



2025 LifeSmarts LifeSparks Awards

The LifeSmarts *LifeSparks* Award was established in honor of the 30th Anniversary of LifeSmarts in 2024.

The LifeSmarts *LifeSparks* Award recognizes exemplary LifeSmarts Teams for their participation in LifeSmarts. All LifeSmarts teams are invited to participate in this annual recognition program. Teams will be honored for active participation; demonstrating and sharing exceptional knowledge in all LifeSmarts topics, including Consumer Rights & 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, the 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 35 credits throughout the 2024-25 program year will be recognized with this year's LifeSmarts *LifeSparks* Awards. The top teams will win cash awards!

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 35 credits by March 31, 2025.

Fill out the points application here (*link coming*) prior to the April 11th, 2025, deadline. Show your *LifeSparks* and be recognized for your exemplary participation in LifeSmarts.

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

Scorecard to Earn the LifeSmarts *LifeSparks* Award in 2025

*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, 2024 – March 31, 2025	1 each (up to 5)	
*5 or more team members complete competition quizzing	All LifeSmarts teams	September 1, 2024 – March 1, 2025 (ending dates vary)	1 each (up to 5 teams)	
Team meets the criteria and applies for a Meta Wild Card spot or a Varsity Wild Card spot or Sweepstakes Invitation	All Varsity LifeSmarts teams	Feb.15, 2025	5	
*Coach or team member teaches LifeSmarts U lesson in the classroom or for team practice	All LifeSmarts teams	September 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025 (ending dates vary)	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 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025 (ending dates vary)	1 credit each (up to 5)	
Varsity team competes at the state level	All Varsity teams	Dates vary	5	
Varsity team places in the State Competition	All Varsity teams	Dates vary	5	
JV team competes at the state level	All JV teams	Dates vary	5	
Junior Varsity team places in the State Competition	All JV teams	Dates vary	5	
JV team is invited to compete in JV National LifeSmarts Championship	All JV teams	* actual event May 14-15, 2025. You may count your qualificaion or invitation	5	
Varsity Team is invited to Nationals as a Wild Card team or a Sweepstakes Team	All Varsity LifeSmarts teams	Feb. 28, 2025	5	
Additional activities you would like us to consider (2 points each)	All teams	Provide dates of each	2 per activity	
KNOWLEDGE				
4-H Summer Online Challenge	All 4-H teams	August 1 - 31. 2024	3	
August TeamSmarts Quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	August 1 - 31, 2024	2	

September TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	September 1-30, 2024	2	
FCCLA/LifeSmarts Qualifier Quiz	All FCCLA teams	October 21 - November 24, 2024	3	
October TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	October 1-31, 2024	2	
FBLA LifeSmarts Fall Challenge	Any FBLA teams of 2 students	October 14 – November 8, 2024	3	
November TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	November 1-30, 2024	2	
SkillsUSA Health & Safety Challenge	SkillsUSA teams	November 1 - 30, 2024	3	
December TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	December 1-31, 2024	2	
January TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	January 1-31, 2025	2	
BPA Technology & Workforce Preparation Challenge Quiz	BPA teams	January 1-31 2025	3	
FBLA LifeSmarts Spring Challenge	Any FBLA teams of 2 students	January 27 – February 21, 2025	3	
February TeamSmarts quiz	All LifeSmarts teams	February 1-28, 2025	2	
BPA Personal Finance Challenge Quiz	BPA teams	February 1-28. 2025	3	
SkillsUSA Health & Safety Challenge	SkillsUSA teams	February 1 – 29, 2024	3	
FCCLA Spring Knowledge Bowl TeamSmarts Quiz	All invited FCCLA teams	March 1-31, 2025	2	
Additional activities you would like us to consider (2 points each)	All teams	Provide dates of each	2 per activity	
ABOVE AND BEYOND				
Team member serves on LEAP	All Varsity teams	September 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025	3	
Coach nominates an outstanding senior for the Sarah Weinberg scholarship	All Varsity teams	Due March 15, 2025	3	
*Community or other level Outreach event	All Varsity teams	September 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025	3 (up to 4)	
*Community fundraising event for your team	All Varsity teams	September 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025	5 (up to 4)	

*OTC medicine safety mentor presentation	All LifeSmarts teams	September 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025	7(up to 2)	
Pilot LifeSmarts lessons, participate in special project or pilot, pilot lessons for special project, etc.	All LifeSmarts teams	September 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025	7 (up to 3)	
Additional activities you would like us to consider (2 points each)	All teams	Provide dates, audiences, and details of each	2 per activity (up to 6)	

DUE APRIL 11, 2025!