

(160) Economic Research Team

Description

One economic research topic is selected by the National Center and provided at the beginning of the school year. The team will conduct research on the topic and present findings in a research paper, an oral presentation, and respond to questions from a panel of judges.

Eligibility

Any secondary division student member may enter this team event. A team will consist of 2-4 members. Each team may submit only one (1) research paper. Members participating in national level competition must be registered for the event prior to submission deadline for technical judging. Teams must participate in both parts of the competition to be ranked.

Topic

Explain the primary objectives of monetary policy and discuss the tools central banks use to achieve these objectives. Evaluate the effectiveness of these tools in managing inflation and promoting economic stability, providing real-world examples to support your argument.

In your response, consider the following:

- the main tools used by central banks to implement monetary policy, including open market operations, the discount rate, and reserve requirements.
- criticisms regarding the effectiveness and possible unintended consequences of central banks
- future challenges and opportunities for central banks.

Teams who do *not* submit an entry that follows this topic will be *disqualified*.

Team must supply

Notes or note cards for oral presentation (optional)

External speakers (optional)

Projection system (optional)

Digital presentation tools (device and software) (optional)

No Internet access will be provided on-site at NLC; however, members may provide their own access to be used only for their presentation to the judges

Members must bring all supporting devices (e.g., extension cords, power supply, etc.)

Carry-in and setup of equipment must be done solely by the member and must take place within the time allotted

Business Professionals of America assumes no responsibility for hardware/software provided by the team. Props and visual aids are NOT allowed in this competition. No equipment, supplies, or materials other than those specified for an event will be allowed in the testing area. No previous Business Professionals of America tests and/or sample tests or facsimiles thereof (handwritten, photocopied, or keyed) may be taken into the testing area. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.

Competencies

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic economic concepts by exploring and analyzing global and domestic economic issues
- Evaluate, research, and communicate findings, both orally and in writing
- Explore basic economic concepts that affect the workplace
- Identify economic systems
- Explain how economic growth can be promoted and measured
- Conduct research using various resources and methods
- Analyze economic issues

Specifications

- This is a pre-submitted event. See instructions for submissions.
- **Submit the research paper and Works Cited in a combined PDF file to <https://upload.bpa.org> no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, on April 1, 2025.** *This is the deadline for the National Leadership Conference. Each Regional or State Conference may have specific deadlines prior to the National deadlines. Please consult the Regional or State Conference Administrator for Regional or State deadlines.*
- Members will receive an automated response confirmation at the time of submission.
- Individual confirmation of receipt *cannot* be provided by the National Center.
- Member ID will be required for all submissions.
- No fax or mailed copies will be accepted.
- No exceptions can be made for missed deadlines due to incorrect submission or technical difficulties.
- Multiple submissions *cannot* be accepted.
- Only one (1) team member should complete the submission.
- Materials from non-registered members, those missing chapter number, and/or projects received after the deadline *cannot* be accepted.
- No changes can be made to the paper after the date of submission.
- The research paper must follow the Report format located in the *Style & Reference Manual*. (Note: no title page is required.) Header information on the first page of the report should be as follows: Member ID Number (Only one Sender's ID - XXXXXXXX), Harvey Rosen (Recipient's Name), Financial Services Department (Recipient's Department), and Current Date.
- Length of document is limited to seven (7) double-spaced, single-sided, numbered pages with one-inch margins. The Works Cited page(s) is/are *not* included in the seven (7) pages; however, any graphs, tables, or charts included will be included in the seven-page limit. Judges will *not* read additional pages beyond the seven (7) allowed pages.
- Each research paper must reflect the team's own research, writing, and original thinking.
- Team may use one laptop/notebook computer and projection equipment for presentation. Those who want to use computer/projection equipment for presentation must provide their own equipment.
- The research paper must be keyed/word-processed.
- No changes can be made to the paper after the date of submission.
- Each paper must include a word-processed Works Cited page(s) which follow(s) the *Style & Reference Manual* format.

- It is the policy of Business Professionals of America to comply with state and federal copyright law. Federal law pertaining to copyright, as contained within the United States Code, is available at <https://www.copyright.gov/title17/title17.pdf>. The *Style & Reference Manual* contains guidelines for Copyright and Fair Use. Participant(s) will be *disqualified* for violations of the guidelines.

Upload Requirements

What to Submit at https://upload.bpa.org	Saved File Name(s)	Deadline
Research Paper and Works Cited in one combined PDF file.	ERPT-TeamID.pdf	April 1, 2025, 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Method of evaluation

Technical Scoring Rubric

Presentation Scoring Rubric

Length of event

No more than three (3) minutes setup time

No more than seven (7) minutes presentation time

No more than five (5) minutes of judges' questions

Finals may be included at state and national levels

Entries

Each state is allowed three (3) entries

Judges' comments will be returned digitally through the online judging system at the national level.

Materials submitted for technical judging *cannot* be returned and will *not* be available at NLC.

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Judge Number _____

Team Number _____

Technical Scoring Rubric

Required Elements (If any questions below are checked NO, stop scoring and assign a TOTAL score of 0)	
Team followed topic	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Team followed Copyright and/or Fair Use Guidelines	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
If no to either question, please stop scoring and provide a brief reason for the <i>disqualification</i> :	

Items to Evaluate RESEARCH PAPER	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent	Points Awarded
The team submitted the correct information and in the correct format. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Research Paper and Works Cited- PDF format <i>All points or none are awarded by the technical judge.</i>				10	
Document Formatting Word-processed research paper followed the <i>Style & Reference Manual</i>				20	
Word-processed Works Cited page followed the <i>Style & Reference Manual</i>				20	
Introduction/Summary Logical analysis, evidence to support conclusions, compelling summary	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Comprehension of Topic Demonstrates understanding of subject matter	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Organization and Expansion of Ideas Logical analysis, evidence to support conclusions	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Creativity Diverse resources, creative angle on the issue, originality	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Writing Skills/Mechanics Correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, concise language, sentence structure	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Overall Effectiveness of Analysis	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
TOTAL TECHNICAL POINTS (170 points maximum)					

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Presentation Scoring Rubric

Evaluation of Oral Presentation	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent	Points Awarded
Opening: Gain attention, states purpose, preview main ideas	1-2	3-5	6-8	9-10	
Content of presentation: Material included is relevant and supports main ideas; content is logically presented	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Effectiveness of presentation: Voice projection, transitions, flow, stage presence, etc.	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Quality of problem solution: Accuracy of information, creativity of solution	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Summary: Restatement of purpose and review of main points	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Answers to judges' questions: answers are accurate and complete	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	
Setup lasted no longer than three (3) minutes				5	
Presentation lasted no longer than seven (7 minutes)				5	
At least two original team members in attendance at time of presentation				10	
TOTAL PRESENTATION POINTS (130 points maximum)					

Props and/or additional items shall not be used as a basis for scoring.

TOTAL MAXIMUM POINTS = 300

PRESENTATION WILL BE STOPPED AT SEVEN MINUTES