2025-2026 CUxEL Protégé Competition   
E-Mail Template

**SUBJECT LINE: [Chapter name] Chapter seeks CU candidates for the 2025-2026 CUxEL Protégé Competition**

**BODY COPY:**



**Are you up for the challenge?**

On [**Date of chapter-level competition**] at **[Time here]** the [**Chapter name**] Chapter will host the chapter-level CUxEL Protégé Competition for eligible credit union professionals, ages 18-40 at [**Location/Address**]. Each credit union is encouraged to select one candidate to represent them in the chapter-level competition.

Judging will be based on a standard application essay and a five-minute oral presentation. Candidates will have a wide range of [speech topic choices available](https://carolinasleague.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Protege-Speech-Topics-List_Rev062023.pdf). The deadline to submit your application and essay to the chapter is [**Day, Month DD, YYYY**].

Once a chapter winner is determined, he or she will move on to the finals at the Carolinas Credit Union League’s LAUNCH Conference in Concord, NC (Feb. 10-11, 2026), where all finalists will make their presentations and complete a brief exam testing their credit union knowledge.

The [**Chapter name**] Chapter will cover the following expenses for the chapter-level CUxEL Protégé attending the finals:

* Conference registration; and
* Hotel accommodations; and
* Meals and mileage/gas reimbursement (or stipend)

Go to [carolinasleague.org/protege](https://carolinasleague.org/protege) to download the application and other necessary forms in order to compete.

The winner and two runners-up at the finals in February will receive special benefits including scholarship opportunities at regionally recognized conferences and places on the CUxEL Council.

**Need tips on how to host an internal competition at your credit union?** [See this guide on best practices](https://carolinasleague.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Tips-to-Host-an-Internal-Protege-Contest-Flyer.pdf).

**If hosting an internal competition, a judging form is available upon request.**

For questions:

[**Contact Person**]

[**Chapter Position**]

[**Contact Number**]

**[Contact Email**]