



## **Bylaws of the High School Division**

### **ARTICLE I – Name and Affiliation**

#### **Section 1.**

The name of this organization shall be the DECA, Texas Association, hereinafter called DECA. It shall affiliate with DECA and its members shall enjoy all benefits of membership in the National organization.

#### **Section 2.**

EMBLEM: the official emblem of DECA, Texas Association, shall be adopted as the insignia of DECA..

#### **Section 3.**

COLORS: The official colors of DECA, blue and white, shall be the official colors of DECA, Texas Association.

### **ARTICLE II – Objectives**

#### **Section 1.**

DECA, is an organization of local chapters whose members are enrolled, or have been enrolled, in an approved marketing education class or an approved Career and Technical Education class, and it has as its purpose furthering the welfare of its members in the following ways.

- a. To provide for the exploration of career opportunities in the field of marketing.
- b. To create an appreciation of and an interest among students in the marketing, finance, hospitality, tourism, and management industries. Coupling this interest as a realization of the student as a worthy member of the student's home and the student's community.
- c. To encourage the use of high ethical standards in business.
- d. To provide for mental and physical health through satisfactory social and recreational activities.
- e. To foster a deep feeling of the civic, social, and moral responsibilities of businesses to society.
- f. To develop leadership in the fields of marketing that is competent, aggressive, self-reliant, cooperative, and patriotic.
- g. To develop an appreciation of the contribution that the fine arts make to business.
- h. To engender a healthy respect for career education and a desire to keep abreast of current developments in business through the use of training facilities it offers, both in school and adult life.
- i. To serve as the focus for development of good public relations with all interested members of the public.

### **ARTICLE III- Membership**

#### **Section 1.**

Individual members of chartered chapters shall be eligible for membership in the State Association. They shall be members of DECA and shall hold the same membership status, which they hold in their respective local chapters.

## **Section 2.**

### **Class of Membership**

- a. Students who are enrolled or have been enrolled in marketing education classes or an approved Career and Technical Education Class in Texas shall be eligible for active memberships. They shall pay national and state dues to be in good standing. They shall be eligible to serve as delegates to DECA meetings.
- b. Honorary: Leaders in the fields of education, business, and government shall be proposed to the annual meeting. They shall be chosen by the Board of Directors and proposed to the assembly. They shall be considered State Honorary members; not more than two (2) persons shall be honored annually.

## **ARTICLE IV – Representation**

### **Section 1.**

Individual members shall exercise franchise through duly selected delegates of local chapters. All votes allowed for local chapter may be cast by its delegates.

### **Section 2.**

Each chartered chapter shall have five votes.

### **Section 3.**

The number of official delegates which each chapter may send to DECA's annual meeting shall be two.

## **ARTICLE V – Officers and Their Duties**

### **Section 1.**

The officers of DECA, Texas Association shall be elected at-large at the State Career Development Conference and shall consist of a President and five Vice-Presidents. All newly elected state officers must be enrolled in a Texas high-school during the state officer's term in office.

### **Section 2.**

Vacancies in all offices shall be filled by election by the Executive Council.

## **ARTICLE VI – Election of Officers and Delegates**

### **Section 1.**

#### **State Officers**

The Interview Committee shall be comprised of the Officer Coordinator, a board member and/or businessperson, and the state officers.

### **Section 2.**

1. Officer candidate forms shall be submitted to the Executive Director ten (10) days prior to each of the District DECA Career Development Conferences (CDC) with a signed application by the candidate and the candidate's advisor that the candidate will perform the office to the best of the candidate's ability. Candidate Booth forms should be sent to the Executive Director along with the application.
2. The Interview Committee shall study the office candidate forms submitted to the Executive Director and shall interview prospective nominees at the State CDC.
3. No officer shall be nominated for another office for the following year.
4. The interview committee shall seek the following qualifications in persons applying for office:
  - a. Workable (or acceptable) knowledge of parliamentary procedures.
  - b. Good scholastic standing.

- c. Ability to express opinions and make decisions.
  - d. Sufficient time for conduct of office.
  - e. Specific reasons why the candidate feels he or she can make a contribution to DECA, Texas Association.
  - f. Willingness and determination to perform the responsibilities of the office.
5. Only candidates who have passed the qualifying test administered online prior to District CDC and certified by the Executive Director shall be eligible to apply to state office. The candidate must receive a passing score of seventy percent (70%) or better.

**Section 3.**

Election of Officers:

The candidates for state office shall be verified that they meet eligibility requirements for office by the Executive Director prior to State CDC. They will be interviewed and allowed to campaign during State CDC and elected at the annual meeting of DECA, Texas Association.

**Section 4.**

Election of Delegates:

- 1. Delegates to the annual state meeting of DECA, Texas Association shall be eligible only when their names have been submitted on the official roster for the current year, with full payment of dues.
- 2. Delegates to ICDC will be determined by the Executive Director and the DECA, Texas Association Board of Directors to include the outgoing officers, newly elected officers, and members designated by the Board of Directors, who have submitted the official Voting Delegate Form. The number of voting delegates shall be variable with the directives of Article V of the national constitution.

**Article VII. Rules for Advisors and Delegates**

**Section 1.**

Rules for adult advisor:

- 1. There must be at least one adult advisor for each fifteen delegates.
- 2. Advisors assume entire responsibility for conduct and actions of their delegates.
- 3. Advisors are responsible for seeing that delegates attend all sessions and activities.

**Section 2.**

Rules for all student delegates:

- 1. Delegates agree to abide by the special rules announced by the Executive Director and DECA, Texas Association Board of Directors.
- 2. Delegates agree to attend all sessions of the meeting and to participate fully in all activities.
- 3. Delegates will inform their adult advisor of their activities and whereabouts at all times.
- 4. Hotel house rules will be adhered to strictly.

**Section 3.**

Penalty Clause:

In the event that the Code of Conduct as set forth by the Executive Director and the DECA, Texas Association Board of Directors is broken, the local chapter's entire delegation may be unseated, candidates for office may be disqualified, all the chapter's contestants and/or candidates for office may be disqualified, and the entire delegation may be asked to return home at once.

**Section 4:**

The DECA, Texas Association Board of Directors and the Executive Director prior to the annual meeting each year will issue a Code of Conduct in writing.

**Article VIII – Committees**

**Section 1.**

The Interview Committee shall be comprised of the Officer Coordinator, a board member and/or businessperson, and the state officers.

**ARTICLE IX – Dues**

**Section 1.**

State dues shall be the same amount per member as the national dues. They shall be payable to National DECA by their proposed due date but no later than December 15.

**Section 2.**

The complete membership roster must be verified by DECA. Only members who are registered on the official roster with full dues paid shall be eligible to serve as delegates to the annual meeting.

**ARTICLE X – Meeting**

Business Meeting at CDC

**Section 1.**

One state session shall convene each school year as determined by the Executive Director with the approval of the DECA, Texas Association Board of Directors.

**Section 2.**

The one state session shall convene at a site selected by the Executive Director with the approval of the DECA, Texas Association Board of Directors.

**Section 3.**

All meetings shall be conducted under the procedures outlined in Robert’s Rule of Order Newly Revised.

**Section 4.**

A quorum shall consist of a majority representation of the registered official delegates from the member chapters. A quorum shall be necessary to convene the annual business meetings.

**ARTICLE XI – Rules of Procedures**

**Section 1.**

Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the authority on all points not covered by in these bylaws.

**ARTICLE XII – District Procedures**

**Section 1.**

Member chapters will organize into district divisions in accordance with DECA, Texas Association. They will adopt district by-laws, elect district officers, and conduct such operations as deemed appropriate for the benefit and conduct of business of the respective districts only, and not in conflict with the bylaws and purposes of the High School Division of the DECA, Texas Association and DECA.

**Section 2.**

District Officers may be invited to attend meetings of the Board of Directors at the district expense, but will only have staff, advisory, and/or liaison duties and status, as determined and or requested by the Board of Directors, State President, or Executive Director.

**ARTICLE XIII - Amendments**

**Section 1.**

The bylaws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote of those delegates present and voting at a duly constituted annual or special session of DECA, Texas Association provided not less than fifteen (15) days previous notice of such amendment has been given to the members of each DECA chapter.

**Section 2.**

Proposed amendments shall be made to the Executive Director and Board of Directors at least 15 days prior to the annual business meeting. The information will be posted on the DECA, Texas Association website for 10 days prior to the annual business meeting.