

FHA STAR EVENT--"JOB INTERVIEW"

Job Interview, an individual event, recognizes participants who use home economics skills to develop a portfolio, participate in an interview and communicate a personal understanding of job requirements and the ability to perform them.

Event Categories

1. Junior: through grade 9
2. Senior Consumer Homemaking: grades 10-12
3. Senior Occupational: grades 10-12

Eligibility

1. States may submit one entry in each category of this event.
2. An event category is determined by the participant's grade in school during the school year preceding the National Leadership Meeting.
3. Participation is open to any FHA, HERO or FHA/HERO combined chapter.
4. Participants must register for the National Leadership Meeting to officially enter the event.

Criteria for Evaluation

Participants will be evaluated on:

- an application completed on site prior to the interview;
- a portfolio exhibiting: understanding of job, employability skills, and job specific skills; and
- a job interview conducted by event evaluators.

Rules

1. Participants will apply for a job matching their current skills and a job that relates to their career interests/goals. Participants are to use factual information when developing their portfolio and throughout the application and interview processes.
2. Jobs appropriate for each category are:
 - **Junior**--any job using entry level skills (examples: child care provider, housekeeper, news paper delivery person, lawn care provider, pet care provider);
 - **Senior Consumer Homemaking**--any job using skills that do not require intensive occupational training at the high school level (examples: teacher's aide, store clerk, lifeguard, volunteer, child care provider, housesitter); and
 - **Senior Occupational**--any job using skills learned in occupational training programs at the high school level (examples: food service worker, child care provider, home health aide, display assistant, fashion sales).
3. The portfolio is a compilation of materials used to represent your work. Materials will be contained in a notebook, three ring binder, folder or carrying case. The participants will choose the format that best suits the position for which they are applying, but the portfolio must be small enough for easy handling. The written portfolio contents must be typed or legibly written in ink, and correct spelling must be used.
4. Each participant will develop a portfolio consisting of the following:

- Cover sheet with name of the STAR Event and category, participant name and state;
 - Job specification sheet with name of employer, job title, short job description, required hours, and wages typically offered for this job;
 - Business Communication:
 - cover letter
 - résumé
 - two letters of recommendation (one from a school official, counselor or teacher and one from an employer or other reference);
 - Understanding of job:
 - cooperative learning: a list of school/community service projects/activities and their relationship to cooperative and individual learning
 - individual learning: explanation of job shadowing, informational interviews, or career research projects; and
 - Employability skills/job specific skills:
 - application of home economics skills and their relationship to job seeking/job keeping
 - example of written work that demonstrates the participant's ability to communicate effectively as it would relate to his/her career interests/goals
 - evidence of special skills, talents and/or abilities related to job and career interests/goals.
5. All materials, except letters of recommendation, must be the work of the participant.
 6. Participants should dress in appropriate business attire for an interview.
 7. Participants will report at the designated room 15 minutes prior to the designated participation time to complete the application and to turn in portfolio to the room consultant. Participants may use a copy of their résumé and references to complete the application.
 8. Participants will review the portfolio during a 10- to 20-minute interview with the evaluators. Sample questions may include:
 - How does this job relate to your present skills and career interests/goals?
 - Do you enjoy working with other people or would you rather work independently?
 - What preparation have you had for this job?
 - What skills do you possess that will make you successful in this job?
 - How would you apply home economics skills in this job?
 - Good problem solving includes a careful review of facts and weighing of options before making a decision. How have you reached a practical decision by reviewing facts and weighing options?
 - Describe a time when you were successful in dealing with an unstructured work environment.
 - Describe an experience that illustrates your ability to be watchful and alert when supervising individuals or monitoring instruments/displays.
 - What do you want to be doing five years from now?
 - What do you consider to be your greatest strength?
 - What is one of your weaknesses and will this affect your ability to perform the job?
 - What criteria did you use to select your portfolio items?
 9. The evaluators will score each interview and discuss each one in private, then briefly review strengths and weaknesses with the participant.
 10. Spectators are not allowed to observe this event.
 11. The total time required for this event is approximately 30 to 45 minutes for application, interview and meeting with evaluators.