



GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION

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

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

1. Be an Active-level paid national member of Educators Rising for the current school year. State level membership must be paid, if applicable.
2. Sign up to compete at the national conference and submit any required materials by the stated deadline through the Student Resources section in the EdRising Membership Portal.
This is NOT done automatically if you competed at a state or regional conference.
3. Register to attend the Educators Rising National Conference.

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 – Undergraduates only
- 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 three competitors registered for a competition in a division, the competitors will be moved to the next highest division. The collegiate division will compete in their own division regardless of the number of competitors.
- 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.
- If a competitor is from a state that holds state competitions, they must first qualify in that given event at their state conference before competing in that event at the Educators Rising National Conference. Contact your state/regional coordinator to see if your state offers competitions. Visit bit.ly/EdRisingAffiliates to contact your state/regional coordinator.
- For states that offer state-level competitions, the top ten places in each competition for each division offered by the state will be eligible to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference; no other entrants from states that offer the competition at the state level will be eligible for those state-level-offered competitions.
- For states that do not offer state-level competitions, students may register to compete in those events at the Educators Rising National Conference. This applies to all Educators Rising national competitions.
 - For example, if you want to compete in Impromptu Speaking but place eleventh or lower in your state-level Impromptu Speaking competition or don't compete in the state level competitions at all — you unfortunately can't compete in Impromptu

GENERAL 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 1 of the year in which they are competing.
- Students may enter up to a total of two events. This can be either two individual events, two team events, or one individual and one team event.
- Teacher leaders may enter up to two students per school in each individual event per division and one team for team events per division.

GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION CONT.

Speaking at the Educators Rising National Conference this year. If you live in a state that didn't hold an Impromptu Speaking state-level competition, you may register to compete in that event at the Educators Rising National Conference.

Competition Entries

- All submitted materials must reflect original work from the 2020-2021 school year. Material that may have been created or submitted in previous years is ineligible.
- **In order to be scheduled to compete in a national competition, all competitor applications, national dues and required materials must be submitted by the deadline stated in the Student Resources Section of the EdRising Membership Portal.**
 - Each competition guideline will 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.***
- For entries in national competitions, competitors must submit or bring to the event all required materials described in the national competition guidelines. Any materials or forms submitted at previous state or local presentations need to be resubmitted for the national competition in order to count in national competitions.
- All video files that are submitted in advance must be in .mp4 format. Videos that are not in this file format will not be accepted and will be immediately disqualified. Videos will not be accepted by mail. The maximum file size for any video submitted in advance is 2 GB. **All competitors should also bring a copy of the video file on a USB drive to the conference.** Educators Rising competitions comply with FERPA in regard to 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.

Conference Registration, Attendance, and Participation in Events

- **All competitors must attend the Educators Rising National Conference.** Conference dates and location will be posted on the Educators Rising website and Membership Portal.
- Competitors must report to their assigned areas on time. Failure to report at their scheduled time can result in disqualification. Competition schedules will be posted in the Educators Rising Membership Portal one month prior to the conference. Be sure to check these schedules prior to your arrival.
- 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 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 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 a national office staff member.

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.

GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION CONT.

- **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 Covering**
Hats are not appropriate inside of the building. Head covers 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 competitive 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.)

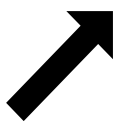
- Plagiarism is strictly prohibited in all documents submitted. Judges can disqualify students competing if it is determined that any part of their documents have been plagiarized.

Electronic Devices

- Recording devices are not allowed in competitive events.
- Special approval from the event coordinator and the competitor is required before any event may be recorded.
- 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 and advisors must routinely check the EdRising Membership Portal for updated information about general rules and competitive event guidelines
- Students who participate in any Educators Rising competitive event are responsible for knowing all updates, changes, and clarifications related to that event.
- Certificates will be awarded to the top 10 entries. Awards will be presented to the top three entries in each category.
- Entrants grant Educators Rising the right to use and publish the submission in print, online, or in any media without compensation.
- Entrants grant Educators Rising the right to post photos of students for promotional purposes on the Educators Rising website, Membership Portal, and social media sites.



ENTRIES WILL BE SUBMITTED THROUGH THE EDRISING MEMBERSHIP PORTAL (members.pdkintl.org) IN THE STUDENT RESOURCES SECTION.

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS? CALL 800-766-1156 OR EMAIL INFO@EDUCATORSRISING.ORG.

CHECKLIST FOR APPLYING FOR EDUCATORS RISING NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Ready to compete at Nationals?

Here is a checklist to help you get prepared, registered, and on the official schedule for nationals!

SUBMISSIONS OPEN: **FEBRUARY 1, 2021 8:00 A.M. EASTERN TIME**

DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR ON-SITE SCHEDULING: **APRIL 19, 2021 5:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME**

- Review the full national competition guidelines and rubric.** Check the Resources Section in the EdRising Membership Portal. Some processes may be different from your state/regional conference.
- Log in to the EdRising Membership Portal, go to the Educators Rising High School Resources section, and click on the Student Resources tab.** Select the competition you are interested in from the list. Read the guidelines and rubrics and then click Apply, which will take you to the national competition online platform.
- Complete the online application, upload any required documents/videos, and submit.** Depending on your competition, some of these items are judged **before** the conference so make sure they are in their final form. Recommendation: Have someone proofread your documents prior to submitting them. Many points have been lost in past years by competitors who had many spelling, grammar, and mechanics errors in their work.

You must complete and submit the online application by the deadline stated in the Student Resources section of the EdRising Membership Portal to be scheduled to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference. Participating at a state or regional conference does not provide a pass on completing this process.

- Print and save your confirmation email.** You will need this information when you register for the conference.
- Register to attend the Educators Rising National Conference.** All national conference information, including how to register, can be found in the Resources section of the EdRising Membership Portal.
- Find out when you are scheduled to compete on-site.** Competition schedules will be posted in the EdRising Membership Portal one month prior to the conference. After this date, you can log in and go to the Resources section to find the posted schedules.
- Practice, practice, practice!** The best way to prepare for your on-site competition is to practice in front of your peers. Recommendation: Reread the National Competition Guidelines and Rubric for your competition.
- See you at Nationals!** The top 10 for each competition will be announced at the National Conference Awards Celebration on the final day of the conference. Don't miss your chance to be recognized! Be sure that when you plan your transportation for the conference that you can attend this final celebration.



IMPROMPTU LESSON COMPETITION

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual — Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: High School Junior Varsity, High School Varsity, Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard II: Learning About Students
- Standard IV: Engaging in Responsive Planning
- Standard V: Implementing Instruction
- Standard VI: Using Assessments and Data
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

Highly skilled educators never stop building their mental toolbox of strategies to support learning. Sometimes in the teaching life, plans change suddenly, and teachers have to improvise. For highly skilled teachers though, this doesn't mean making things up out of thin air; it means drawing upon the strategies and experiences in that mental toolbox to quickly create a quality learning opportunity.

This competition is an individual event in which a rising educator assembles a high-quality learning experience despite limited time to plan and finite resources to use. The contestant will be given a box of classroom materials as well as a written scenario detailing a specific class, including grade level, subject, and other relevant context.

Sample Scenario 1

Eighth Grade Social Studies class

You are covering for a teacher who has had to leave sick. The students just finished a unit on the Civil War. Today was originally scheduled to move into the Reconstruction Era. There is a school-wide initiative on emphasizing writing in every class, and students have been keeping a reflection journal relating history and present-day events.

Sample Scenario 2

Third Grade Math class

You are covering for a teacher who had to leave suddenly due to a family emergency. The students are a few days into beginning to learn their multiplication tables. This is the first year they will take the standardized state math test. The bulletin board in the classroom displays a recent project the class did on the solar system.

The student will then have a 20-minute planning window to prepare a lesson in which he/she will collaboratively and effectively engage the class. Immediately following the planning window, the contestant will enter the main competition room and perform a 15-minute classroom role-play of the scenario, with judges acting as wholly cooperative students in the class.

Competition Guidelines

- A. Scenario and materials will be provided to the contestant in the planning room at the start of the 20-minute planning window.
- B. The planning room will contain a table, chairs, and a box of supplies. All contestants will have access to identical resources in the planning room.
- C. At the end of the 20-minute planning window, the contestant will report immediately to the judges in the main competition room.
- D. The contestant will lead his/her lesson for 10-15 minutes for a panel of judges, who may participate in the role-play as students.
- E. After the lesson, judges will have five minutes to ask questions. Contestants should respond comprehensively to all questions, as these answers may be taken into account when judges complete their scoring rubrics.

Judging and scoring

1. The judges' decisions are final.
2. Scoring is based on the Impromptu Lesson Competition rubric.



IMPROMPTU LESSON COMPETITION

LEVEL (HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY, HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY, COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

Teaching and Q&A

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Engagement	The lesson is highly engaging in ways that directly support meeting a clearly stated, educationally relevant goal. Students (judges acting cooperatively as students) are directly and substantively involved in their learning.	The lesson is engaging in ways that connect to a goal, although the level of engagement or the connection to the goal may not be professional-caliber at all moments of the lesson. Students (judges acting cooperatively as students) are involved in their learning.	The lesson is somewhat engaging at some moments. Connection to a goal may be limited or inconsistent. Students (judges acting cooperatively as students) are somewhat involved in their learning.	The lesson is either primarily not engaging or reflects minimal connection to a goal. The goal may not be clear or relevant. Students (judges acting cooperatively as students) are involved in their learning only in a limited way.
Creativity	The lesson reflects a very high level of creativity that advances student engagement and learning.	The lesson reflects a good level of creativity that advances student engagement and learning.	The lesson reflects an inconsistent level of creativity that advances student engagement and learning.	The lesson reflects a limited level of creativity that advances student engagement and learning.
Professionalism	All aspects of the contestant's performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — reflect a consistently high level of professionalism.	Most aspects of the contestant's performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — reflect a commendable level of professionalism.	Aspects of the contestant's performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — reflect mixed levels of professionalism.	Multiple aspects of the contestant's performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — need significant improvement to be considered professional caliber.



Teaching and Q&A Cont.

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Q&A Reflection	<p>The contestant demonstrates professional level insight and understanding of quality teaching when reflecting upon his/ her lesson delivery.</p> <p>Responses to judges' questions are entirely direct, comprehensive, and indicative of professional-caliber reflection.</p>	<p>The contestant demonstrates thoughtful reflection on his/her lesson delivery, but may not achieve consistent, professional level insight and understanding of quality teaching.</p> <p>Responses to judges' questions are direct and mostly comprehensive, but not every answer reflects professional-caliber reflection.</p>	<p>The contestant, when reflecting upon his/her lesson delivery, demonstrates inconsistent thoughtfulness and understanding of quality teaching.</p> <p>Responses to judges' questions may be only partially substantive and may not reflect thorough reflection.</p>	<p>The contestant's reflection is incomplete or reflects limited understanding of quality teaching.</p> <p>Responses to judges' questions are not direct or comprehensive.</p>
Overall Impact	The entire presentation reflects excellent, professional caliber teaching for student learning.	The entire presentation reflects good teaching for student learning.	The entire presentation reflects inconsistent teaching for student learning.	The entire presentation reflects limited teaching for student learning.

Length

Points Available	5	2	0
Length	Presentation is between 11 and 15 minutes.	Presentation is between 8 and 10 minutes or between 15 and 16 minutes.	Presentation is less than 8 minutes or had to be stopped at 16 minutes.



IMPROMPTU LESSON COMPETITION

LEVEL (HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY, HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY, COLLEGIATE)

Student Name: _____

Student's School, City, State: _____

- Judges will use the Detailed Scoring Rubric as their guide to score students' competition entries.
- Points and feedback will be emailed to the student competitors no later than two weeks after the conference.

Teaching and Q&A

	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing	Needs Improvement	Score
Engagement	15-13	12-9	8-5	4-1	
Creativity	15-13	12-9	8-5	4-1	
Professionalism	15-13	12-9	8-5	4-1	
Q&A Reflection	15-13	12-9	8-5	4-1	
Overall Impact	15-13	12-9	8-5	4-1	

Length

	11-15 minutes	8-10 minutes or 15-16 minutes	Less than 8 minutes or over 16 minutes	Score
Length	5	2	0	

TOTAL SCORE _____/80

FEEDBACK FOR STUDENTS: Write two or more sentences.