



Constitution and Bylaws Of the Oklahoma Chartered Association of DECA

Article I – Name

Section 1. The official name of this organization shall be “Oklahoma Association of DECA,” and may be referred to as “Oklahoma DECA.”

Article II – Purpose

Section 1. To assist Oklahoma DECA Chapters’ membership in the growth and development of DECA.

Section 2. To develop a respect for education in business, finance, hospitality, marketing, management, and entrepreneurship, which will contribute to CareerTech career competence, promote understanding and appreciation for the responsibilities of citizenship in our competitive free- enterprise system.

Article III – Organization

Section 1. The Oklahoma Association of DECA is an association of chartered DECA Chapters.

Section 2. The overall administrative organization shall consist of a Board of Students, which shall be composed of two Voting Delegates from each DECA Chapter holding an international and state charter.

Section 3. The Oklahoma Association of DECA will be composed of four divisions: a High School Division, Collegiate Division, Alumni Division, and Professional Division.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1. Membership of the Oklahoma Association of DECA shall consist of individual members of its chartered DECA Chapters who shall hold the same membership status as they hold in their respective chapters.

Section 2. DECA Chapters may be chartered as members of Oklahoma DECA once approved by the Oklahoma State Association Advisor and/or State Executive Council.

Section 3. **Active** members shall be students enrolled in approved high school or post-secondary CareerTech Marketing Education or related programs. High school or post-secondary

marketing education course completers may be eligible for active membership if in accordance with their local chapter's policies.

High School members must pay dues as established by Oklahoma DECA and will be eligible to hold DECA offices, serve as voting delegates, and participate in DECA activities and/or activities approved by Oklahoma DECA.

Alumni Members: Graduates of any of the above programs are eligible for alumni membership. Alumni members must pay dues as established by Oklahoma DECA. Alumni members are ineligible to serve as voting delegates or hold offices.

Professional membership may be extended to persons associated with or participating in the professional development of DECA as approved by the Oklahoma Association. Such members may include CareerTech Marketing Education teacher-coordinators, teacher educators, and CareerTech Marketing Education state supervisors; persons enrolled in CareerTech Marketing Education pre-service teacher education programs; employers and/or training station sponsors of CareerTech Marketing Education students; advisory committee members; and others willing to contribute to DECA growth and development. Professional members must pay dues as established by Oklahoma DECA.

Section 4. **Honorary** life membership may be extended to any individual contributing to the field of marketing and management and/or to Oklahoma DECA, by approval of Oklahoma Chartered Association Advisor and/or State Executive Council.

Article V – Voting

Section 1. Chapter members shall exercise the democratic process in Oklahoma DECA through voting delegates of DECA chapters. Voting shall be as follows:

Each chartered DECA Chapter shall have not more than **two** official votes, which shall be cast by the voting delegates present. (NOTE: In the event only one delegate represents a chapter, only one vote may be cast. When no delegates are present, the chapter forfeits the right to vote on all matters presented during that meeting.)

Section 2. In case of a tie vote on any issue, the vote will be re-taken until majority has been reached. The chair is given authority to break ties.

Section 3. The Chartered Association Advisor and/or State Executive Council shall determine the method of voting.

Article VI – Meetings

Section 1. The Oklahoma DECA Career Development Conference shall be held annually, with the time and place to be announced by the Oklahoma Chartered Association Advisor and/or State Executive Council. The official annual meeting of Oklahoma DECA shall take place during the State Career Development Conference.

Section 2. The Oklahoma Chartered Association Advisor and/or State Executive Council shall be empowered to call special meetings at any time.

Section 3. Parliamentary procedure of all meetings will be governed by ***Robert's Rules of Order, Revised***.

Article VII – State Officers

Section 1. Officers of the Oklahoma Association of DECA shall include *President, Vice President of Leadership, Vice President of Career Development, Vice President of Marketing, Vice President of Finance, and Vice President of Hospitality*.

President: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all business meetings; to preside over the Executive Council meetings; to make all necessary committee appointments, including the designation of committee chairperson; to work with the Executive Council to develop a program of work for the term of office; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

Vice President of Leadership: It shall be the duty of the elected Vice President of Leadership to practice the “Emerging Leaders” element of the DECA Mission, including all non-competitive event career and leadership activities; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

Vice President of Career Development: It shall be the duty of the elected Vice President of Career Development to practice the “Careers” element of the DECA Mission, including chapter participation preparation and performance in Competitive Events; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

Vice President of Marketing: It shall be the duty of the elected Vice President of Marketing to practice the “Marketing” element of the DECA Mission, including initial member recruitment, branding and promotions; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

Vice President of Finance: It shall be the duty of the elected Vice President of Finance to practice the “Finance” element of the DECA Mission, including chapter budgeting, accounting, and fund development efforts; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

Vice President of Hospitality: It shall be the duty of the elected Vice President of Hospitality to practice the “Hospitality” element of the DECA Mission, including connecting members to a welcome, value-filled and fund educational experience; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

Section 2. Only active members will be eligible to hold office.

Section 3. To be eligible for State office, candidates must have a scholastic average of 2.5 or higher (on a 4.0 basis) for each previous three completed semesters of school prior to the Oklahoma DECA Career Development Conference. A 2.5 GPA must be maintained throughout the term of office; must be holding or have held a local DECA chapter office; and must submit approved nomination form to the State DECA office.

Section 4. After gaining approval to run for State office, any candidate will be automatically disqualified for violation of any rule adopted by State Executive Council. Voting

delegates from any disqualified candidate's chapter will be prohibited from voting on any issue for the duration of the Career Development Conference.

- Section 5. Any State Officer candidate is to uphold all standard, qualifications, requirements, etc., as agreed to by signed State Officer forms. If a standard, qualification, or requirement is not met or broken, appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the State Officer agreement packet.
- Section 6. Officers of Oklahoma DECA shall be elected by a majority vote of the voting delegates in their division present at CDC and attend the election session. The top six high school division candidates receiving majority vote during the election session, shall be named to the high school division State Executive Council. From these top six, those that designated to run for President will be placed on a ballot, and the candidate receiving majority vote, shall serve as President. The State Chartered Association Advisor shall assign all remaining Vice President Officer Positions. Placement will be based on a review of the officers' credentials, interview panel recommendations, and preference of office. The top three collegiate candidates receiving majority vote during the election session, shall be named to the collegiate division State Executive Council. From these top three, those that designated to run for President will be placed on a ballot, and the candidate receiving majority vote, shall serve as President. The State Chartered Association Advisor shall assign all remaining Vice President Officer Positions.
- Section 7. State Executive Council of Oklahoma DECA shall be elected at each annual Oklahoma DECA Career Development Conference and shall continue in office until the close of the next annual conference.
- Section 8. A maximum of two student members from each DECA chapter may apply to serve on State Executive Council and be elected. In the event that not enough qualified applications are received, the State Chartered Association Advisor and/or State Executive Council may choose to waive this clause in order to increase the applicant pool for the betterment of Oklahoma DECA.
- Section 9. Candidates elected to serve on DECA State Executive Council shall be limited to serving a maximum of two terms.
- Section 10. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Executive Council, with the approval of the State Advisor, will appoint a current state officer to assume the office of President. A vacancy in any other office may or may not be filled by appointment from the State Executive Council at the discretion and approval of the State Chartered Association Advisor.

Article VIII – The Executive Council

- Section 1. The Executive Council of Oklahoma DECA will be composed of the President, Vice-Presidents, and shall meet upon the call of the President, Oklahoma DECA Chartered Association Advisor and/or State Program Administrator.

Article IX – Advisors

Section 1. The Oklahoma Chartered Association DECA Advisor, State Program Administrator and/or other appointed representative is responsible for the Oklahoma Association of DECA. Oklahoma DECA Local Chapter Advisors of State Executive Council members will represent Oklahoma DECA Local Chapter Advisors in an ex-officio capacity on the State Executive Council.

Article X – Finance

Section 1. DECA Chapters will be responsible for dues as established by state and international associations.

Section 2. The Oklahoma Chartered Association Advisor and State Executive Council will control all Oklahoma DECA finances and will furnish an annual audit to individual DECA chapters upon request.

Article XI – Amendments

Section 1. To amend this constitution, the proposed amendment must be presented in writing by a DECA chapter, through its voting delegate, to the Executive Council 30 days prior to the Oklahoma DECA Career Development Conference or by special meeting called by the State Program Administrator, Oklahoma Chartered Association Advisor or State Executive Council. The Oklahoma Chartered Association Advisor and/or State Executive Council has the responsibility to grammatically correct proposed amendments but must not alter its purpose. The Oklahoma DECA President will present amendments to voting delegates at the Annual Oklahoma Career Development Conference. To be approved, a constitutional amendment must receive two-thirds majority vote.