

CONSTITUTION FOR WV ASSOCIATION OF DECA

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. The official name of this organization shall be, "The West Virginia Association of DECA" and may be referred to as West Virginia DECA.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

Section 1. To assist chartered chapters of West Virginia DECA in their growth and development.

Section 2. To prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management.

Section 3. To enrich the development of occupational competencies necessary for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management.

Section 4. To develop the realization of the responsibilities of citizenship in our free enterprise system.

Section 5. To develop an appreciation of civic and social obligations of those engaged in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management.

ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The West Virginia Association of DECA is an association of local chapters, each operating in accordance with a Charter granted by West Virginia DECA.

Section 2. Local Charters shall be issued to Chapters by the State Advisor of DECA.

Section 3 Administration of West Virginia Association of DECA shall be vested in the Professional Division, composed of All Chapter Advisors and the State Advisor (see attached Professional Division Bylaws for government).

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in the West Virginia Association of DECA shall be individual members of the local West Virginia chapters.

Section 2. All members of the West Virginia Association of DECA must belong to National DECA.

Section 3. The classes of membership to be recognized are:

- A. Active Members - DECA membership is extended to any student at the discretion of the chapter advisor. An active member must pay dues as established by the National and State Association and shall then be eligible to participate in regional, state, and national DECA activities.
- B. Alumni Members – Past members of a high school DECA chapter may, through their local chapter, join DECA. They shall be allowed to attend regional, state, and national functions only with approval of the State Advisor.
- C. Professional Members – Marketing Education teachers, Diversified Cooperative Training teachers, administrators, educators, and others associated with and participating in the professional development of West Virginia DECA, are eligible for membership as established by the Association.
- D. Collegiate Members– Students enrolled in business, marketing, or management courses in a postsecondary institution are eligible to become collegiate members. A collegiate member must pay dues as established by the National and State association and participate in appropriate activities.
- E. Honorary Life Membership – Leaders in the field of education, business or government may be eligible for Honorary Life Membership. Honorary Life Members must be approved by the Board of Directors and are exempt from dues.

ARTICLE V - VOTING

Section 1. Member chapters shall exercise their voting privileges through State Voting Delegates to the Annual Meeting or meetings of West Virginia DECA. Each chapter will be allowed one Voting Delegate. Chapters with over fifty members will receive additional votes as per the chart below:

1 – 25 members	1 vote
26 – 50 members	2 votes
51 – 75 members	3 votes
76 – 100 members	4 votes
Over 100 members	5 votes

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS

Section 1. An annual meeting of the West Virginia Association of DECA shall be called for the express purpose of electing officers, and conducting other business of the Association.

Section 2: Special meetings of the Association may be called by the State Advisor or DECA Board President with 15 days notice given to all chapters.

ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS

Section 1: Officer Candidates shall run for the office of State Action Team Member.

Section 2: All officers will be elected by a statewide election, testing procedure, and interview session at the West Virginia State Career Development Conference.

Section 3: The five candidates receiving the best overall rating will be the State Action Team. The candidate receiving the highest overall rating will become the president and the rest will assume the duties of vice presidents.

Section 4: The duties of the officers shall be:

President – To preside over all official WV Association DECA meetings and to be available at the request of the State DECA Advisor in promoting the general welfare of WV DECA. The State Action Team will develop and carry out a State Program of Work and visit individual chapters and provide technical assistance to the chapters.

Vice Presidents – To serve in any capacity as directed by the President; to accept the responsibilities of the President as occasions may demand, and to make themselves available at the request of the State Advisor in promoting the general welfare of WV DECA and in specific chapters in designated areas.

Section 5: Qualifications for officer candidates for a state office must meet minimum national standards for national officers.

ARTICLE VIII - FINANCES

Section 1: Dues for the West Virginia Association of DECA shall be established by the Professional Division.

Section 2: Dues established by National DECA shall be paid at the same time as the state Dues.

Section 3 A Chapter Affiliation Fee shall be established by the Professional Division and shall be paid at the same time as State Dues.

Section 4: State and National dues and Chapter Affiliation Fee must be paid by the date set by the State Advisor.

ARTICLE IX - STATE ADVISOR

The West Virginia Department of Education will appoint a professional staff member to serve as State Advisor. This individual, State Supervisor of Marketing Education, will be responsible for, and have final authority regarding all policy decisions, all treasury funds, and all activities and functions of the West Virginia Association of DECA. In the event the State Advisor is unable to be present at any West Virginia DECA function, she/he may appoint another Professional Division member to serve in this capacity.

ARTICLE X – EMBLEM AND COLOR

The WV Association shall adopt the same emblem and colors as the National Association.

**WV DECA
PROFESSIONAL DIVISION
BY-LAWS**

**Replaces Article III, Section 4 of Constitution
ADOPTED August 27, 1981
Revised July, 2011**

The Professional division of West Virginia DECA was established to:

1. Promote the general welfare of West Virginia DECA, and
2. Develop goals and objectives for West Virginia DECA, and
3. Establish regulations as necessary to carry out the goals and objectives of West Virginia DECA.

The professional division of West Virginia DECA is comprised of all active adult advisors of chartered DECA chapters within West Virginia.

A board of Directors will constitute the governing body of the West Virginia DECA Professional Division.

Members of the West Virginia DECA Board of Directors shall:

- a. be elected from the membership statewide. Three are elected each year.
- b. have at least 2 years teaching experience and must be a local DECA chapter advisor.
- c. attend all regularly scheduled meetings. Members missing two scheduled meetings in one year, without reasonable cause, may be asked to resign.
- d. send a formal letter of resignation to the chairperson if a resignation is necessary.

The West Virginia DECA Board of Directors:

- a. consists of five (5) DECA members and two (2) CVE members. Two (2) members will be elected each year and serve staggered three year terms. The State Advisor and the State Officer Advisor shall serve in an ex-officio capacity.
- b. be responsible for annually approving statewide and regional program of work.
- c. serves as an appeals committee to settle issues relative to competitive events.
- d. determines the dates and locations of all State Association activities.
- e. elects a chairperson whose responsibility it is to appoint a secretary, plan agendas, conduct meetings of the board, and serve as the leader of the professional division.
- f. sets dues and other fees to generate revenue to operate the state association.

- g. establishes guidelines for teacher conduct at state/national DECA meetings.
- h. establishes guidelines for determining those teachers whose travel will be supported by the Department of Technical and Adult Education.
- i. serves as contact persons within their regions to receive ideas, concerns, etc., prior to regularly scheduled meetings.
- j. The WV DECA Board of Directors is responsible for electing a state officer advisor at the end of each school year. Approval for the funding of the state officer advisor's travel expenses will be voted upon as needed.

In the event of the resignation of a member, the Chairperson shall appoint a qualified teacher to serve the remaining term.