



2023-2024

## Competitive Events Handbook



# Career Preparation

### Event Code

CP

### Event Type

Individual

### Event Summary: Get Ready for Career Preparation!

Hey there, future career rockstars! This event is all about getting you ready to shine in your dream job interviews. Imagine having all the skills and info you need to impress any employer.

Here's the deal: you'll dive into a career you love, and we'll help you get super ready to talk about it. Whether you're into tech, healthcare, fashion, or anything else, we've got you covered.

Our goal is to boost your confidence. We want you to feel awesome when you talk about why your dream job is a perfect fit for you. Think of it as your chance to show off how amazing you are in your chosen career path.

So get excited to learn, practice, and rock those interviews! You're on your way to becoming a career superstar!

### General Rules:

1. Competitors in this event must be active members of NCA and be in good standing.
2. Eligible divisions to compete in the Career Preparation (CP) event:
  - Middle School
  - High School
  - Out-of-School/College Success Programs
3. Competitors must be familiar with and adhere to the "General Rules and Regulations of the NCA Competitive Events Program (GRR)."
4. All competitors shall report to the site of the event at the time designated for each round of competition. At the National CDC, competitor's photo ID must be presented prior to ALL competition rounds.

## Event Guidelines

### Step into Your Future with Career Preparation!

Welcome to the awesome world of Career Preparation! This event is all about diving into a career you're curious about, researching it, and then showing off your knowledge to the judges.

### Here's What You'll Do:

You're going to create an engaging career presentation that's at least 7 minutes long but not more than 10 minutes. It's like putting together your own mini talk show about your chosen career.

### Get Ready to Shine:

Before March 15, send in your presentation as a PDF to [nca@jag.org](mailto:nca@jag.org). We want to see your excitement and passion for your chosen career.

 **Deadline for presentation submissions by March 15.**

### Example questions that the judges may ask:

- In what parts of the selected career are you interested?
- How did you become intrigued by the selected career?
- What is a future career goal of yours?
- What role can NCA play in reaching your career goal?
- Why are you excited about in the selected career field?

### Ethics

Professional ethics demand that competitors DO NOT discuss or reveal any judge questions for ANY event until after the event has concluded. Violation of the ethics rules will be severely penalized per the General Rules & Regulations.

### Judging

The judges will have three-minutes to evaluate the presentation focusing on the effectiveness of public speaking, presentation content, and how well the participant responded to questions that the judges ask during the presentation.

## Event Guidelines *(continued)*

### **The Presentation:**

Imagine you're on stage – Event personnel will show you flash cards at 7 minutes and another when there is 1 minute left. After your presentation, you'll have 3 minutes to chat with the judges and answer their questions.

### **Showcasing Your Journey:**

Your presentation will be like a journey:

**Slide 1:** Start with a cool title page – your career, your name, and more.

**Slides 2-4:** Share why you're interested in this career and how you got into it.

**Slide 5:** Talk about the career – what you'll do, where you'll work, and more.

**Slide 6:** Education, experience, and training – show how you'll prepare for this career.

**Slide 7:** Job outlook – what's the demand for this career?

**Slide 8:** Salary – how much could you make and where could you go?

**Slide 9:** Share a personal statement – why are you the perfect fit for this career?

**Slide 10:** Wrap it up with your sources – where did you get your info?

### **Be Awesome:**

This is your chance to shine and show why you're passionate about your future career. Let's get you ready to conquer the job world with confidence!



# Judge Rating Sheet

## Career Preparation

Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Time In: \_\_\_\_\_

Time Out: \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of interest	Fair 0-2	Average 3-5	Good 6-8	Excellent 9-10	Judge Score
<b>1. Introductions / Opening</b> <i>Who are you and why are you interested in pursuing this career field?</i>	The opening only minimally answers the question.	The opening attempts to answer the question but there is a significant need for more information	Opening answer to the question leaves the judges wanting more information	The opening includes an excellent and thoughtful introduction to the competitor. It makes for a great introduction and the judges feel like they have a real sense of who the competitor is.	
<b>2. Relevant Career Description</b> <i>Explain the career and the aspects that you are excited about including:</i> 1. specific roles and responsibilities needed for success in the field, 2. an in-depth description of the working environment and 3. potential employers in the field.	Competitor shares 0 of the relevant points of this criterion at a basic level.	Competitor shared 1 of the 3 relevant points of this criterion.	Competitor shared 2 of the 3 relevant points of this criterion.	Competitor covers all three relevant points of this criteria: 1. specific roles and responsibilities needed for success in the field, 2. an in-depth description of the working environment and 3. potential employers in the field.	
<b>3. Relevant education / experience needed for the field</b>	Competitor does not demonstrate an understanding of the education or experience necessary for this career.	Competitor has covered the basics for this criterion but their responses leave doubt on how they will achieve these necessary job requirements.	Competitor shares detailed information about requirements for job entry and explains their plan to achieve them.	Competitor uses research to provide detailed information about education, experience, and credentials necessary to succeed in this job.	
<b>4. Future forecast of this job sector</b>	Competitor's response lacks a detailed response to this section which lacks long-term and technology related topics.	Competitor shares short term or long term advancements/ challenges to the field but fails to share how technology may play a role.	Competitor covers short term changes, long term changes, and technology but their answers lack depth.	Competitor demonstrates an in-depth understanding of the career/field and how it may change in the short-term and long term and how advancements in technology may effect the career/field.	
<b>5. Explanation of competitors preparation for this role / field</b>	Competitors response lacks information about their preparation for this career/field.	Competitor minimally explains their potential in this career, but their response is limited in knowledge and does not effectively link their JAG/ NCA experience.	Competitor explains why they may be good in this career, and shares ways that JAG/NCA experiences formed these skills.	Competitor makes a compelling argument about why they would be an ideal candidate for this career and shares how their JAG/NCA experience helped them reach their goal.	

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6. Presentation Materials	Presentation materials have multiple errors in grammar and spelling, and does not help the overall presentation.	Presentation materials are not engaging and the competitor is reading directly from the presentation slides.	Presentation materials are engaging but lack professionalism due to spelling/grammar errors. The competitor seems to be relying on the presentation.	Presentation materials are engaging and professional with no grammar/spelling errors. The competitor uses the presentation effectively to complement their verbal presentation.	
7. Presentation Skills	Most of the competitor's posture, body language, and facial expressions indicated a lack of enthusiasm for the presentation. Movements were distracting.	Stiff or unnatural use of nonverbal behaviors. Body language reflects some discomfort interacting with audience. Limited use of gestures to reinforce verbal message. Facial expressions and body language are used to try to generate enthusiasm but seem somewhat forced.	The competitor maintained adequate posture and nondistracting movement during the presentation. Some gestures were used. Facial expressions and body language sometimes generated an interest and enthusiasm for the presentation.	Movements & gestures were purposeful and enhanced the delivery of the presentation and did not distract. Body language reflects comfort interacting with audience. Facial expressions and body language consistently generated a strong interest and enthusiasm for the topic.	
8. Overall Impression	Most of the competitor's posture, body language, and facial expressions indicated a lack of enthusiasm for the presentations. Movements were distracting.	The competitor appeared to be nervous and anxious during the presentation. It was evident they were excited; they just need more practice with presentations.	The competitor exhibited some level of confidence in his/her presentation ability but seemed a little nervous.	The competitor presented with confidence. They were excited and prepared to share information about their future career of interest.	
9. Meeting Time Requirements	The meeting significantly exceeded or fell short of the allocated time.	The meeting slightly exceeded or fell short of the allocated time.	The meeting adhered precisely to the allocated time.	The meeting concluded at the allocated minimum time, allowing for additional discussion or activities.	
10. Professional Attire	The attire is unsuitable and unprofessional for the context.	The attire shows some professional elements but lacks consistency.	The attire is suitable and professionally consistent.	The attire is exceptionally appropriate and demonstrates a deep understanding of professionalism.	

Notes:

**Total Score**  
Out of 100 total points.