

The North Carolina Association

of

DECA

CONSTITUTION

**August 1, 1988
(Revised June 2003)
(Revised May 2011)**

Constitution

THE NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF DECA

Article I – Name

- Section 1.** The official name of this organization shall be the North Carolina Association of DECA and may be referred to as North Carolina DECA.

Article II – Purposes

- Section 1.** The purposes of this organization are:
- A. To assist local chapters of DECA in the growth and development of their chapter and its members by:
 - 1. Stimulating professional growth of students entering the field of marketing
 - 2. Developing social and human relations skills
 - 3. Providing opportunities for leadership development
 - B. To encourage further respect for education in marketing which will contribute to occupational competence
 - C. To promote understanding and appreciation of the responsibilities of citizenship in our free competitive system

Article III – Organization

- Section 1.** The North Carolina Association of DECA is an Association comprised of local DECA Chapters in the State of North Carolina.
- Section 2.**
- A. The State Association may be composed of four divisions including High School, College, Alumni and Professional. Each division may have an Executive Committee of Officers who will be elected annually by the voting delegates of their division.
 - B. The North Carolina Association may be divided into districts and/or regions.
- Section 3.** Each division as it is organized will be responsible for development of its by-laws with the approval of the NC DECA Board of Directors.
- Section 4.** The administration of the association is vested with the Lead Consultant of Marketing Education or the Consultant serving as State Advisor. The Consultant Staff is responsible to the State Board of Education for overall policies and administration of the program.
- Section 5.** A State Association Advisor appointed by the Lead Consultant of Marketing Education shall be responsible for the overall operation, administration, and leadership of the Association.
- Section 6.** A State Association Controller appointed by the State Association Advisor shall be responsible for financial affairs of the organization.
- Section 7.** The Board of Directors shall develop the operating policies and procedures of the Association.
- Section 8.** The Board of Directors is empowered to fulfill its functions through the State Association Advisor and the Executive Council and such committees as are deemed necessary for efficient operation.

Article IV – Membership

- Section 1.** The membership of North Carolina DECA shall be chartered chapters of the State Association.

Section 2. Memberships recognized by the North Carolina Association of DECA are:

- A. High School Members. These shall be students enrolled in or having successfully completed at least one Marketing Education course in a high school program of Marketing Education as approved by the North Carolina Board of Education. Members must pay dues as established by the State Association and will be eligible to hold Chapter, District, or State Office, participate in Chapter, District, State, or National competitive events and, if chosen, may serve as a voting delegate and represent their chapter in District, Regional, State, and National DECA affairs of the appropriate DECA division.
- B. College Members. These shall be students enrolled in either a two-year or four-year schools or institution programs of Marketing Education as approved by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and must pay dues as established by the North Carolina Association of DECA for the Collegiate Division.
- C. Alumni Members. These shall be former students of Marketing Education or former members of DECA and must pay dues as established by the North Carolina Association for membership in the Alumni Division.
- D. Professional Members. These shall be members associated with or participating in the professional development of DECA as approved by the North Carolina Association of DECA. Such persons will pay dues as established by the North Carolina Association of DECA and may include such persons as Teacher-Coordinators, Teacher-Educators, Marketing Education Consultants, employers, parents of DECA members, Advisory Committee members, school administrators, teachers and others willing to contribute to the growth and development of DECA.
- E. Honorary Life Members. These shall be leaders in the field of education, in business, or in government and must be approved by the North Carolina Association's Board of Directors.

Article V – Election of Officers

Section 1. All Division Officers shall be elected in conformity with the Division By-Laws.

Article VI – Finance

Section 1. Dues for membership in the North Carolina Association shall be established by official voting delegates present at the State or Regional Leadership Conference. The total dues per member shall be the amount of State dues established plus dues established by National DECA. All membership dues must be sent to National DECA on an annual basis by the deadline established by the State Advisor.

Section 2. Conference registrations and other fees shall be forwarded from the local chapter to the State Association by the deadline established by the State Advisor.

Section 3. Honorary Life Members shall be exempt from all dues.

Section 4. The State Association Advisor is empowered to accept contributions for the support of the North Carolina Association of DECA activities from association businesses, foundations or individuals interested in supporting the association's activities.

Section 5. The State Association Advisor is empowered to authorize expenditures of State Association funds in accordance with policies established by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Each division shall be responsible for funding its own activities.

Article VII – Audit

Section 1. The accounts for all funds received and disbursed in the name of the North Carolina Association of DECA shall be audited at the end of each fiscal year by a public accountant appointed by the State Association Advisor.

Section 2. All accounts and treasurer's reports shall be audited each year by an auditing committee appointed by the State Association Advisor with the Board of Directors approval to assure that all expenditures are made in accordance with provision of the Constitution. This committee shall be composed of three persons, two adults (one of which shall be a member of the Board of Directors) and one student member of the North Carolina Association of DECA.

Article VIII – Emblem and Colors

Section 1. The emblem and colors of the North Carolina Association of DECA are the same as those adopted by National DECA. The emblem is diamond-shaped with four corners. The colors are blue and gold.

Article IX – Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be made in accordance with procedures outlined below:

- A. Any local chapter may submit an amendment to the Constitution in time for consideration by the Board of Directors.
- B. The Board of Directors will consider the proposed amendment and may edit the amendment but may not alter its purpose without returning it to the originating chapter for its approval. If approved by the Board of Directors, the amendment will be submitted to the Executive Council members in writing. If the Executive Council approves the amendment, it will then be published in its final form and copies will be distributed to all local chapters 30 days prior to the State or Regional Leadership/Career Development Conferences.
- C. The amendment will then be presented for vote during a scheduled business meeting of voting delegates to the conference. A two-thirds majority of delegates present at the conference is required for adoption.
- D. The State Association Advisor shall certify in writing the results of the vote on any amendments to local chapters.

Section 2. Only such amendment as are in keeping with the purposes stated in Article II of this Constitution shall be made.

Article X – Delegates to National Conferences

Section 1. The number of delegates shall be established by National DECA. The number of alternates shall be the same as the number of delegates. The President of the State Association is automatically a voting delegate.

Article XI – Rules, Regulations, and Policies

Section 1. Such rules, regulations, and policies as are deemed necessary for the proper conduct of the organization shall be adopted.

Section 2. No rules, regulations, and policies shall be adopted which are contrary to this Constitution.

Section 3. In all meetings, Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall serve as standard procedure.

By-Laws

High School Division

Article I – Name

Section 1. The official name of this Division shall be North Carolina High School Division of DECA.

Article II – Officers

Section 1. The officers of the North Carolina Association of DECA shall be a state president and one vice president from each of five regions.

Article III – Executive Council

Section 1. The Executive Council shall be composed of the state officers of the Association.

Section 2. The President of the Executive Council (State President) shall be empowered to call meetings with the approval of the State Association Advisor.

Section 3. The Executive Council shall approve proposed amendments to the Constitution for presentation to the voting delegates.

Section 4. The Executive Council shall represent the membership as the occasion may demand.

Article IV – Board of Directors

Section 1. Members of the Board of Directors shall be composed of the Lead Consultant for Marketing Education, the State Association Advisor, one Marketing Education Coordinator from each district, and the State Officers, one administration/CTE Director, one business representative, and chairperson(s) of Friends and Alumni Association.

Article V – Membership

Section 1. Memberships which shall be recognized by the North Carolina High School Division of DECA are:

- A. Active Members. Students who are enrolled in a State-approved program in Marketing Education or have successfully completed at least one Marketing Education course and who have paid State and National dues.
- B. Life Members. Leaders in fields of education, business, and government may be awarded State Honorary Life Membership by a vote of the Board of Directors. Such members are eligible to attend all meetings but will hold no voting power.

Section 2. A charter shall be issued to local chapters by the North Carolina Association.

Article VI – Voting Delegates

Section 1. Local chapters having met the deadline for submitting State and National dues may be represented at the District, Regional, State, or National Conferences according to decisions of the state administration policies and Board of Directors.

Section 2. Each chapter shall elect voting delegates to district, regional, and/or state conferences.

Section 3. Only voting delegates may make motions and vote.

Article VII – Meetings

Section 1. A state Career Development Conference may be called each year by the State Association Advisor. The authorized conferences shall be the official meetings of the Association.

Section 2. Official district meetings may be called by the State Association Advisor in accordance with Operating Policies established by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Executive Council, with the approval of the State Association Advisor, shall be empowered to call special meetings.

Article VIII – Qualifications for Officers

Section 1. Only active members may run for office.

Section 2. To be eligible for office, candidates must have a scholastic over-all average of 80 or above for the previous semester of the school year prior to the conference in which they may be elected.

Section 3. Concrete evidences of leadership qualities shall be specified for each candidate. Consideration shall be given only to such traits or qualities beyond the 8th grade in school.

Section 4. Concrete evidences of good citizenship qualities or traits such as cooperation with teachers, cooperation with his/her immediate supervisor on the job, a healthy attitude toward school, administration, faculty, etc. shall be specified for each candidate.

Article IX – Duties of Officers

Section 1. President: It shall be the duty of the President of the Association to preside at all business meetings of the Association; to preside over Executive Council meetings; to appoint all necessary committee chairpersons; to develop with their Executive Council a program of work for their term of office; and to make themselves available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of DECA.

Section 2. Vice Presidents: It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents of the Association to serve in any capacity as directed by their president; to equally accept the responsibilities of their president as occasions may demand; and to make themselves available as necessary.

Section 3. Officers elected at the State Career Development Conference shall continue in office through adjournment of the next conference and shall be members of the Association.

Article X – Election of Officers

Section 1. The credentials for all candidates for office must be approved by the screening and nominating committee. Those candidates whose credentials are accepted will be interviewed by the screening and nominating committee. The committee shall nominate a minimum of two candidates for each office if candidates are available and qualified. All officer candidates must appear before the screening and nominating committees. If there are no qualified candidates, the office will be left vacant.

Section 2. The membership of the screening and nominating committee shall be developed as follows:

- A. State or Region: The Board of Directors Chairperson of each district shall appoint from district members in attendance three members to serve on the committee provided:
 - 1. These district members are not candidates for State or Regional office.
 - 2. Only one district member shall be appointed from a single chapter. In the event these conditions cannot be met, the Board of Directors Chairperson then is empowered to select additional representatives from their district who are delegates to the conference. In no case will there be two members from the same chapter on the committee.
- B. The chairperson elected by the committee shall preside and report for the screening and nominating committee.

Section 3. Nominations may not be made from the floor.

Section 4. Voting shall be carried out by secret ballot. This shall be under the direction of an adult coordinator.

Other Division By-Laws

Section 1. Each division, as it is organized, will be responsible for development of its own By-Laws with the approval of the Lead Marketing Consultant and the Board of Directors.

North Carolina