

ILLINOIS FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

Organization

Section 1. The Illinois Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America is an association of local chapters, each operating in accordance with a charter granted by FBLA-PBL, Incorporated.

Section 2. The administration of the State Chapter of FBLA should be vested in a Board of Directors with the State Chairman having the final authority. The State Chairman's authority may be overridden by a 4/5 vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Illinois Chapter and local chapters within the state shall use the letters "FBLA" as the official title, and the members shall be referred to as "Future Business Leaders of America."

Section 4. A local chapter may have as many special-emphasis groups within its organization as it deems necessary to care for all students' interests. For example: A certain group of students may be enrolled in a cooperative program and have specific interests and needs. A special-emphasis group operating under the FBLA umbrella may be provided for those interested in, for example : data processing, bookkeeping/ accounting, clerical and secretarial occupations. Normally, these special interests will be identified through the major study emphasis chosen by the students. The local chapter of FBLA shall assume full responsibility for coordinating the program for these interest groups.

Section 5. The state shall be divided into areas. Areas shall be made up of regional local chapters maintaining a minimum of 150 members in good standing. If an area fails to maintain the minimum membership requirement, it may petition the State Chairman for reinstatement for the next fiscal year. The petition shall be ratified by the State of Board of Directors at the State Leadership Conference.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section 1. Membership in the State Chapter and each local chapter shall be open to all students interested in pursuing a career in business.

Section 2. Membership in the State Chapter and local chapters shall be (a) active, (b) professional, and (c) honorary life.

Active Members shall be students interested in pursuing a career in business and who accept the purposes of FBLA, subscribe to its creed, demonstrate willingness to contribute to good school/community relations, and possess qualities for employment. Active members shall pay dues as established by FBLA and shall be eligible to participate in state and national events, serve as voting delegates to the State and National Leadership Conferences, hold state and national offices, or otherwise represent their state or local chapter as approved by their respective state or local advisers.

Professional Members shall be persons associated with or participating in the professional development of FBLA as approved by the State Chapter. Such members may include local and state chapter advisers, business teachers, business teacher educators, state supervisors of business and office education, employers or supervisors of cooperative work-training students. Advisory Council members, business persons and other persons contributing to the growth and development of FBLA Professional members shall pay dues as established by FBLA but shall not participate in competitive events, serve as voting delegates, or hold office.

Honorary Life Members may be elected to the State Chapter by a majority of the Board of Directors who are of the opinion that such persons are assisting in the advancement of business and office education and/or who are rendering outstanding service to FBLA-PBL, Inc. Honorary life members shall not vote or hold office and shall not be required to pay dues.

Section 3. The membership year shall be from July 1 through June 30.

ARTICLE III

Governing Authority

Section 1. The Illinois State Chapter of FBLA shall be governed by a Board of Directors with the State Chairman having the final authority except as set forth in Article I, Section 2. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the State Chairman appointed by the national office; the State FBLA Adviser; the State FBLA Associate Adviser; the Area Chairmen or their representatives; a representative from ISBE appointed by the State Chairman; the state president; the advisers to the state officers; and the president of the State Advisory Council. The necessity of the appointment of the State FBLA Adviser and the State FBLA Associate Adviser shall be at the discretion of the State Chairman. The Board of Directors shall annually elect a chairman and a secretary at the September meeting.

Section 2. Ex-officio members of the Board of Directors shall be the State Chairman, the State FBLA Adviser, the State FBLA Associate Adviser, the IBSE representative, and the president of the State Advisory Council.

Section 3. The Illinois Executive Council of FBLA shall be composed of the State Chairman, the FBLA Adviser, the FBLA Associate Adviser, state officers (president, vice presidents of the areas, or their representatives, secretary, treasurer, reporter, and parliamentarian), and a representative from ISBE.

Section 4. The Board of Directors and the Executive Council shall meet in September, at the State Leadership Conference, and upon the request of the State Chairman.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Illinois State Chapter of FBLA shall consist of president, vice president of the areas, secretary, treasurer, reporter, and parliamentarian.

Section 2. The president, secretary, treasurer, and reporter shall be nominated and elected annually by the majority vote of the delegates present at the annual State Leadership Conference.

Section 3. Appointment of parliamentarian. The person scoring highest on the Parliamentary Procedure written test shall be appointed by the incoming state president to serve as parliamentarian. This individual shall have at least one year remaining before being graduated from a secondary school.

Section 4. Procedure for officer election if no candidate files for nomination before the specified deadline shall be administered by the State Chairman.

ARTICLE V

Qualifications for State Office

Section 1. State officers of FBLA are elected and appointed at the annual State Leadership Conference, and only active members are eligible to hold office.

Section 2. To be a candidate for an elected state officer's position in FBLA, a candidate shall (a) have the endorsement of his local chapter and be recommended by the chapter(s), (b) shall file an official application with the State Chairman of FBLA, (c) shall have at least one full school year remaining in a secondary school, (d) shall have been an area or chapter officer, including president, vice president,

secretary, treasurer, historian, reporter, or parliamentarian, (e) should be pursuing a career in business (f) shall be approved by the State Chairman.

Section 3. Each chapter may nominate only one candidate.

Section 4. The candidates for state officers must be present at the annual State Leadership Conference of FBLA to be eligible for official nomination.

ARTICLE VI

Duties of State Officers

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the president of FBLA to serve as chairman of the State Executive Council, preside over the Council meetings and business meetings of FBLA, appoint appropriately needed committees and committee chairmen, maintain a close and continuing relationship with the State Chairman of FBLA, serve as a member of the Board of Directors, and perform other duties for promotion and development of local, state, and national FBLA.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the vice presidents of the areas, under the direction of the president, to assist the president in the promotion and development of FBLA. In case the office of president becomes vacant, the vice president from the president's area shall assume the duties of the president.

Section 3. The secretary shall perform the duties common to such an office, such as keeping an accurate record of all sessions of the annual State Leadership Conference, the meetings of the State Executive Council, supplying at least one copy of the minutes and substantiating reports to the State Chairman of FBLA promptly after the close of the meetings, and perform such other duties as directed by the president.

Section 4. The treasurer shall assist the State Chairman with the keeping of accurate records of receipts, deposits, and disbursements, present an annual report of such matters to FBLA members at the annual State Leadership Conference, and perform such other duties as directed by the president.

Section 5. The reporter shall be in charge of the newsletter, state scrapbook, and help with extra state publicity, and perform such other duties as directed by the president.

Section 6. A replacement for an officer, other than the president, who cannot serve out of his term shall be made by the State Executive Council, with the approval of the State Chairman.

Section 7. If a vice president of an area cannot fulfill his/her duties, the vice president of the area must designate another area officer to represent the area on

the executive council so that the area will have equal representation with the other areas.

Section 8. A chapter may run a different candidate for a state office even if the chapter currently has the vice president of the area from its chapter.

ARTICLE VII

Committees

Section 1. The president of the Illinois State Chapter of FBLA and the Board of Directors shall, with the advice and consent of the State Chairman, designate committees as needed, name their members for a period not to exceed his term in office, and assist these committees in their activities.

ARTICLE VIII

Advisory Council

Section 1. An Advisory Council to assist in the growth and development of FBLA may be appointed as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors. Recommendations of persons for such appointments shall be requested of local chapters.

ARTICLE IX

Dues

Section 1. Annual dues for the Illinois dues for the Illinois State FBLA Chapter shall be decided by the State Executive Council and the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X

Finances

Section 1. Dues of members should be forwarded to the state treasurer.

Section 2. The Illinois State Chairman of FBLA shall administer and control all state FBLA finances and shall furnish an annual audit to each local chapter.

Section 3. The fiscal year of the Future Business Leaders of America shall be July 1 through June 30.

ARTICLE XI

Meetings

Section 1. The State Leadership Conference shall be held annually at a time and place to be determined by the State Executive Council and the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Parliamentary procedure of all meetings will be governed by Robert' s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

ARTICLE XII

Voting

Section 1. Each local chapter in good standing (See Article XV, Section 1) shall be entitled to have votes according to its unified (States and National) paid membership at the State Leadership Conference as follows:

Under 50 paid members- two votes
From 50- 100 paid members- three votes
Over 1 00 paid members - four votes

Section 2. A voting representative must be present to the State Leadership Conference to cast all votes that a chapter is entitled to.

Section 3. The voting delegate or delegates of local chapters shall be officially certified by their respective advisers to the Executive Council of FBLA.

ARTICLE XIII

Emblems and Colors

Section 1. The official emblem and insignia item designs are described and protected from infringement by registration in the U.S. Patent Office under the Trademark Act of 1946. The wearing or displaying of this emblem shall be governed by each State Chapter of FBLA, the National FBLA-PBL Association, and the Board of Directors of FBLA-PBL, Incorporated.

Section 2. Emblems and insignia shall be uniform in all local chapters and within special-emphasis groups; they shall be those of FBLA.

Section 3. The official colors of FBLA shall be blue and gold.

ARTICLE XIV

Procedures for Issuing Charters to Chapter

Section 1. Each group wishing to become a chapter of FBLA must submit the following items to the FBLA State Chairman: (a) application for charter (b) copy of proposed chapter constitution and by laws (c) brief description of projects which the chapter is undertaking, (d) list of charter members, and (e) state and national membership dues (two separate checks, one payable to the State Chapter and the other payable to the National Office).

Section 2. After the application has been received, a charter may be granted by the Board of Directors of FBLA-PBL, Incorporated, provided the proposed chapter constitution is not in conflict with the state and national constitutions and bylaws of FBLA-PBL; such charter is to be signed by the National Executive Director.

ARTICLE XV

Procedure for Determining Standing of Chapters and Members

Section 1. A chapter of FBLA shall be considered in good standing with the national and state organization when the following conditions are met:

- a. State and national membership dues have been paid thirty days before the State Leadership Conference. However, for a member to be eligible for competitive events and/or attend the State Leadership Conference, that member's dues must be postmarked by January 31.
- b. All reports have been submitted to the National Executive Director as requested.
- c. The local chapter constitution and laws are not in conflict with the state and national constitutions and bylaws in any of the provisions.
- d. An approved program of activities is being conducted to further the purposes of FBLA.

ARTICLE XVI

Amendments

Section 1. Any proposed amendments shall be approved by the Board of Directors and the Executive Council and adopted by a majority vote of the voting representatives attending the annual State Leadership Conference.