

2026 GOLD COAST SECTION LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



BEYOND the STARS



**SAUGUS HIGH SCHOOL
21900 CENTURION WAY, SANTA CLARITA
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026**

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GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

- Date:** February 07, 2026
- Location:** Saugus High School
21900 Centurion Way, Saugus
- Start Time:** 7:30 AM: Check-In Opens
8:45 AM: Opening Session Begins

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions regarding the conference or competitive events please contact Gold Coast Section Director, via email at goldcoastdirector@cafbla.org

WELCOME

We are working hard to make this year an experience you won't forget! The 2025-2026 edition of the California Awards Program (CAP) will be in effect for all section competitive events. Please check out the latest competitive events guidelines on our state website, cafbla.org.

We are excited that this event will be in person. Please work with your members to ensure they know conference protocol, dress code, and their competitive events before the conference. This will be a great event, and we expect our members and advisers to adhere to the rules in place so everyone feels safe and can enjoy the event. Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me ASAP so they can be addressed.

Once again, this year's GCSLC will be utilizing pre-conference Online Testing for all Objective Tests that will take place at school sites. Information will be sent regarding online testing sign-ups and proctoring. All students who register for the conference and a competitive event are expected to attend the conference at Westlake High School.

Please encourage your members to realize their leadership potential by running for a Gold Coast Section Office. This truly is a great opportunity for them to gain valuable leadership skills and to network with members and officers from throughout the section and state. The CA FBLA Officer Candidate Guide and Application can be found on the cafbla.org website in the resource's library. Also, be sure to select two members as voting delegates for the section officer's election on the day of the section conference.

We encourage your students to come and experience the thrill of competition and the high-quality engaging workshops. Please encourage all of your members to compete in at least one event. We are looking forward to seeing you in February! Sincerely,



Laurie Looker Dawn Herbert
CA FBLA Co-Gold Coast Section Directors

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

ONLINE CHAPTER AFFILIATION DUES

Please prioritize adding members in [FBLA Connect](#) by **DECEMBER 31, 2025**. Advisers who do this will have an easier time registering their students for section, state and national conference.

All members must be in FBLA Connect by **JANUARY 23, 2026**, to compete.

Only members who are listed as “active members” in FBLA Connect will appear in Blue Panda. If you have questions about registering your members, please contact hello@cafbla.org.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference Registration fees include morning refreshments/lunch/awards/testing.
NO REFUNDS AFTER THE DEADLINE.

DUE JANUARY 23, 2026:

- Online Membership Registration due (to be eligible)
- Conference Registration Deadline (Online Registration)
 - **COSTS:**
 - \$45 per member
 - \$10 per adviser/chaperone
 - \$0 per Gold Coast Section Officers
- Transcripts/Proof of Grade Level for required events

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CA FBLA-Gold Coast Section **must list section name**

MAIL TO THIS ADDRESS: CA FBLA Finance PO Box 1440 Owasso, OK 74055

ONLINE SCHOOL-SITE **PRODUCTION** TESTING REQUEST AND SUBMISSION

This section is for PRODUCTION tests-not school site on-line objective testing.

Step one: Request a test. The Online School-Site Testing Request Form is due to Manuel Rapada, Competitive Events Coordinator by **DECEMBER 19, 2025**. The **FORM** can be found on the Competition page on [cafbla.org](#).

Step two: Students complete and submit their school-site production tests. COMPLETED Online School-Site Tests must be submitted online by **JANUARY 23, 2026**.

SCHOOL-SITE PRODUCTION TEST EVENTS ARE:

- Computer Applications

Step three: Students will take the objective test on-line during the school site objective testing.

SECTION PRE-JUDGED EVENT MATERIALS

Event Materials for **Job Interview and Future Business Leader (FBL)** must be submitted online through the Blue Panda Conference Registration System.

PLEASE REVIEW THE [WEBSITE](#) for all info regarding the pre-judged events.

SECTION PRE-JUDGED EVENTS ARE:

- Future Business Leader
- Job Interview

DUE DATE: JANUARY 23, 2026 (submitted date) for preliminary judging.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION (CONT'D)

EVENT RESTRICTIONS

The number of competitors a chapter can enter will be based on your paid chapter membership:

1-49 members: 1-3 competitors

50-74 members: up to 4 competitors

75-100 members: up to 5 competitors

100+ members: up to 6 competitors

Competitors cannot enter more than TWO Individual or Team events. If a student is entered into the Creed Contest they may compete in three TOTAL events. Email Gold Coast Director ASAP if this pertains to a member in your chapter.

TRANSCRIPTS / PROOF OF GRADE LEVEL

All members entered in the following events must submit one PDF of Transcripts or Proof of Grade level for all students via email by **JANUARY 23, 2026**, goldcoastdirector@cafbla.org

Transcripts (must be sent via email):

- **Accounting:** Must not have had more than two semesters of accounting instruction.

VOTING DELEGATES

Please assign two voting delegates for selecting the 2025-2026 Gold Coast Section officer team. Voting will take place at lunch during the conference.

CONFERENCE DRESS CODE

The Dress Code for this conference is Business. Please review the dress code with your members prior to the conference to ensure they are not penalized, or unable to attend the sessions or workshops. Not adhering to the dress code is a 5-point penalty

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

All competitors are required to have a Photo ID or printed copy of schedule/transcript with their name and photo or they will NOT be allowed to compete. A school ID or Driver's License will be accepted. Images on a cell phone or other device will not be allowed.

WORKSHOPS

During the conference, several activities and workshops will be planned. Students not competing in a performance event are expected to attend the activities and workshops. A schedule of events will be sent prior to the conference. Advisers are asked to assist students in selecting their agenda for the day.

REGISTRATION MATERIALS

WHAT MATERIALS TO SEND

The items below need to be sent via email/mail or submitted online to:

EMAIL to

goldcoastdirector@cafbla.org

- Creed competitor's name if in three events
- Adviser/Chaperone Help (respond to email sent to all advisers the week before conference to confirm your event duty)

SUBMIT ONLINE (using [Blue Panda](#))

- Accounting transcripts (PDF)
- Job Application / Future Business Leader Materials (PDF)
- Computer Applications production test materials – Info will be sent to proctors on where members should upload work

The following items need to be sent via mail or paid online to:

- **Registration Check**
 - Send check payable to CA FBLA-Gold Coast Section
 - Checks must be received no later than the date of the conference
 - All checks must be **mailed to PO Box 1440, Owasso, OK 74055**. We will not accept checks on-site.
- **E-invoices**
 - E-invoices will be sent via email to chapters by **January 31, 2026**
 - Once an e-invoice is received, chapters may pay via credit card through the e-invoice or mail check to the address listed above.

WHAT MATERIALS TO BRING TO GCSLC

1. **Required Forms for ALL STUDENT ATTENDEES:** Members are required to have the following forms on hand and filled out in the Advisers possession during the event. These forms ensure all members are approved to attend this event by their Parent/Guardians.
2. Permission & Medical Release Form - [Link](#)
3. **PHOTO ID** with student name and image clearly visible. Required for ALL attendees at the conference.

PERFORMANCE EVENT INFORMATION

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADER (FBL)

The top 10 in this event will be selected based on preliminary scores of application materials. Competitors must bring a folder with one copy of application materials to the conference. Review the event guidelines, including the “California FBLA Guidelines (Section and State)” section. Finalists (Top 10) and interview times for this event will be sent to Advisers the week of the Conference.

INTRO TO PUBLIC SPEAKING / PUBLIC SPEAKING

Speech Times for these events will be sent to Advisers the week of the Conference.

JOB INTERVIEW

The top 10 in this event will be selected based on preliminary scores of application materials. Competitors must bring a folder with one copy of application materials to the conference. Review the event guidelines, including the “California FBLA Guidelines (Section and State)” section. Finalists (Top 10) and interview times for this event will be sent to Advisers the week of the Conference.

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

Competitors for this event are encouraged to participate in this event only. Times for this event will be drawn and sent to Advisers the week of the Conference.

SALES PRESENTATION

Event Specifics:

- One submission per chapter (Individual/Team for both events)
- **Present live at the Section Leadership Conference**

Review the event guidelines, including the “California FBLA Guidelines (Section and State)” section.

ONLINE OBJECTIVE TESTING INFORMATION

All Objective Testing will be conducted online the week prior to the conference and must be proctored by an adviser or school staff.

Members will log-in to their assigned test under the direction of the proctoring adviser and have 50 minutes to complete each test. Members from the same chapter signed up to take the same test MUST test at the same time.

Advisers will be sent an email to select their testing dates and times. Tests may only be completed during the testing window provided. Testing will be administered similar to Production testing in which the chapter adviser will schedule the students themselves to take their tests during the testing dates and times they selected.

Events WILL NOT be bracketed to specific days. Members who take an online test are expected to attend the full conference at Westlake. All registered members are required to pay the full registration fee.

Questions regarding on-line testing should be sent to Tiffany Perez tperez@cafbla.org

RUNNING FOR 2026-2027 SECTION OFFICE

THE DECISION TO RUN FOR SECTION OFFICE

Service as a Gold Coast Section Officer is an opportunity to gain valuable leadership experience and contribute to the development and advancement of California FBLA. The Officer Candidate Guide provides information about Section Officer Candidate eligibility, the application and campaign process, and an overview of the expectations, responsibilities, and activities of Central Section Officers.

Complete Applications must be submitted via EMAIL as **ONE PDF FILE** to Gold Coast Section Director, at goldcoastdirector@cafbla.org on or before **December 19, 2025**.
This is a hard deadline. No exceptions.

To be successful in the candidate process, be sure to carefully review and consider the following:

- Review the [Officer Candidate Guide](#) and be familiar with section officer responsibilities and candidate requirements.
- Meet with your local chapter adviser, family, school administrators, employers, and other significant parties to discuss running for section office to gain their support.
- Familiarize yourself with California FBLA's mission, history, bylaws, publications, programs, and activities. The Chapter Management Handbook and the state and national websites are excellent resources (to find these materials).

POSITIONS

Officer Positions are open to candidates who will be enrolled in 7th to 12th grade during the 2025-2026 school year. The positions are:

- President (**Must complete State Officer Application**)
- Vice President of Activities (Complete Section Officer Application)
- Vice President of Membership (Complete Section Officer Application)
- Secretary (Complete Section Officer Application)
- Public Relations (Complete Section Officer Application)

NOTE:

- The Section President will simultaneously hold the office of State Vice President representing Gold Coast Section and must be able to complete the duties of both offices.
- For Gold Coast only officer positions will be filled with a combination of rubric score from Officer Statement, Officer Interview, and receiving 3/4s of the voting delegates. A selection committee will determine which candidate fills each officer's position.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Download the Candidate Guide and Application from CAFBLA website.

Direct all inquiries and questions about Gold Coast Section Officer Applications to **Gold Coast Section Director** goldcoastdirector@cafbla.org

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 7:30-8:00 AM REGISTRATION (Advisers must check in chapter)**
- 7:30-8:30 AM MORNING REFRESHMENTS and CAMPAIGN TABLES**
- 8:45-9:15 AM OPENING SESSION**
(Welcome and Campaign Speeches)
- 9:30 -12:00 PM SPEAKING & INTERVIEW EVENTS**
- Job Interview
 - Future Business Leader
 - Intro to Public Speaking
 - Public Speaking
 - Impromptu Speaking
 - Creed
 - Sales Presentation
- 9:30-12:00 PM WORKSHOPS**
- 12:15-12:45 PM CANDIDATE CAUCUS AND VOTING SESSION**
- 12:00-1:30PM LUNCH (served continuously)**
- 12:30-1:30 PM SMALL BUSINESS EXPO**
- 2:00-3:30 PM AWARDS/CLOSING SESSION**

NOTE: THIS SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SMALL BUSINESS EXPO

Does your chapter operate a small business as part of your curriculum? If so, you are invited to participate in the GCSLC Small Business Expo. Each chapter will be provided with a table to display information about their business and sell any products they produce. The Expo will take place during the lunch session. Interested chapters should email the Gold Coast Section Directors to reserve a table.

CONFERENCE DRESS CODE

ADVISERS: Please spend time PRIOR to the conference reviewing the dress code and assisting your members in dressing professionally. Members dressed inappropriately will receive a 5-point deduction from their score. This can be avoided with some guidance and understanding.

FBLA members and advisers should develop an awareness of the image one's appearance projects. The purpose of the FBLA Conference Dress Code is to uphold the professional image of the association and its members and to prepare students for the business world.

Appropriate attire is required for all attendees—advisers, members, and guests—at all general sessions, competitive events, section meetings, workshops, and other activities unless otherwise stated in the conference program. Conference name badges are part of this FBLA Conference Dress Code and must be worn for all conference functions.

Professional attire acceptable for official FBLA activities include:

- Business suit with collared dress shirt, and necktie or
- Business suit with blouse or
- Sport coat, dress slacks, collared shirt, and necktie or
- Dress slacks, collared shirt, and necktie or
- Business pantsuit with blouse or
- Dress slacks with blouse or sweater or
- Business Skirt or Dress
- Dress or skirt hem length may be **no higher than 1 inch above the knee**
- Dress shoes with 2-inch heel or less
- If wearing dress slacks or pants, you must wear dress socks. Socks must be the same color as suits.
- Banded collared shirts may be worn only if sport coat or business suit is worn.

Inappropriate attire includes:

- Jewelry in visible body piercing, other than ears
- Denim or chambray fabric clothing of any kind, overalls, shorts, skorts, stretch or stirrup pants, exercise or bike shorts
- Backless, see-through, tight-fitting, spaghetti straps, strapless, extremely short, or low-cut blouses/tops/dresses/skirts
- T-shirts, Lycra, spandex, midriff tops, tank tops, bathing suits
- Sandals, athletic shoes, industrial work shoes, hiking boots, bare feet, or over-the-knee boots
- Athletic wear, including sneakers and low-cut ankle socks
- Hats or flannel fabric clothing
- Bolo ties
- Visible foundation garments

SLC QUALIFIERS FROM GCSLC

FIRST Place Winner at Section:

- Creed

FIRST & SECOND Place Winners at Gold Coast Section:

- Intro to Public Speaking
- Impromptu Speaking
- Job Interview
- Public Speaking
- Sales Presentation

FIRST, SECOND, & THIRD Place Winners at Gold Coast Section:

- Parliamentary Procedure

FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, & FIFTH Place Winners at Gold Coast Section:

- Computer Applications

FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, & SIXTH Place Winners at Gold Coast Section:

Objective Test Only

- Accounting
- Advertising
- Agribusiness
- Business Communication
- Business Law
- Computer Problem Solving
- Cybersecurity
- Data Science & AI
- Economics
- Health Care Administration
- Human Resource Management
- Insurance & Risk Management
- Introduction to Business Communication
- Introduction to Business Concepts
- Introduction to Business Procedures
- Introduction to FBLA
- Introduction to Information Technology
- Introduction to Marketing Concepts
- Introduction to Retail Merchandise
- Personal Finance
- Real Estate
- Securities & Investments

Objective Test and Role Play

- Business Management
- Entrepreneurship
- Hospitality and Event Management
- International Business
- Marketing
- Sports and Entertainment Management

Objective Test, Pre-Judge, and Interview

- Future Business Leader

Click the "Guidelines" link on the California FBLA Competitive Event page to review events that begin at Section and State Leadership Conference (SLC) in April!

ONLINE REGISTRATION INFO (ADVISERS ONLY)

ADVISERS: READ ALL OF BELOW BEFORE LOGGING INTO BLUE PANDA.

Log in to <https://app.gobluepanda.com>. Click “Login with FBLA Connect.”



User Login Judge Code

[Login with FBLA Connect](#)

– OR –

Username:

Password:

[Forgot Password?](#)

Remember Me Stay Logged In

[Login](#)

Enter your FBLA Connect email address and password.



Email Address:

Password:

[Forgot Your Password?](#) [Login](#)

In the Blue Panda drop down, select the “California FBA [Your Middle/High School’s Name]” option. This will give you access to California FBLA’s section and state conference registrations.



Browser: <https://app.gobluepanda.com> Incognito

Group: **Test Root Org | Test High School (FBLA Connect)** [Refresh](#)

Test High School (FBLA Connect)

Name: Test High School (FBLA Connect)

Organization: Admin

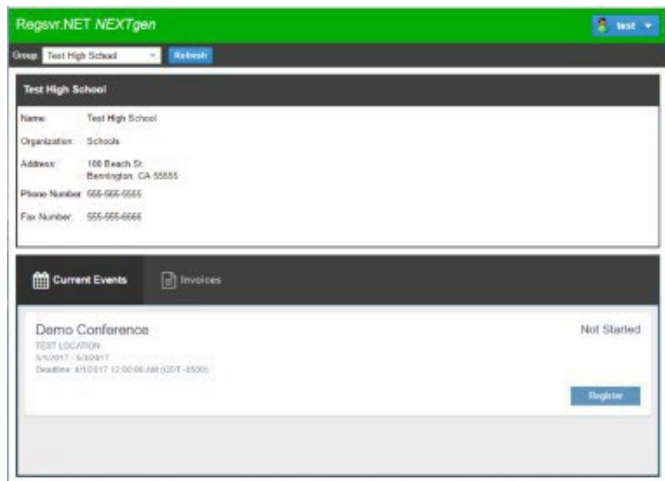
Address:

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

ONLINE REGISTRATION INFO (ADVISERS ONLY)

Click “Register” for the 2026 Gold Coast Section Leadership Conference.

The screenshot shows a web application interface for registration. At the top, there's a green header with 'Regsvr.NET NEXtgen' and a user profile icon. Below that, a dropdown menu is set to 'Test High School'. The main content area is titled 'Test High School' and contains a form with the following fields: Name (Test High School), Organization (Schools), Address (100 Beach St, Bennington, CA 05555), Phone Number (555-555-5555), and Fax Number (555-555-5555). Below the form, there are two tabs: 'Current Events' and 'Invoices'. Under 'Current Events', there is a section for 'Demo Conference' with details: TEST LOCATION: 1/30/2017 - 1/30/2017, Deadline: 4/15/17 12:00:00 AM (CST -5:00), and a 'Not Started' status. A blue 'Register' button is located at the bottom right of this section.

On the ATTENDEES screen, click the “ADD” button, and, first, register yourself as adviser. On the drop-down list, select the “Adviser” option. Once you do that, you will see editable fields, but they will probably be initially populated with the name of one of your students. Delete that name and enter your own information and all remaining fields. Register any other adults attending as advisers.

Once advisers are registered, you will begin registering students by switching the drop-down to one of the “Student” options. Middle school chapters should select the "MS Student Participant" registration when registering their students. High school chapter members only should be registered under the attendee type “HS Student Participant.”

Don't see your student's name in Blue Panda?

- Go to FBLA Connect.
- Go to Members > Transition Members.
- Make sure all students are listed in the middle “member” column.
- If a missing student is in the “unpaid student” column with no dollar sign next to their name
...
- Select their name, then “transition to member.”
- Click “generate the invoice, skip the quote step.”
- Near the bottom of the invoice, select “I have mailed a check.”
- You do not have to pay this invoice. CA FBLA will pay this on your behalf based on the affiliation tier you selected on your affiliation form.
- Wait at least 15 minutes for the student to appear in Blue Panda.
- If a missing student is in the “unpaid student” column with a green dollar sign next to their name.
- Click on the green dollar sign next to their name
- Near the bottom of the invoice, select “I have mailed a check.”
- You do not have to pay this invoice. CA FBLA will pay this on your behalf based on the affiliation tier you selected on your affiliation form.
- Wait at least 15 minutes for the student to appear in Blue Panda.

ONLINE REGISTRATION INFO (ADVISERS ONLY)

Be sure to carefully check and update student grade levels. Students must show proper grade levels in Blue Panda in order to enter grade specific events.

If you have students with special needs, please provide a clear explanation of the student's needs in addition to checking the Special Needs box.

If you have students with dietary requirements, please provide a clear explanation of the student's needs in addition to checking the Dietary box.

For each student, double check spelling, grade level and email address (both editable in Blue Panda, and be sure to supply personal email addresses for each student so that important notifications will not get caught in school district spam filters.

If you change anything in Blue Panda, please understand that it also needs to be corrected in FBLA Connect for future purposes, as the information does not sync the other way.

Adding Entries

Add - Select the event and click "Add" (You don't have to click the event first, but it does make it easier)

Tip: Click "Add" to create a registration for each Individual or Team. Once you've added the one Individual or Team, click OK and then click Add to create another.

Edit - Click the "Edit" button next to the registration you wish to edit.

Once you have a given student registered under "ATTENDEES", you will be able to assign events to them under "COMPETITIONS". In the Competitions module, you have the option to enter students in events either BY EVENT or BY ATTENDEE (toggle top right).

Name	Group	Registered	Attendee
Accounting	State	011003 Sherry Brown	Yes
Community Service Project	State	011004 Group Entry	Yes
Introduction to Business	State		
Marketing	State	011000 Jason Jones, John Smith	Yes
Word Processing	State	011006 Jane Smith	Yes

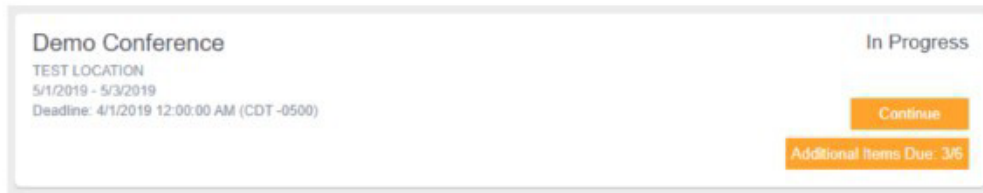
Available	Assigned
Bennett, Susan (9A)	Jones, Jason (7)
Brown, Mark (9A)	Smith, John (10)
Brown, Sherry (9)	
Smith, Jane (9)	

For team events, see right:

Continue assigning events to student attendees until complete. Double-check all of your event entries before submitting.

ONLINE EVENT SUBMISSION (ADVISERS ONLY)

Advisers will submit materials (documents and/or links) required for certain competitive events using the “Items Due” tool in Blue Panda. As soon as an adviser registers a student for an event with pre-judged material submissions, **a new orange button for “Items Due”** will appear on the conference box immediately after log in to Blue Panda.



Clicking the “Items Due” button will take the adviser to the screenshot below. Depending on the event, clicking the **Upload** button on the right will open a box to either input a URL or browse the computer for the item to upload.

Competition ↑	Due By ↑	Entry	Asset	
Word Processing Job #1		Jane Smith	Please Click Button To Upload	
Word Processing Job #2		Jane Smith	Please Click Button To Upload	
Job Interview Resume	2/1/21 5:00 PM ...	Jason Jones John Smith	Please Click Button To Upload	
Job Interview Resume	2/1/21 5:00 PM ...	Philip Smith Maegan Belissal	Please Click Button To Upload	

You may log back in to adjust any time until JANUARY 23, 2026, to finally hit the SUBMIT button—but don't forget to do that! Your registration will not be official until the SUBMIT button is pressed for the last time until JANUARY 23, 2026. Even after clicking the final SUBMIT button, you will be able to log back in and edit your registration up until the final deadline on JANUARY 23, 2026. Chapters will receive an e-invoice from California FBLA after registration in Blue Panda closes. Through the e-invoices, chapters can see their balance due and pay via credit card or check. Questions?

- About the conference: Please contact llooker@cafbla.org or dherbert@cafbla.org
- About members who are not showing up in Blue Panda and how to use FBLA Connect: Please contact Tiffany Perez, Chapter Support Manager, at hello@cafbla.org.
- About CA FBLA's competitive event guidelines and how to use Blue Panda: Please contact Manuel Rapada, Competitive Events Coordinator, at mrapada@cafbla.org.

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR 2026 GCSLC ON **DECEMBER 1, 2025**. **Only CHAPTER ADVISERS should be registering members for this event.**

Do NOT allow students to register your chapter.

IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER 2025

- 1 GCSLC Conference Registration Opens
- 5 2026-2027 Gold Coast Section [Officer Applications](#) — Emailed as ONE PDF to goldcoastdirector@cafbla.org
- 19 GCSLC School-Site Testing Request for Computer Applications — Submitted Online
***Registration must be submitted for these students at this time as well.**
- 31 Membership Registration Deadline (for a smoother section, state and national conference registration experience) — FBLA Connect

JANUARY 2026

- 23 Submission of the following Event Materials **Online** – Future Business Leader and Job Interview
- 23 Membership Registration Deadline — Online Membership Registration System
- 23 Conference Registration Deadline — Online Conference Registration System
- 23 Completed CSLC School-Site Tests for Computer Applications, Spreadsheet Applications and Word Processing – Submitted Online
- 23 Conference Registration Check Information:
Mail to: CA FBLA Finance
Office PO Box 1440,
Owasso, OK 74055
Payable to: CA FBLA-Gold Coast Section
Please make sure your business office has updated conference check information.
- 23 Deadline to sign-up for online objective testing at your school site
- 26 **Online testing window opens for OBJECTIVE TESTING ONLY**

FEBRUARY 2026

- 02 **Online Objective Testing Window Closes**
- 07 GCSLC 2026 at Saugus High School