



## I'm a BPA (Business Professionals of America) Adviser starting a LifeSmarts team. What do I do?

1. Register yourself as a LifeSmarts coach.
  - Visit <https://lifesmarts.org/> and click the register button in the upper righthand corner.
  - Read the coach prompts on the right-hand side before entering your information and select “Coach” as your role from the drop-down menu.
  - Complete the registration process and login. The “Home” Dashboard will appear.
2. Create a team.
  - Select BPA as team type.
  - **IMPORTANT:** if your team is a middle school team (grades 7-8), ALSO choose JV as a team type. This will ensure that they receive the correct quizzes for their age level.
  - Click the “manage users” tab, then teams, then the “new team” button. Select BPA as team type. Coaches may create as many teams as they like.
  - BPA teams have two members each.
3. Have your students register at <https://lifesmarts.org/>.
  - Once registered, students will be taken to a competition dashboard.
  - Click the “my teams” tab to join a team. Students should look for their coach and team in the list and click the “join” button to join the team.
  - To logout, click on the round icon in the upper righthand corner that bears your initials.
4. Appoint one student on each team as the Team Captain.
  - Quizzes for special competitions like BPA will be under the “Quizzes” tab.
5. If you had teams the previous year, you can make adjustments to those teams by moving students to alumni or inactive status, moving students to different or new teams, etc. Visit our Registration page (<https://lifesmarts.org/lifesmarts-registration/>) and follow the link in Step 1 for details.

## What's the difference between the teams?

**BPA stands for the LifeSmarts BPA Technology & Workforce Preparation Challenge and/or the LifeSmarts BPA Personal Finance Challenge**

Both LifeSmarts BPA Challenges are open to students in grades 7-8 and in grades 9-12!

Teams of two students (one captain and one team member) take the BPA Technology & Workforce Preparation Challenge quiz during the month of January together as a team. Only the team captain will have access to the quiz in their quizzes portal.

Teams of two students (one captain and one team member) take the BPA Personal Finance Challenge quiz during the month of February together as a team. Only the team captain will have access to the quiz in their quizzes portal.

The top scoring teams in each of the two challenges will receive cash awards!





### **Varsity stands for the traditional LifeSmarts competition**

The LifeSmarts national champion team is crowned at the National LifeSmarts Championship in April. Teams of at least 4 students take quizzes online and (depending on the team score) can qualify for the state competition. Any number of students may participate on an online team, making it ideal for classrooms. However, teams advancing to live competitions are comprised of four or five students.

Varsity competitions are open to all high-school students in grades 9-12, and competition will be against other teams not affiliated with BPA (such as public schools, private schools, 4-H, home schools, etc.)

Likewise, Junior Varsity is a version of the Varsity competition, but open to students in grades 6-8. In most states, JV competitions are online-only. There is a new online National LifeSmarts Championship for State Champion JV teams in May.

### **Can the same students compete in both events?**

**Of course!**

You'll have to create a Varsity team or a Junior Varsity team of 4-5 students, and students may join up to two other teams other than their BPA team (Example: BPA team, BPA VARSITY team, and a team associated with another organization such as FCCLA or 4-H). The questions are different for BPA and Varsity / Junior Varsity events, but are similar in style and format.

There's no downside; in fact, it's a great way to practice!

Please click the "Contact Us" link in the upper-right corner of the home page or email [Cheryl@nclnet.org](mailto:Cheryl@nclnet.org) if you have any questions.

