



GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION - 2024

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

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

1. **Be an Active level paid national member of Educators Rising for the current school year no later than February 1, 2024.** To join as a National Active level member, [click here](#) to create your account and then complete the online application and purchase process.
2. **Register with their Teacher Leader to attend the Educators Rising Virginia State Leadership Conference.**
3. **Upload all advance materials no later than February 6, 2024, at 5 p.m. (Eastern).**

EDUCATORS RISING VIRGINIA GENERAL COMPETITION/CONTEST 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 1st** of the year in which they are competing. Check or credit card payment must be received in the National Office by the stated deadline to be considered an Active-level member.
- **NEW for 2024!** Students may **only** compete in **ONE** competitive event (competition or contest).
- **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 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.
- Virginia students must first qualify in that given event at their state conference before competing in that event at the Educators Rising National Conference.
- The top two places in each competition for each division offered by Virginia will be eligible to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference; for contests, the top two entries scoring 97-100 will be eligible to advance to nationals; no other entrants from states that offer the competition/contests at the state level will be eligible for those state-level-offered competitions/and contests.
- For nationals, schools are permitted to replace up to fifty percent of the original team members that qualified at the state level.

COMPETITION ENTRIES

- All submitted materials must reflect original work from the 2023-2024 school year. Material that may have been created or submitted in previous years is ineligible.
- In order to be scheduled to compete in a state competition, all competitor registrations and national dues must be submitted by **February 1, 2024**.
- All required pre-submission materials must be submitted online by **February 6, 2024, at 5pm** (Eastern).
- Please consult the *Educators Rising Virginia Artifact Submission Expectations* beginning on page 7 of this document to 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.

- All video files that are submitted in .mp4 format. Videos will not be accepted by mail. All competitors should also bring a copy of the video file on a USB drive to the conference. Educators Rising competitions comply with FERPA regarding 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.

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 competitions are not offered in Virginia.
- 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 two competitors registered for a competition/contest in a division, the competitors will be moved to the next highest division.**
- **For Competitions:** First, second, and third place finishers will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony. Medals and certificates will be provide to the top three finishers.
- **For Contests:** The top three scorers within the 97-100 range will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony. Ribbons will be awarded to student scores in each category in each division with scores as follows:
 - Blue – Scores 98-100
 - Red – Scores 94 – 97
 - White – Scores 90-93

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION, ATTENDANCE, AND PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

- **All competitors must attend the Educators Rising Virginia State Leadership Conference and plan to arrive no later than 8:45 a.m. on the day of the conference.**

- Competitors must report to their assigned areas on time. Failure to report at their scheduled time can result in points being deducted from the entrant’s score or disqualification.
- **Competition schedules will be shared with registered Teacher leaders the week prior to the conference. Competitors should plan to be available during the entire day of the conference and competitions.**
- 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 are only permitted in the competitions marked “**Open to Spectators.**” This includes parents, chaperones, teacher leaders, and other attendees. 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 the 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 the state advisor using the *Educators Rising Virginia Grievance Form* (available on page 11 of this document) prior to departing the state conference.

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.”
- **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 Coverings**

Hats are not appropriate inside of the building. Head coverings 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 competition 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.
- 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

- Students who participate in any Educators Rising Virginia competitive event are responsible for knowing all updates, changes, and clarifications related to that event. Students and advisors must routinely check the Educators Rising Membership Portal for updated information. Educators Rising Virginia follows national Educators Rising competitive event and contest guidelines.
- Entrants grant Educators Rising Virginia the right to use and publish the submission in print, online, or in any media without compensation.
- Entrants grant Educators Rising Virginia the right to post photos of students for promotional purposes on the Educators Rising Virginia website and social media sites.

**Educators Rising Virginia
Artifact Submission Expectations
2024 Competitive Events**

*Computers will be provided in each competition room where they are required.
Students are not to rely on internet connectivity; presentations should be brought on a USB drive.
Competitive Event is open to spectators.

Contest/ Competitive Event	Articles to be Submitted no later than February 6, 2024 at 5 p.m.	Items brought to the competition on March 2, 2024
Children's Literature - K-3	Digital capture of the book Completed statement of originality	Original book
Children's Literature – K-3 – Spanish	Digital capture of the book Completed statement of originality	Original book
Children's Literature – Pre-K	Digital capture of the book Completed statement of originality	Original book
Children's Literature – Pre-K - Spanish	Digital capture of the book Completed statement of originality	Original book
Creative Lecture (TED Talk)*	Written copy of the Creative Lecture (TED talk)	Use of AV materials (ex. An original PowerPoint or Prezi presentation, short video, etc.) is permitted but entirely optional and should be on a USB
Educators Rising Leadership Award	Essay Artifacts (documents or pictures)	Artifacts
Educators Rising Moment*	Written copy of the speech	Students may have up to five, single-sided, 4 x 6-inch index cards while presenting
Educators Rising Moment – Spanish*	Written copy of the speech	Students may have up to five, single-sided, 4 x 6-inch index cards while presenting
Ethical Dilemma	N/A	Use of AV materials (ex. An original PowerPoint or Prezi presentation, short video, etc.) is permitted but entirely optional and should be on a USB

Educators Rising Virginia Artifact Submission Expectations 2024 Competitive Events

*Computers will be provided in each competition room where they are required.
Students are not to rely on internet connectivity; presentations should be brought on a USB drive.
Competitive Event is open to spectators.

Contest/ Competitive Event	Articles to be Submitted no later than February 6, 2024 at 5 p.m.	Items brought to the competition on March 2, 2024
Exploring Education Administration Careers	Professional's Verification Form Interview Form Slide Deck	Slide deck on a USB
Exploring Non-Core Subject Teaching Careers	Professional's Verification Form Interview Form Slide Deck	Slide deck on a USB
Exploring Support Services Careers	Professional's Verification Form Interview Form Slide Deck	Slide deck on a USB
Impromptu Speaking	N/A	N/A
Inside Our Schools Presentation	Video file (mp4 format) or a link to a YouTube video	Copy of the video on a USB
Inside Our Schools Presentation – Spanish	Video file (mp4 format) or a link to a YouTube video	Copy of the video on a USB
Interactive Bulletin Board - Elementary School	N/A	Display Board Summary Sheet
Interactive Bulletin Board – Middle/High School	N/A	Display board Summary Sheet
Job Interview	Cover Letter Resume	Cover Letter Resume

Educators Rising Virginia Artifact Submission Expectations 2024 Competitive Events

*Computers will be provided in each competition room where they are required.
Students are not to rely on internet connectivity; presentations should be brought on a USB drive.
Competitive Event is open to spectators.

Contest/ Competitive Event	Articles to be Submitted no later than February 6, 2024 at 5 p.m.	Items brought to the competition on March 2, 2024
Lesson Planning & Delivery - Arts	Written lesson plan Video file (mp4 format) or a link to a YouTube video	Copy of the video on a USB
Lesson Planning & Delivery - Career and Technical Education	Written lesson plan Video file (mp4 format) or a link to a YouTube video	Copy of the video on a USB
Lesson Planning & Delivery - Humanities	Written lesson plan Video file (mp4 format) or a link to a YouTube video	Copy of the video on a USB
Lesson Planning & Delivery – Spanish*	Written lesson plan Video file (mp4 format) or a link to a YouTube video	Copy of the video on a USB
Lesson Planning & Delivery - STEM	Written lesson plan Video file (mp4 format) or a link to a YouTube video	Copy of the video on a USB
Outstanding Chapter	An electronic portfolio detailing pre-scored components that include: Organizational Management Chapter Objectives Chapter Projects State and National Participation Partnership Evaluation forms	Use of AV materials (ex. An original PowerPoint or Prezi presentation, short video, etc.) is permitted but entirely optional and should be on a USB

Educators Rising Virginia Artifact Submission Expectations 2024 Competitive Events

*Computers will be provided in each competition room where they are required.
Students are not to rely on internet connectivity; presentations should be brought on a USB drive.
Competitive Event is open to spectators.

Contest/ Competitive Event	Articles to be Submitted no later than February 6, 2024 at 5 p.m.	Items brought to the competition on March 2, 2024
Project Visualize - Service Project	N/A	Display Board
Public Service Announcement – Teacher Recruitment	Video file (mp4 format) or a link to a YouTube video	Use of AV materials (ex. An original PowerPoint or Prezi presentation, short video, etc.) is permitted but entirely optional and should be on a USB Copy of the video on a USB
Public Speaking*	Written copy of the speech	Students may have up to five, single-sided, 4 x 6-inch index cards while presenting
Researching Learning Challenges	Position paper Slide Deck	Slide deck on a USB
Teacher Created Materials	N/A	Display Summary Sheet

Educators Rising Virginia

GRIEVANCE FORM

Educators Rising Virginia will officially recognize only those grievances filed by the Teacher Leader (advisor) or person in charge of the contestant. Please provide a copy of this form to any member of the competition planning committee. Issues will be addressed by the Educators Rising Virginia State Advisor.

Chapter

Contest

Contestant's Name

Person filing the Grievance and Cell Phone number

Date/Time

Person Receiving Grievance for Educators Rising Virginia

Please describe the incident in question and the specific Educators Rising Virginia Competition/Contest Rule or Regulation or specific contest requirement (s) that you feel was/were not followed.
