

# **CALIFORNIA DECA CONSTITUTION**

## **HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION**

### **Article I. Name**

The official name of this organization shall be The California Association of DECA.

### **Article II. Purposes**

The Purposes of The California Association of DECA are:

- The purpose of California Association of DECA, Inc. hereinafter referred to as “California DECA”, shall be to assist the official DECA Inc. charter holder, as identified by the constitution and bylaws of DECA Inc., a Virginia incorporated nonprofit corporation, and to prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management.
- California DECA’s guiding principles shall be to help student members leverage their DECA experience to become academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible, experienced leaders.
- California DECA’s core values and attributes are competence, innovation, integrity and teamwork.

### **Article III. Organization**

Section 1. California DECA is chartered by the California Department of Education as a chartered association of DECA, Inc.

Section 2. California DECA is an association of local DECA chapters in the state of California.

Section 3. The state association shall be composed of five divisions – a high school division, a Collegiate DECA division, Professional division, an Alumni division, and Honorary Lifetime Members

Section 4. The administration of California DECA shall be vested in the Board of Directors of California Association of DECA Inc. providing policy direction and strategic guidance to the DECA state management team.

Section 5. The DECA State Director, or designee, will represent California DECA as a member of DECA Inc., will represent California DECA throughout the state, will promote, train, and recruit new DECA chapters and advisors, will market DECA to private enterprise and will be the liaison for DECA on the statewide DECA California Advisory Board.

Section 6. The Board of Directors of California DECA shall issue charters to local DECA chapters.

## **Article IV. Membership**

Section 1. The members of California DECA shall be students in the chartered chapters of California.

Section 2. Classes of membership, which shall be recognized by the California Association of DECA, are:

**Active Members:** These shall be student enrolled in a high school program of career technical education as approved by the State of California or student enrolled in a career path with a marketing, finance, hospitality, management, or entrepreneurship emphasis. The career path students may or may not be currently enrolled in a CTE class, but will have completed or will be enrolled in a CTE class as part of the career path training. All active members must pay dues as established by the California DECA and will be eligible to hold district, state, or national offices, and participate in district, state or national competitive events. If he/she chooses, the member may serve as a voting delegate and represent their chapter in district and state DECA affairs of the high school division or represent their state in International affairs of the high school division.

**Professional Members:** These persons may be associated with or participate in the professional development of DECA as approved by the state association. Such members may include teacher-coordinators, teacher-educators and marketing education supervisors, advisory committee members, and others willing to contribute to DECA's growth and development. Professional members will pay dues as established by California DECA, but will not be eligible to serve as a voting delegate, hold office or otherwise represent California DECA.

**Honorary Members:** These shall be leaders in the field of education, in business, or in government and must be approved by the California DECA Board of Directors.

**Alumni:** These shall be former active members who chose to stay involved in DECA. They must be, in good standing with their chapter, and who have paid their local, state, and national fees. They have the rights and privileges of active members except the rights to vote, to hold elective office, or enter competitive events.

## **Article V. Voting**

Each chapter will have two (2) votes on all business.

**Article VI. Meetings**

Section 1. The California DECA Career Development Conference shall be held each year and this shall serve as the official annual meeting of the California Association of DECA Inc.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to call special meetings of California DECA.

**Article VII. Officers**

Section 1. The student officers of California DECA shall be: State President, Vice President of Leadership, Vice President of Career Development, Vice President of Marketing, Vice President of Finance, and Vice President of Hospitality.

Section 2. The officers shall serve for a term of approximately one-year, starting at the adjournment of the State CDC they are elected at and concluding at the end of the State CDC the following year. The Vice-Presidents will also serve as the District President for their respective districts.

Section 3. The state officers will be elected each year according to the procedure outlined in the California DECA State Officer Candidate Guide.

Section 4. The election of the state officers will be held in the following manner:

- A. Each chapter will have 2 votes for each state office position. District Vice Presidents will only be voted on from delegates from their respective district.
- B. Balloting will be by secret ballot
- C. No chapter may have more than two students serving on the State Officer Team.

Section 5: The State Director, with approval from the Board of Directors, may remove a state officer from their elected position with cause. Any state officer who is impeached shall be given written notice of the cause for their impeachment.

**Article VIII. Dues**

Section 1. State dues shall be determined by California DECA and shall be payable to DECA Inc by the November 15 of each school year.

Section 2. The membership year shall be July 1 to June 30 inclusive.

Section 3. Each student must have dues paid by the stated deadlines on the state calendar and in the organization policy guidelines to be eligible to run for state office or national office and/or to participate in competitive events at the District, State and/or International Career Development Conference.

Section 4: State dues are determined by the Board of Directors. National dues are determined by DECA Inc.

**Article IX. Emblems and Colors**

Section 1. The emblem of the California Association of DECA was adopted in 1999.

Section 2. The colors shall be the same as those adopted by DECA Inc.

**Article X. Amendments**

Section 1. This constitution may be amended by two-thirds vote of the voting delegates to any State Conference.

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

**Article XI. Delegates to the International Career Development Conference**

Section 1. The number of delegates shall be variable with the directives of DECA Inc.

**Article XII. Rules, Regulations and Bylaws**

Section 1. Such rules, regulations, and bylaws, which are deemed necessary for the proper conduct of California DECA, shall be adopted.

Section 2. This constitution shall not be contrary to the corporate bylaws and policies of California DECA and DECA, Inc. Should the corporate bylaws or policies of either entity be amended, those amendments affecting this constitution shall be automatically amended so as to maintain consistency of governance. No other rules, regulations, or by-laws shall be adopted which are contrary to this constitution.

Section 3. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.