

FBLA-MIDDLE LEVEL BYLAWS
FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA-PHI BETA LAMBDA, INC.

ARTICLE I
Name

- Section 1. The name of this division of FBLA PBL shall be "Future Business Leaders of America-Middle Level Division" and may be referred to as "FBLA Middle Level Division."

ARTICLE II
Purpose

- Section 1. The purpose of FBLA Middle Level Division is to provide, as an integral part of the instructional program, additional opportunities for students to explore, encounter, and experience positive leadership skills for their present lifestyles, as well as their future work.
- Section 2. The specific goals of FBLA Middle Level Division are to:
- develop competent, aggressive business leadership;
 - strengthen the confidence of students in themselves and their work;
 - create more interest in and understanding of American business enterprise;
 - encourage members in the development of individual projects which contribute to the improvement of home, business, and community;
 - develop character, prepare for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism;
 - encourage and practice efficient money management;
 - encourage scholarship and promote school loyalty;
 - assist students in the establishment of occupational goals; and
 - facilitate the transition from school to work.

ARTICLE III
Membership

- Section 1. The grade levels encompassed in this program are determined by the state, county, or local education agency. The maximum range of grades that may be included in this division is grades 5 through 9.
- Section 2. FBLA Middle Level Division membership shall consist of members of chartered local chapters. These members shall hold membership in their state and national chapters. Individual members shall be recognized only through a state chapter of FBLA Middle Level Division except that, in the case where there is no state chapter, the member shall be recognized by the national center.
- Section 3. The National FBLA Middle Level Division, as well as the state and local chapters, shall be open for membership to these classes of members:
- *Active Members* shall be middle level students who become members, who accept the purpose of FBLA, subscribe to its creed, and demonstrate willingness to contribute to good school-community relations. Active members shall pay dues as established by the national board of directors and may represent their state and local chapters as approved by their respective state and local advisers.
 - *Honorary Life Members* may be elected to a state or local chapter by a majority vote. They shall be persons who are rendering outstanding service to FBLA PBL. Honorary life members shall not vote or hold office and shall not be required to pay dues.

- *National Honorary Life Members* may be recommended by the membership and shall be accepted upon approval by the board of directors of FBLA PBL. They shall be persons making significant contributions to the field of education and/or to the growth and development of FBLA PBL. National Honorary Life Members shall not vote or hold office and shall not be required to pay dues.

**ARTICLE IV
Dues and Finance**

- Section 1. National dues shall be determined by a majority vote of the national board of directors based on fiscal reports by the national center. National dues of members shall be forwarded directly to the FBLA PBL national office.
- Section 2. Any person eligible for membership, who has paid the annual membership fee of \$6.00, shall be an FBLA Middle Level Division member for a period corresponding with the membership year.
- Section 3. The affairs and property of FBLA Middle Level Division shall be managed by the board of directors, according to the current D.C. Code.
- Section 4. The association president and chief executive officer shall administer all FBLA Middle Level Division finances, include the Middle Level Division finances in the annual budget to the board of directors for approval, and provide the board of directors and members with an annual audit.
- Section 5. The fiscal year of the FBLA Middle Level Division shall be August 1 through July 31.

**ARTICLE V
Organization**

- Section 1. FBLA Middle Level Division shall be an association of state and local chapters, each operating in accordance with a charter granted by FBLA PBL. Only chapters which have received a charter and number issued by FBLA PBL and which are currently in good standing, shall be referred to as "Future Business Leaders of America-Middle Level Division" or "FBLA Middle Level Division."
- Section 2. The board of directors of FBLA PBL shall serve as the policymaking body of this organization and derives its authority from the Articles of Incorporation of FBLA PBL and the laws of the District of Columbia. It may be referred to as the board of directors. Members of the board of directors shall be nominated by state chairpersons and elected by the local FBLA PBL chapters of their respective regions for three-year terms in accordance with the nominating and voting procedures determined by the board of directors.
- Section 3. The administration of FBLA Middle Level Division shall be vested in the association president and chief executive officer of FBLA PBL.
- Section 4. State chapter charters shall be issued upon approval of the board of directors.
- Section 5. Each local chapter shall have an adviser who shall be a member of the faculty or administration.

**ARTICLE VI
Committees**

Section 1. The Local and state chapters may select advisory committees to assist in the growth and development of their respective chapters.

**ARTICLE VII
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 manufacture, reproduction, wearing, or display of the emblem shall be governed by the board of directors.

Section 2. Emblems and insignia shall be uniform in all local and state chapters. Only members in good standing may use official emblems and insignia.

Section 3. The official colors of the FBLA Middle Level Division shall be blue and gold

**ARTICLE VIII
Parliamentary Procedure**

Section 1. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the FBLA Middle Level Division in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the rules of FBLA PBL, these bylaws, or any special rules of order the FBLA Middle Level Division may adopt.

**ARTICLE IX
Amendment**

Section 1. The board of directors of FBLA PBL, may amend these bylaws by a two-thirds vote of the directors in office.

Section 2. No amendment shall be in conflict with the ethics or rules of FBLA PBL. Amendments required to qualify or retain qualification as an educational and charitable organization as defined in the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or any successor thereto, shall automatically become part of these bylaws.

Section 3. The president and chief executive officer of FBLA-PBL shall be authorized to revise these bylaws to correct punctuation, grammar, cross- references, article and section designations, and to make such other technical changes as may be necessary, where these changes shall be minor in detail and shall not alter the meaning or intent of the bylaws. Notice of changes made under this authority shall be communicated in writing to the PBL national executive council, the board of directors, and to the state committees within 30 days.

Adopted: July 3, 1994
Amended: June 29, 1997
Amended: August 1, 2017
Amended: March 24, 2022