



LifeSmarts LifeSparks Awards

The new LifeSmarts *LifeSparks* Award recognizes exemplary LifeSmarts Teams in honor of our milestone 30th anniversary. All LifeSmarts teams are invited to participate in this new recognition program. Teams will be honored for robust participation; demonstrating exceptional knowledge in all LifeSmarts topics, including consumer right & responsibilities, personal finance, technology & workforce preparation, health & safety, and the environment; and going above and beyond in the community.

A “spark” is something very special that creates a burst of activity. According to Search Institute, sparks are interests or passions that light a fire in a person's life. The term “spark” expresses the core of who a person is and how they want to engage with the world around them. Sparks bring joy and hope.

Over the past few years, Search Institute asked over 7,000 kids what gives them joy and energy. Their sparks fit into five categories: leading, learning a subject matter, service to the globe, being active and the creative life.

All teams that gain 30 credits throughout the 2023-24 program year will be recognized with this year's LifeSmarts *LifeSparks* Awards. And a few lucky teams will win special prizes!

Teams do not have to compete in either the Varsity or Junior Varsity National LifeSmarts Championships to earn this honor. Use the *LifeSparks* scorecard to map out your team's winning strategy to reach 30 credits by March 31, 2024.

Fill out the points application here (*link coming*) prior to the April 5th, 2024, deadline. Show your *LifeSparks* and be recognized for your exemplary participation in LifeSmarts.

Questions? Reach out to Lisa(Lisah@nclnet.org) or Cheryl (CherylV@nclnet.org).

Scorecard to Earn the LifeSmarts *LifeSparks* Award in 2024

*Designates an activity may be done more than once

Activity	Eligible Teams	Timeframe	Credits	Our group
PARTICIPATION				
*Coach creates a Varsity or JV team of 5 or more students	All LifeSmarts teams	September 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024	1 each (up to 5)	
*5 or more team members complete competition quizzing	All LifeSmarts teams	September 1, 2023 – March 1, 2024 (ending dates vary)	1 each (up to 5 teams)	
Team meets the criteria and applies for a Norton Wild Card spot	All Varsity LifeSmarts teams	September 1- November 28, 2023	5	
*Coach teaches LifeSmarts U lesson in the classroom or for team practice	All LifeSmarts teams	September – March 31, 2023	1 each (up to 5)	
*Coach or team uses LifeSmarts in a Box activity in the classroom or for team practice	All LifeSmarts teams	September – March 31, 2023	1 credit each (up to 5)	
Varsity team competes at the state level	All Varsity teams	Dates vary	5	
JV team competes at the state level	All JV teams	Dates vary	5	
Team meets the criteria and applies for a Varsity Wild Card spot	All Varsity LifeSmarts teams	February 22, 2024	5	
Team is invited to Nationals as a Sweepstakes Team	All Varsity LifeSmarts teams	March 8, 2023	5	
Team is invited to Nationals as a Norton Wild Card Team	Applicable Varsity teams	November 30, 2023	5	
KNOWLEDGE				
4-H Summer Online Challenge	All 4-H teams	August 2023	3	
September TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	September 1-30, 2023	2	
FCCLA/LifeSmarts Round 1 TeamSmarts quiz	All FCCLA teams	August 16 – September 27, 2023	2	
October TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	October 1-31, 2023	2	
FBLA LifeSmarts Fall Challenge	FBLA teams of 2 students	October 16 – November 10, 2023	3	
November TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	November 1-30, 2023	2	

Compete in the FCCLA/LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl, Birmingham, AL	Top 40 FCCLA teams	November 10-11, 2023	3	
December TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	December 1-31, 2023	2	
January TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	January 1-31, 2024	2	
BPA Personal Finance Challenge	BPA teams	January 1-31, 2024	3	
FBLA LifeSmarts Spring Challenge	FBLA teams of 2 students	January 29 – February 23, 2024	3	
February TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	February 1-29, 2024	2	
BPA Technology & Workforce Preparation Challenge	BPA teams	February 1-29, 2024	3	
SkillsUSA Health & Safety Challenge	SkillsUSA teams	February 1 – 29, 2024	3	
FCCLA/LifeSmarts Round III TeamSmarts quiz	All invited FCCLA teams	March 1-31, 2024	2	
ABOVE AND BEYOND				
Team member serves on LEAP	All Varsity teams	September 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024	3	
Coach nominates an outstanding senior for the Sarah Weinberg scholarship	All Varsity teams	Due March 15, 2024	3	
*Community or other level Outreach event	All Varsity teams	Due March 30, 2024	3 (up to 3)	
*Community fundraising event for your team	All Varsity teams	Due March 30, 2024	5 (up to 2)	
*OTC medicine safety mentor presentation	All LifeSmarts teams	September 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024	7 (up to 2)	
Pilot LifeSmarts Lessons	All LifeSmarts teams	Dates as assigned, in 2024	3 (up to 2)	