

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION BY-LAWS

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BYLAWS

Amended: April 2005

HS Bylaw I - Name

Section 1. The official name of the division shall be the High School Division of DECA.

Section 2. The goals of this division shall be:

- a. to develop leadership characteristics
- b. to develop self-confidence and/or self-acceptance
- c. to develop a greater understanding of our free, competitive enterprise system
- d. to further develop occupational competencies needed for careers in marketing, merchandising, and management
- e. to develop high ethical standards in personal and business relationships
- f. to develop effective international relationships
- g. to develop a greater awareness of career opportunities in marketing and merchandising, and management
- h. to develop greater proficiency in communication
- i. to develop a greater appreciation of the responsibilities of citizenship
- j. to develop a healthy competitive spirit
- k. to develop social and business etiquette
- l. to participate in planned social activities

HS Bylaw II - Membership

Section 1. DECA will recognize individual membership in the High School Division only through chartered association and its local chapters. Each chartered association shall consist of all DECA chapters located within that state, territory or equivalent geographic unit. Each member of the High School Division shall be a member of a high school DECA chapter, each high school DECA chapter shall be affiliated with a chartered association and each chartered association shall be chartered by DECA, Inc.

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 enrolled in high school programs of Marketing Education. An active member shall be so designated by inclusion of his or her

name on the official roster of DECA, signed and submitted by the state advisor and shall have paid dues as established by the High School Division or shall have been covered by an amount equal to the required dues payment by the state association. Active members so designated may be declared eligible to participate in national competitive events or projects, hold national office, serve as a national voting delegate, represent the state association in National DECA affairs if called upon, and shall receive all of the materials and benefits of national membership.

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

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

HS Bylaw III - Voting Delegates

Section 1. The High School Division of DECA shall exercise its membership voting privilege through voting delegates. Two (2) voting delegates shall be allowed each chartered association. Three hundred (300) additional voting delegates shall be apportioned to chartered associations according to their membership as a percentage of the total DECA membership in the division.

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

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

HS Bylaw IV - National Officers

Section 1. Only active members of the High School Division shall be eligible for national office in the division. To be eligible, a candidate must have a scholastic average of 2.5 or higher, an "A" letter grade being equivalent to 4.0 for each of the previous two semesters of school prior to the National DECA Conference; must attain the score necessary for the office desired on the approved parliamentary procedure examination and the DECA information examination; must be holding or have held an elective chartered association office, which may include a regional, area, or district office as may be identified within that chartered association, or a local chapter office; and must submit the approved application for candidates, photograph, school transcript, resume, and a letter from the state advisor through a chartered association. A maximum of two candidates per state may be submitted by the chartered association.

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

a slate of all candidates declared eligible for each national office. There will be no additional nominations from the floor. The president shall be elected by a majority vote of all the voting delegates for this division and the regional vice presidents shall be elected by a majority vote of the voting delegates in each respective region of this division.

Section 3. National officers of the High School Division of DECA shall consist of a president and four regional vice presidents and shall be known collectively as the Executive Council of the High School Division. 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 4. No individual may succeed himself/herself as an officer and no individual may serve as an officer for more than one division.

Section 5. 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 from the region of the president.

HS Bylaw V - Duties of National Officers

Section 1. **PRESIDENT:** It shall be the duty of the president of the High School Division to preside at all meetings of this division; to make all necessary committee appointments including designation of a committee chairman; to develop with his/her executive council a program of action for his/her term of office; and to make himself/herself available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

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

HS Bylaw VI - Amendments

Section 1. To amend these Bylaws, the proposed amendment(s) shall be submitted in writing according to the following procedures:

- a. Proposed amendment(s) shall be submitted by the president of the High School Division of the chartered association presenting the proposed amendment(s).
- b. Proposed amendment(s) shall be presented to the High School Division national president and to the DECA, Inc. representative(s) of each chartered association at least sixty (60) days prior to the fall meeting of the DECA Board of Directors.

- c. The President of the High School Division will present the proposed amendment(s), together with the actions of the Executive Council, to the Board of Directors of DECA, Inc. at their fall meeting. If approved by the Board of Directors, the proposed amendment(s) shall be mailed to each chartered association at least sixty (60) days prior to the National DECA Conference.

- d. The proposed amendment(s) shall then be presented at the National DECA Conference during the annual business session of the High School Division and may be adopted by a two-thirds majority approval of the voting delegates present at this meeting. If adopted, the amendment(s) will take effect upon adjournment of the National DECA Conference in which approval is granted.