

Collegiate DECA Bylaws

Ratified/Revised 2010

Bylaws for Collegiate DECA

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Bylaw I — Name:

Section 1. The official name of the postsecondary division of DECA shall be Collegiate DECA.

Section 2. Associations, or independent chapters within a territory or equivalent geographical unit outside of the United States and its territories, will be allowed, if they so choose, to petition for the use of a different “name” for their association and chapters. Such a petition must be presented in writing to the DECA Inc. Board of Directors at least 30 days prior to their next official meeting.

Bylaw II — Membership:

Section 1. DECA will recognize individual membership in Collegiate DECA only through a chartered association and its local chapters, or as independent chapters in unchartered territories. Each chartered association will consist of all Collegiate DECA chapters located within that state, territory or equivalent geographical unit. Each Collegiate DECA chapter shall consist of individual members.

Section 2. Membership eligibility will be governed by each chartered association. Individual members shall be recognized as active members or honorary life members.

Section 3. Active members shall be students in postsecondary programs of marketing, merchandising, management, and/or related fields. An active member must pay dues as established by Collegiate DECA, and may be declared eligible to hold a national office, to participate in national competitive events or programs, to serve as a national voting delegate or to otherwise represent his/her association in National DECA affairs as may be approved by his/her association.

Section 4. Honorary life members may be individuals who have made or are making contributions to the field of marketing or management and to DECA, as may be approved by the Board of Directors of DECA Inc., and shall be exempt from annual dues.

Section 5. Annual membership dues shall be ten dollars per member and the membership year shall be July 1 to June 30 inclusive.

Bylaw III — Voting Delegates:

Section 1. Collegiate DECA will exercise its membership voting privileges through voting delegates. Each geographical unit with current membership will be allowed one (1) voting delegate, plus one (1) voting delegate will be allowed to each chartered association. One hundred (100) additional voting delegates will be apportioned to chartered associations according to their membership as a percentage of the total DECA membership in this division.

Section 2. Sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting of this division the determination of the apportionment of the additional voting delegates will be made according to reported membership.

Section 3. Voting delegates will be entitled to individual vote.

Bylaw IV — National Officers:

Section 1. Only active members of Collegiate DECA will be eligible for national office in this division. To be eligible as a candidate to run for national office, he/she must have either a grade point of 2.5 or higher for the two most recent semesters or a 2.5 or higher accumulative grade point average based on an “A” letter grade being equivalent to 4.0. Must attain the score necessary for the office desired on the approved National Officer examination, which includes Parliamentary Procedure and DECA Information; must be holding or have held a chartered association or local chapter office; and must submit the approved application, photograph, school transcript, resume, and a letter from the state advisor through a chartered association. If the officer candidate is a member of a chapter that is not part of a chartered association, a letter from the chapter advisor must be included in their application. The chartered association, or independent chapter(s) within the same state, territory or equivalent geographical unit, may submit a maximum of two candidates.

Section 2. Upon confirmation of the requirements identified in Section 1, and following a personal interview with each candidate, and after considering all other information then available, the nominating committee will submit to the voting delegates a slate of candidates.

Section 3. Election shall be by written secret ballot. The voting delegates will be allowed to cast a vote in rank order from 1 to 5 for the candidates they support. A delegate may choose not to select a full slate of candidates. A candidate will receive points for each vote received: 1st place = 5 points, 2nd place = 4 points, 3rd place = 3 points, 4th place = 2 points, 5th place = 1 point. A candidate must receive at least the number of points that is equal to 51 percent of the voting delegates voting to qualify for election.

Each candidate will be polled in advance to determine if they are willing to serve as president and/or vice president. The individual who received the highest number of points that has stated willingness to serve as president shall be elected president. The next four individuals receiving the highest number of points that have stated willingness to serve as vice president shall be elected as vice presidents.

Section 4. National officers of Collegiate DECA shall consist of a president and four vice presidents, and will be known collectively as the Executive Council of Collegiate DECA. It shall be the duty of the Executive Council to plan for the welfare, to represent and to act for this division as occasions may demand.

Section 5. No individual may succeed himself as an officer and no individual may serve as an officer for more than one division.

Section 6. The Executive Council may fill by appointment any vacancy occurring in the national officers for the unexpired term, except the office of president, which shall be filled by the vice president that received the second most points during the election session in which the current Executive Council was elected.

Bylaw V — Duties of National Officers:

Section 1. PRESIDENT: It shall be the duty of the president of Collegiate DECA to preside at all meetings of this division; to make all necessary committee appointments including the designation of committee chairperson; to develop with his/her Executive Council a Program of Work for his/her term of office; and to make himself/herself available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

Section 2. VICE PRESIDENT: It shall be the duty of each vice president to serve this division in any capacity as directed by the president; to promote the growth and development of DECA in accordance with the Program of Work during his/her term of office; and to make himself/herself available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

Bylaw VI — Amendments:

Section 1. To amend these bylaws, the proposed amendments must be presented in writing by the chartered association proposing the amendment to all chartered associations of DECA and the division president at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual conference of this division. The president must then present the proposed amendment, together with the actions recommended by this Executive Council, to the Board of Directors of DECA Inc. If approved by the Board of Directors, the proposed amendment will be presented at the next scheduled annual business meeting of this division, and may be adopted by two-thirds majority approval of the voting delegates present at this division meeting. If adopted, the amendment will take effect upon the adjournment of the annual conference in which approval is granted.