Does not contain details of involvement by chapter members
Board Size	Board does not exceed 36" x 48" and 10" in depth.	Board exceeds 36" x 48" and 10" in depth.

Creativity

Points Available	5 Accomplished	4-3 Commendable	2-1 Developing
Embellishment	Decorations and/or ornamentation contribute in a meaningful way to theme and information	Some decorations and/or ornamentation do not contribute in a meaningful way to theme or information	Decorations and/or ornamentation either does not contribute in a meaningful way or distracts from theme and information
Neatness	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) not visible; cut edges of paper straight and smooth; meticulousness and care in assembling/constructing board apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) somewhat visible; some cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Care in assembling/constructing board not apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) obviously visible; many cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Little or no care in
Overall Creativity	Offers an imaginative way of presenting information	Offers a limited imaginative way of presenting information	Little or no evidence of imagination
Originality of Ideas	Unique implementation of creative/imaginative ideas	Inspired from other sources and not totally unique	Obvious implementation of other sources and does not reflect the student's own ideas



Presentation

Points Available	5	4-3	2-1
	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing
Depth	The presentation reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of the project and students articulate its impact with skilled nuance. The contestant expertly leverages the tri-fold to visualize the project.	The presentation reflects understanding of the project. The content of the tri-fold reflects a commendable commitment to sharing details of the project through basic information and decorations.	The presentation is on- topic and offers some good points, though it would benefit from greater exploration and detail. The content of the tri-fold reflects compliance but minimal insight. The images may be basic or not particularly effective.
Described group members roles	Clearly explains contribution of chapter members.	Contribution of chapter members somewhat ambiguous.	Contribution of chapter members not clear.
Structure	The presentation and visual aid reflect a truly impressive, nuanced command of how to clearly communicate key information about the projects' significance to an audience. The presentation is successfully and strategically sequenced.	The presentation and visual aid reflect a largely successful effort to convey the significance of the project.	The presentation and visual aid follow a traditional structure without evidence of further ambition or execution. It is direct and on-topic.
Presence	The speaker's sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the substance of the presentation to deliver maximum possible impact to the listener. The visual aid enhances the presentation.	The speaker's mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. The visual aid complements the presentation.	The speaker's inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence. The visual aid is relevant to the presentation.
Q&A	The contestant's responses demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in reflexivity about the project. The contestant displays impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding.	The contestant's responses demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The contestant displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected project.	The contestant's responses reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.

Written Summary of Project

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Mechanics & Professionalism	<p>Reflects a professional-quality document.</p> <p>Contains no errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).</p>	<p>Reflects a commendable, student-level document with one or two errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).</p>	<p>Reflects a document in need of some proofreading and/or revision.</p> <p>Contains three or four errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization)</p>

Overall Impact

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Overall Impact	<p>The project idea was outstanding and was successful in achieving the intended impact and will likely have future impacts as well.</p>	<p>The project idea was commendable and somewhat successful in achieving the intended impact.</p>	<p>The project idea was a good idea but needed more development to achieve the intended impact.</p>

Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	<p>Presentation was between four and five minutes.</p>	<p>Presentation was more than three minutes and less than four minutes.</p>	<p>Presentation was less than three minutes or longer than five minutes.</p>

PROJECT VISUALIZE CONTEST

LEVEL (MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY, HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY, COLLEGIATE)

Student Name: _____

Student's School, City, State: _____

- Judges will use the Detailed Scoring Rubric as their guide to score students' competition entries.
- Points and feedback will be emailed to the student competitors no later than two weeks after the conference.

Guideline Adherence

	Adheres	Does Not Adhere	Score
Summary Sheet	5	0	
Title of Project	5	0	
Purpose and Objectives	5	0	
Description of Activities	5	0	
Description of Chapter Involvement	5	0	
Board Size	5	0	

Creativity

	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing	Score
Embellishment	5	4-3	2-1	
Neatness	5	4-3	2-1	
Originality of Ideas	5	4-3	2-1	
Overall Creativity	5	4-3	2-1	

Presentation

	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing	Score
Depth	5	4-3	2-1	
Described group member roles	5	4-3	2-1	
Structure	5	4-3	2-1	

Presence	5	4-3	2-1	
Q&A	5	4-3	2-1	

Overall Impact

	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing	Score
Overall Impact	10-7	6-4	3-1	

Written Summary of Project

	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing	Score
Mechanics & Professionalism	10-7	6-4	3-1	

Length

	4-5 minutes	3 - <4 minutes	Less than 3 minutes or over 5 minutes	Score
Length	5	3	1	

TOTAL SCORE _____/100

FEEDBACK FOR STUDENTS: Write two or more sentences.