

**Bylaws of the High School Division  
DECA, Texas Association**

**ARTICLE I – Name and Affiliation**

**Section 1.**

The name of this organization shall be the Texas Association of the Distributive Education Clubs of America, hereinafter called DECA, An Association of Marketing Students. It shall affiliate with the Distributive Education Clubs of America, and its members shall enjoy all benefits of membership in the National organization.

**Section 2.**

EMBLEM: the official emblem of the Distributive Education Clubs of America shall be adopted as the insignia of DECA, An Association of Marketing Students.

**Section 3.**

COLORS: The official colors of DECA, An Association of Marketing Students, blue and gold, shall be the official colors of the Association.

**ARTICLE II – Objectives**

**Section 1.**

DECA, An Association of Marketing Students is an organization of local chapters whose members are enrolled, or have been enrolled, in approved marketing education classes, 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 abiding interest in the marketing occupations as a vocation by the individual student, and a realization of its value to 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, An Association of Marketing Students 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 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 two votes, and one additional vote for each fraction of ten active members.

##### **Section 3.**

The number of official delegates which each chapter may send the DECA's annual meeting shall be based upon its number of active members and shall be determined each year by the State Advisor and the Executive Council, made up of the officers as defined in Article V, Section 1. The delegate shall be eligible to attend the meeting with registration procedures stated in these bylaws.

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

##### **Section 1.**

The officers DECA, Texas Association shall be elected by a majority and shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Reporter and a Sergeant-At- Arms.

##### **Section 2.**

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

##### **Section 3.**

1. President – shall be a sophomore or junior student when elected. Shall convene all meetings and carry out all the duties of the presiding officer. Shall appoint standing and special committees; shall serve as ex officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.
2. Vice President – shall be a sophomore, junior, or senior student when elected. Shall assist the president in the discharge of duties and responsibilities. Shall assume the full duties and responsibilities of the president should the he or she be absent for a long period of time or leave permanently.
3. Secretary - shall be a sophomore, junior, or senior student when elected. Shall keep the minutes of the annual meeting. Shall determine if a quorum is present at annual meetings and shall submit minutes of the annual meeting to each affiliated chapter.
4. Reporter – shall be a sophomore, junior, or senior when elected. Shall serve as the editor of DECA's newsletter, shall submit DECA, Texas Association's news to the publications director of the national organization, shall update and maintain the state associations web site, and shall serve as the liaison officer exchanging news items with trade publications and other youth organizations.
5. Sergeant-At-Arms – shall be a sophomore, junior, or senior student when elected. Shall be prepared to advise the presiding officer and other members on points of parliamentary procedures. Shall have reference materials pertaining to acceptable parliamentary procedure available to refer to should the need arise.

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

##### **Section 1.**

The nominating committee shall be composed of the five (5) state officers and ten (10) district presidents (elected the previous year).

##### **Section 2.**

Nominating Procedures:

1. Officer candidate forms shall be submitted to the State Advisor ten (10) days prior to each of the District DECA Career Development Conferences (CDC) with a signed pledge by the candidate and the candidate's coordinator-advisor that the candidate

will perform the office to the best of the candidate's ability. Once the candidacy forms have filed with the state Advisor, the candidate cannot run for any other office in DECA, Texas Advisor, the candidate cannot run for any other office on DECA, Texas Association, unless asked by the Nominating Committee to run for another specific office.

2. The nominating committee shall study the office candidate forms submitted to the state advisor and shall interview prospective nominees regarding their nomination.
3. A delegate from the floor may nominate prospective candidate who have been interviewed by this committee by who have not been nominated by this committee during the annual meeting.
4. No officer shall be nominated for another office for the following year.
5. The nominating committee shall submit at least two candidates for each office. They shall seek the best qualified candidates for each office from all prospective nominees submitted; they shall have obtained the consent of each candidate for the particular office for which they are nominated.
6. Members of the nominating committee shall be extra delegated to the annual convention.
7. The nominating committee shall seek out the following qualifications in persons nominated 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.
8. Only candidates who have passed the qualifying test administered at the District CDC and certified by the State Advisor shall be eligible for nomination to any state office. The candidate must receive a passing score of seventy percent (70%).

### **Section 3.**

Election of Officers:

The candidate for the offices of president, Vice President, Secretary, Reporter and Sergeant-At-Arms of DECA shall be nominated and elected at the annual meeting of DECA, Texas Association. A majority vote of the official delegates voting for their represented local chapters shall be necessary to elect.

### **Section 4.**

Election of Delegates:

1. A. 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. (See Article IV, Section 3.) Members of the nominating committee shall be extra delegates.
2. B. Delegates to the national conference 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. The number of delegates to be funded by DECA, Texas Association will be determined by available funds and will be reported in writing to all local chapters at the conclusion of the state annual awards ceremony.

## **Article VII. Rules for Sponsors and Delegates**

**Section 1.**

Rules for adult sponsors:

1. There must be at least one adult sponsor for each ten delegates.
2. Sponsors assume entire responsibility for conduct and actions of their delegates.
3. Sponsors are responsible for seeing that delegates attend all sessions and activities with definite assignment.

**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 sponsor of their activities and whereabouts at all times.
4. Dates will be permitted to official activities and between delegates only.
5. 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 chapters 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 Nominating Committee shall be composed of the five (5) current state officers and ten (10) district presidents, elected the previous year (see Article V).

**ARTICLE IX – Dues****Section 1.**

State dues shall be \$6 per member annually, plus national dues. They shall be payable to DECA, Texas Association on October 1, but no later than January 15. Fifty cents (\$.50) of state dues shall be deposited to an account for each of the districts to finance district business.

**Section 2.**

The complete membership roster must be certified to the national organization by the Executive Director and Membership Coordinator. Only members who are registered on the official roster with full dues shall be eligible to serve as delegates to the annual meeting.

**Section 3.**

Membership cards shall be issued by the national organization.

**ARTICLE X – Meeting****Section 1.**

One state session shall convene each school year as determined by the State Advisor 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 and the DECA Handbook.

**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.

**Section 5.**

Special sessions may be called by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership of the Executive Council.

**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 following the same grouping as district divisions of the Marketing Education Unit, Texas Education Agency. 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 of Distributive Education Clubs of America, 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 thirty (30) days before the annual or special date in order that the information may be disseminated to all chapter members for consideration and discussion before the session.