

# Section II

## Michigan Association of DECA



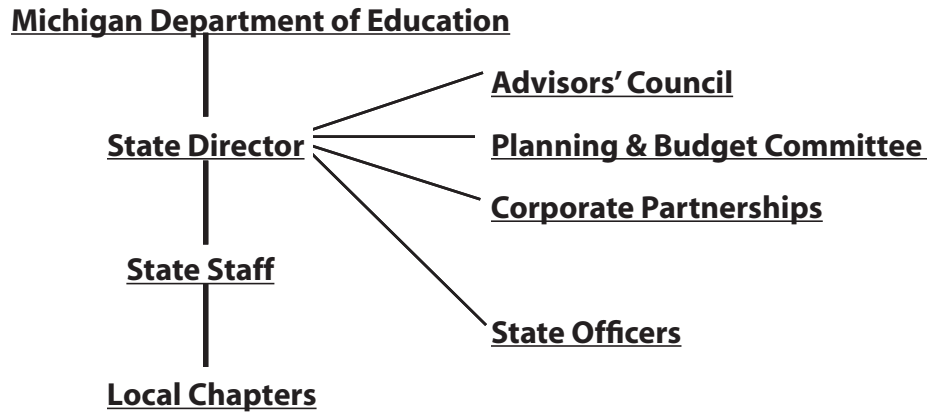
Organizational Structure	II-2
Duties of Michigan DECA State Officers	II-3
Leadership and Career Development Conferences	II-4
History of Michigan DECA	II-7
Michigan DECA Constitution	II-13
Michigan DECA By-Laws	II-17

# Organizational Structure

## **Michigan Association of DECA**

Michigan DECA's activities are coordinated by the State Director. The Director operates in Ypsilanti through a grant to Eastern Michigan University by the Michigan Department of Education.

An organizational chart appears below. More information on the history and formation of Michigan DECA may be found at the end of this section.



### **State Director**

Individual under contract to the Michigan Department of Education to provide leadership and implement the state program of activities.

### **Advisors' Council/Planning & Budget Committee**

Local chapter advisors representing the eight districts, to advise on the planned program of activities for the High School Division of DECA.

### **Corporate Partnership Network**

Individuals representing the private sector, to advise on the planned program of activities for the High School Division of DECA.

### **State Officers**

Students elected annually as a State Officer of the high school division at the State Career Development Conference to provide student leadership to the organization.

### **Local Chapters**

Individual state chartered units of organization with elected student leaders and local chapter advisor(s) providing direction for local and district program of activities.

# Duties of Michigan DECA State Officers

The top eight candidates that receive the most votes will be elected as Michigan DECA State Officers. Positions will be determined based on candidate preferences, number of votes received and the recommendation from the election committee. Positions will be announced at State Conference.

## **The President**

The President shall preside over the annual State Career Development Conference, the State Leadership Conference, and Executive Council meetings. The President shall perform such duties as the office may require, including appointment of special committees, and representing the Division on the State Advisory Board.

## **State Secretary**

The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of each State Executive Council meeting and shall also serve in this capacity on the State Election Committee. The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of every meeting and email them to other members. The Secretary shall work with the President in accomplishing the Program of Work, making sure the President is aware of goal accomplishment.

## **State Treasurer/Vice President of Business Partnerships**

This officer will work with the Corporate Partnership Network to promote participation at High School Division Conferences. This officer will be responsible for submitting articles to the CPN newsletter and providing relevant content for the corporate section of the web site.

## **Vice President of Community Service**

This officer shall coordinate the state community service project, and promote it to the chapters. This officer will also work with the recognition component and follow-up after its completion.

## **Vice President of Chapter Development**

This officer shall promote DECA membership throughout the state and encourage chapters to participate in the national membership program. He or she will also serve as chair of the State Membership Committee. This officer will also create enthusiasm for special projects among chapters, such as the 7-UP Challenge, Stock Market Game, Virtual Business Challenge, and School Based Enterprise Certification.

## **Vice President of Public Relations**

This officer shall coordinate all public relations activities, including the state newsletter, PR content for the web site. They shall also compile the annual history of the association and submit a scrapbook of the year at the end of their term of office.

## **Vice President of Career Development**

This officer shall promote participation in DECA's Competitive Events and be knowledgeable of the events. This officer will also connect events with marketing careers, and highlight several marketing-related careers on the web and in the state newsletter throughout the year.

## **Vice President of Leadership Development**

This officer shall promote leadership activities, such as the State Leadership Conference, Central Leadership Conference, and the Leadership Development Academy at ICDC. This officer will also encourage others to run for a State Office. He or she will research leadership tips to be put on the web site monthly, and provide guidance to chapter officers.

# Leadership and Career Development Conferences

Each school year, the Michigan Association of DECA coordinates five (5) types of conferences:

- State Leadership Conference
- Central Region Leadership Conference
- District Career Development Conferences
- State Career Development Conference
- International Career Development Conference

The intent of the Career Development and Leadership Conferences are:

1. To develop leadership skills and vocational understanding
2. To provide an environment for the demonstration and development of competencies contributing to the attainment of the goals of DECA and the purpose of marketing education.

The objectives of DECA Leadership and Career Development Conferences are:

1. To enable students to demonstrate and further develop the competencies important to success in marketing occupations.
2. To inspire and develop leadership ability in students of marketing education.
3. To improve the human relation skills of students in marketing education.
4. To improve the self-image and success patterns of each student of marketing education.
5. To enable students of marketing education the opportunity to demonstrate and further develop their responsibility as citizens in our free competitive enterprise system.
6. To help students advance with their career in marketing, merchandising, management, or entrepreneurship.
7. To secure the involvement and support of educators, business persons, and parents for marketing education.

## **State Leadership Conference**

During the fall of each year, Michigan DECA holds an annual State Leadership Conference. This leadership activity involves local chapter officers and members within the state. Activities include: leadership exercises, individual chapter officer workshops, chapter project workshops, competitive event workshops, and various other workshops explaining the purpose and goals of DECA.

The State Leadership Conference is organized and executed by the State Officers, the State Director and State Staff.

## **Central Region Leadership Conference**

Regional Leadership Conferences are similar to the State Leadership Conference only on the Regional level. Michigan and 13 other chartered associations make up the Central Region. The Central Region Leadership Conference is hosted on a rotating basis by one of the states during the fall of each year. The associations in the four DECA regions are:

### **Western Region**

Alaska  
Arizona  
California  
Colorado  
Hawaii  
Idaho  
Montana  
Nevada  
New Mexico  
Oregon  
Utah  
Washington  
Wyoming

### **Central Region**

Manitoba, Canada  
Indiana  
Illinois  
Iowa  
Kansas  
Kentucky  
Michigan  
Minnesota  
Missouri  
Nebraska  
North Dakota  
Ohio  
South Dakota  
Wisconsin

### **Southern Region**

Alabama  
Arkansas  
Florida  
Georgia  
Louisiana  
Mississippi  
North Carolina  
Oklahoma  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Texas  
Virgin Islands  
Virginia

### **North Atlantic Region**

Ontario, Canada  
Connecticut  
Delaware  
Maine  
Maryland  
Massachusetts  
New Hampshire  
New Jersey  
New York  
Pennsylvania  
Rhode Island  
Vermont  
West Virginia

## **District Career Development Conferences**

The first level of competition for Michigan DECA members is at their District Conference. During December and January, each of the Districts sponsor a conference. At the conference, DECA members compete against each other in their chosen career areas. The top finalists in each Series Event advance to the state conference.

## **State Career Development Conference**

The State Career Development Conference is an inspiration to all DECA members who attend. Here they have an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas and experiences with their fellow members from all parts of the state. The conference is attended by over 4,000 high school DECA members, advisors, alumni, and representatives from the business community.

The Michigan DECA Career Development Conference has two main purposes: (1) to recognize outstanding individual and chapter achievements, and (2) to help marketing education students further investigate and develop for careers in marketing, merchandising, management, and entrepreneurship.

Attendance to the State Career Development Conference is restricted to the top finalists from the District Conferences, as well as participants in, written events, Chapter Awards Program, Leadership & Teamwork, Silver and Gold Merit Award winners, voting delegates, and State Officer Candidates.

An added feature of the State Conference are the vendor booths provided by individuals of the business community. Michigan DECA also provides scholarships and awards contributed by various organizations in Michigan.

## **International Career Development Conference**

The top qualifiers in each event advance on to the International Career Development Conference. Annually, over 950 Michigan DECA members represent Michigan at the April conference. The conference is similar to the State Conference, only involving almost 21,000 DECA members from all chartered associations.

# History of Michigan DECA

## **Chapters Develop Locally**

During the period between 1937 and 1942, when cooperative programs in distributive education were becoming more widely established, the students in these distributive education classes began to form Distributive Education Clubs. This was a spontaneous effort on the part of the students and occurred simultaneously throughout the country. Why did this happen and what needs were these clubs filling? Several basic factors were involved:

First, distributive education students were employed away from the school campus at their training stations during the afternoon - at a time when many of the other students in their school were involved with the school's extra-curricular activities. The distributive education students were, therefore, missing a very important part of school life.

Secondly, these students of distributive education had a common interest - their great desire for professional and personal growth.

Thirdly, they felt the need - common to everyone - to belong, to develop socially, and to be a part of the group.

Thus, local chapters began to spring up all over the country. These early clubs adopted many names - Future Retailers, Future Distributors, Distributors, Future Merchants, and Distributive Education Clubs.

Between 1941 and 1944, when it became apparent that the strength of local chapters was growing and when they began to feel the need to communicate with each other, a few states held state-wide meetings of Distributive Education Clubs. By 1945, a few states had officially organized state associations and were holding state conferences. During this time, the idea of a national organization was born.

Many coordinators of local cooperative education programs indicated an interest to form both a local and a state-wide organization in 1947. A meeting of local chapter representatives was held on May 3, 1947, in Grand Rapids. At that meeting, it was decided that a state organization of business education clubs should be planned for operation. The Michigan Vocational Association sponsored the meeting and later voted to sponsor the state-wide club movement. Many coordinators, at that time, were engaged in a dual type of cooperative education program which involved training students for either distributive or office occupations. It was, therefore, decided that the club membership would be inclusive to both occupational disciplines. These plans were approved by the State Advisory Committee for Business Education.

## **First Constitution Adopted**

On January 24, 1948, a constitutional convention was held in the East Room of the Hotel Olds in Lansing. The meeting was called to order by Joe Zagaroli, of Muskegon. At the convention, Joe was elected as the first President of the organization. At the constitutional convention, the following schools were represented as chapters: Battle Creek, Detroit Denby, Detroit Mackenzie, Detroit Redford, Grand Haven, Grand Rapids, Jackson, Lansing, Midland, Monroe, Muskegon, and Western Michigan College of Education. The constitution was ratified, dues were set at a maximum of 80 cents, with the amount being decided by the State Officers each year, and the state organization approved its first name, "Retail and Office Clubs of Michigan."

## **Michigan Chapters Affiliated with DECA**

In May of 1948, the first annual convention of the Retail and Office Clubs of Michigan was held at Western Michigan College of Education in Kalamazoo. Three hundred state club members were in attendance. Mr. Lawrence Thamson, Chief of Business Education for the Michigan Department of Education, became the first State Advisor for the club.

In 1948, the Retail and Office Clubs of Michigan had a state membership of 850 students. Membership rapidly grew and many new local chapters were organized in the state. A year earlier, the Distributive Education Clubs of America was organized and the State of Michigan was one of the seventeen charter states to affiliate. Many of the local Retail and Office Club chapters affiliated their distributive education students to DECA.

## **State Newsletter Started**

A state-wide newsletter to publicize the program and inform chapters of activities functioning at the local and state level was established. The first publication of the newsletter came off the press, without a name, on March 3, 1949. All local chapters of the Retail and Office Club of Michigan competed in a contest to seek a name for the newsletter. The contest was called "Name the Baby" and a \$4.00 prize was offered to the chapter that submitted a relevant title. Detroit Redford High School's chapter won the contest on June 10, 1949, and the newsletter then became known as *Chapter Chatter*.

In September, 1985, Michigan DECA had a contest to name its newly developed 'tabloid' newsletter. Sabrina Jackson from the Averill Career Center entered the winning name *Spotlight on DECA*. The newsletter premiered in November, 1986. It is distributed three times each year to every Michigan DECA Member.

## **Students Attend Their First National DECA Conference**

In 1953, the Retail and Office Club of Michigan adopted the colors of red and white as the state club colors. Also very important to our future was the attendance of the Detroit Retailing Chapter of the State Club at the National Leadership Conference of DECA. The sixth Annual National Leadership Conference of DECA was held in Dayton, Ohio.

## **Cooperative Education Club of Michigan Emerges**

By 1954, the state club membership had grown to 1,300 members. St. Mary's Lake Camp at Battle Creek had been the site for five Delegate Congress meetings and would be the site for the next fifteen years.

In 1956, Mr. John C. Brickner joined the Michigan Department of Education as a consultant for Distributive and Office Education. Mr. Brickner was formerly a teacher and teacher-educator of distributive education at Indiana University, in Bloomington, Indiana. Mr. Brickner became the second state person to become the advisor of the state club.

As cooperative education programs in Michigan expanded, so did local club affiliation with the state club. In 1956, a study group was appointed to explore the possibility of expanding the state club through revising the constitution and by-laws. Removal of restrictive language and provisions limiting the club to retailing and office students was suggested, and the club could be made available to all bona-fide co-op students regardless of the occupation for which they are preparing and in which they are employed. On January 5, 1957, at the Tenth Annual Delegates Congress, this issue was voted on and



passed unanimously. The Retailing and Office Club of Michigan then became known as the "Cooperative Education Club of Michigan" for the next eleven years.

## **Co-op Club Goes DECA**

Membership in the Cooperative Education Club of Michigan had grown to a membership of 1,500 by 1960. Also in that year, the recommendation was agreed on that local chapters join any national student youth organization that would promote the interest of their local chapter. Many more local schools affiliated their chapters with National DECA.

In 1967, the Cooperative Education Club of Michigan had grown to serve students in distributive education, office education, trade and industrial education, and co-ops in other occupational disciplines. At the Executive Council meeting in August of that year, changes and developments in the state club organization and operation were reviewed.

It was recommended that a separate annual conference for each occupational area (distributive, office, trade, and industrial) be held with the understanding that the results be evaluated in an effort to determine the most effective and desired pattern for future operations. Of those replying, seven advisors voted to continue with the Co-op Club serving all occupational areas. All others voted in favor of a separate organization for distributive education.

At the twenty-first annual Delegate's Congress on January 6, 1968, an interim constitution which called for a Michigan Association of Distributive Education Clubs of America was ratified by a large majority. This change allowed for two separate state organizations, one for Marketing Students, and one for Office Students. On July 1, 1967, Mr. Richard J. Shupe became the State Advisor for the Michigan Association of DECA. Mr. Shupe, before joining the Michigan Department of Education, was a coordinator of Distributive Education and a local chapter advisor for the Waterford Township Schools.

In 1969, the Michigan Association of DECA had grown to 84 local chapters with 2,396 national members.

The Michigan Association's constitution was passed on November 14, 1969, at the Annual Delegates Congress. The Delegates Congress, as was past practiced, was to be changed to be an additional function of the annual State Leadership Conference in the Spring. For the first time, preparatory students who are not in a cooperative education program were to be considered as active members and be allowed full rights in DECA. This allowed students, in their sophomore or junior year, to be candidates for a state office, compete in contests, and be eligible to attend the State and National Leadership Conferences.

## **DECA Develops**

As a part of the constitution, Michigan was divided into four regions of participation. During the 1970-71 school year, four Regional Career Development Conferences were held for the first time. The Detroit Region held its conference on February 23, 1971, at the Veteran's Building in Detroit. On February 17, two regions held their Leadership Conferences. The Southeastern Region was hosted at Warren Woods High School while the Mid-Michigan Region held their conferences at East Lansing High School. The Western Region was hosted at Western Michigan University by the Grand Rapids Ottawa Hills DECA Chapter on February 9, 1971.

The Fourth Annual DECA State Career Development Conference was held at the Olds Plaza Hotel in Lansing on March 16, 1971. At the Conference, each region's voting delegates elected their Regional Vice President and Mr. Richard Shupe relinquished the state advisorship to Mr. John A. Daenzer, a consultant

for Distributive Education at the Michigan Department of Education. Mr. Daenzer, before joining the state staff, was a distributive education teacher-coordinator, a director of vocational education, and a teacher-educator at Northern Michigan University. Mr. Daenzer was assisted by Dr. Louis Graziano from Eastern Michigan University, who served as the first Project Consultant for DECA through a grant from the State Board of Education, Michigan Department of Education, Vocational-Technical Education Services.

On January 22, 1977, Dr. Carl Woloszyk replaced Mr. John Daenzer as State Supervisor for Marketing and Distributive Education and also became the DECA State Advisor. Dr. Woloszyk was a former CEPD Vocational-Technical Specialist and distributive education teacher-coordinator.

During the tenth annual Career Development Conference held in March of 1977, National DECA's new Competency Based Series Events (CBSE) was implemented for the first time. The move to the CBSE competitive events and the elimination of the former national contests, such as public speaking, job interviews, etc., led to the increased growth of the high school division of DECA so that by March of 1980, there were high school chapters with a membership of over 3,000 students, advisors, and alumni. Also at the tenth annual conference, Michigan was divided into nine Districts to accommodate the growing membership. Each district elected their own State Officer.

In June of 1977, Mr. Charles Crissey replaced the deceased Dr. Louis Graziano as State Project Consultant for DECA and assisted in the promotion and implementation of DECA chapters throughout the state.

On January 27, 1986, Mr. David Wait became the third Michigan DECA State Director, when Mr. Crissey left the position after almost 10 years of service to return to the classroom. Mr. Wait came to the position with four years teaching experience at the Averill Career Center in Saginaw. He was active with DECA for ten years prior to that - as a student member, collegiate member, and founder of the Michigan Alumni Division.

September 1987 saw the State Advisor, Dr. Woloszyk move on to become an Associate Professor in the Consumer Resources and Technology Department at Western Michigan University. Dr. Woloszyk's replacement was Mr. Thomas Benton. Mr. Benton taught for ten years at the Lapeer County Vocational Technical Center.

June 1996 also saw Michigan DECA's state wide membership grow to over 5,600 members in all five divisions. With this growth, Michigan DECA became the eighth largest state association.

We continue our growth every year. The 2016-2017 school year was a record-setting year, with membership at 8,400 members in 153 chapters.

## **The National Organization Develops**

In 1946, the United States Office of Education invited a representative committee of State Supervisors of Distributive Education to meet in Washington, D.C., with representatives of the USOE, to develop plans for the national organization of Distributive Education Clubs and to prepare a tentative constitution and an organization chart.

As a result of this preliminary meeting, the national organization was launched and the first Interstate Conference of Distributive Education Clubs was held in Memphis, Tennessee, in April of 1947. At that meeting, delegates from twelve states unanimously adopted a resolution to form a national organization. The organization was officially endorsed by the National Association of State Directors of Vocational Education, meeting at the same time in Chicago, Illinois. Officers were elected and committees were

appointed to prepare a charter and a constitution for consideration at the next year's conference.

The second National Leadership Conference, held in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1948 saw the adoption of the constitution and the official name, the Distributive Education Clubs of America, designated DECA, and the acceptance of 17 charter member states. These were: Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and Washington. The first issue of *The Distributor*, the national publication of DECA, was presented just prior to the second annual conference in St. Louis. From 1947 to 1953, the Oklahoma Distributive Education state staff edited and published *The Distributor*. In 1982, DECA's official publication was changed to *New Dimensions* and in 1991 became *DECA Dimensions*.

In order to provide interim leadership, the President of the National Association of State Supervisors of Distributive Education appointed a National Advisory Committee to serve in lieu of an executive secretary. In 1949, an incorporation meeting, made up of State Supervisors and Advisors of affiliated states, elected the Board of Trustees of the Distributive Education Clubs of America, Inc., to serve as the policy-making body for DECA. DECA was officially incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth (state) of Virginia in 1950. While the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) is a student organization and is operated by students under an adopted constitution, DECA, Inc., is the legal sponsoring group of the youth movement and is composed of the head state persons responsible for Distributive Education in those states affiliated with DECA, Inc.

The development of DECA has been closely followed by many outstanding national state and local business organizations, and many have given support assuring the continued growth of DECA.

The American Vocational Association, by vote of the House of Delegates, became an official sponsor of the Distributive Education Clubs of America on December 1, 1950.

### **National Headquarters Develops**

In 1951, DECA committees began developing plans for a full-time national organizational structure. Included in these plans were a National Headquarters, *The DECA Foundation*, and other activities designed to promote the welfare of the chapters and the State Associations.

In 1953, a National Headquarters was established for DECA in Washington D.C., in space provided by the American Vocational Association. Also at that time, the first Executive Secretary of DECA was employed. George M. Stone of the J.C. Penney Company served in this capacity until 1955 when Harry A. Applegate became the new Executive Secretary.

In 1967, a Public Relations Department was added to the DECA Headquarters, and in 1968, a Publications Department was added with each department having its own Director. Both of these Departments have aided greatly in DECA development.

Dr. Applegate retired in 1981, and Dr. Fredrick Williford became the new Executive Director. Dr. Williford retired in September 1992, and Dr. Edward Davis served as DECA's third Executive Director. In 2014 Dr. Davis retired, and Paul Wardinski became DECA's fourth Executive Director.

The national headquarters was moved to 1908 Association Drive, Reston, VA 22091, with the completion of the National DECA Center. The new building was dedicated in September of 1976 by Secretary David Mathews from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The center was paid off in 1986, ten years ahead of schedule.

In 1989, the name of the national organization was officially changed by the Board of Directors from The Distributive Education Clubs of America to DECA.

### **Post-Secondary Division**

Since 1958, some states have been sending delegations representing community colleges and other post-secondary institutions to the National Conferences in an effort to find ways and means to establish DECA chapters in such institutions. Official recognition was given to this effort in 1961 by a change in the national constitution to allow those states interested to form post-secondary divisions.

The first National Officer Training conference for this Division was held in December, 1962, in connection with the American Vocational Association convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The following year, 1963, the post-secondary Officers met with the National Officers of the high school division in an effort to more closely coordinate the activities of both divisions. The post-secondary division then became known as the Junior Collegiate Division, then next as Delta Epsilon Chi. Today it is known as Collegiate DECA, and includes over 15,000 members in 200 colleges and universities.

### **DECA Grows Internationally**

During the 1969 National Conference in Atlantic City, Alaska became the last state in the Union to be chartered as an affiliated State Association of DECA. Alaska's delegates received a standing ovation during the chartering ceremony symbolizing a true DECA welcome. Also in 1969, the Board of Directors granted approval to establish four DECA Regional Leadership Conferences as a part of DECA's Program of Youth Activity to provide additional opportunity for leadership development activities to a greater number of DECA members. Michigan is in the Central Region with Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Manitoba, Canada, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota.

During the 1970 National Conference in Minneapolis, voting delegates of both divisions of DECA approved a completely revised constitution. This major revision allowed for the expansion of DECA to five divisions. Collegiate and Alumni representatives held developmental meetings during the conference to draft by-laws for their divisions and to pay for divisional development.

Membership in DECA has continually increased each year from 793 members in 1947, to over 200,000 members in over 3,500 chapters in 2016. During each year of its existence, DECA has experienced a substantial membership increase. The number of chartered associations affiliated with this national youth movement has increased to encompass all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, Canada, China, Germany, Guam, Hong Kong, Korea, Mexico and Puerto Rico.

With the additions of these international locations, the National Conference was renamed as the International Career Development Conference.

# Michigan Association of DECA High School Division Constitution

*Revised March 12, 2010*

## ARTICLE I. Name:

The name of the state association shall be the Michigan Association of DECA, and may be referred to as "Michigan DECA". There are five divisions. This constitution is for the high school division.

## ARTICLE II. Purposes:

The purposes of this association are:

- a. To develop a respect for Marketing Education which will contribute to career and technical competence.
- b. To promote understanding and appreciation for the responsibilities of citizenship in our free, competitive enterprise system.
- c. To assist local chapters in the growth and development of DECA
- d. To encourage the use of high ethical standards in business
- e. To develop progressive leadership which will lead to competent, aggressive, self-reliant students of Marketing Education.
- f. To develop vocational understanding, civic consciousness, social intelligence, and leadership development on the part of each DECA member.

## ARTICLE III. Organization:

Section 1. Michigan DECA is a state association of local chapters whose members are enrolled in a secondary Marketing Education Program.

Section 2. The Executive Council shall be composed of student officers of the state association. The Number of Executive Council Members shall be equal to the number of Michigan DECA Districts.

- a. The Executive Council shall be empowered to appoint such committees as they deem necessary for the operation of Michigan DECA.
- b. The Executive Council shall be responsible for the execution of plans for the State Conference.
- c. Each year, during the first business meeting of the Executive Council, the Council shall elect from its members the following Officers: President, Secretary and Treasurer. Additional officers may be elected from its members as needed.
- d. The State Director shall automatically become advisor to the Executive Council (and will have veto power on any action).

ARTICLE IV. Membership:

- Section 1. Membership in this organization is open to all secondary, Marketing Education students enrolled in a state approved program. It is the policy of Michigan DECA that no person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation or marital status shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits or be otherwise subjected to discrimination. This policy of non-discrimination shall also apply to otherwise qualified handicapped individuals.
- Section 2. The classes of members that shall be recognized are:
1. Active Members: Students who are enrolled in a secondary Marketing Education Program which meets the requirements as set forth by the Michigan State Plan for Career and Technical Education and who have paid state and national dues.
  2. Professional Members: Chapter advisors and individuals interested in supporting DECA's program of student activities.
  3. Alumni Members: Graduates of secondary Marketing Education Programs shall be eligible as alumni members. These members shall be eligible to attend District and State Conferences but will not be entitled to vote or compete.
  4. Honorary Members: Leaders in fields of education and marketing may be granted state honorary membership by the Executive Council. Honorary membership shall be presented at the annual State Career Development Conference. No more than three will be selected each year. Candidates for the award shall be nominated by affiliated chapters, each of which shall be limited to nominating only one candidate.

ARTICLE V. Meetings:

- Section 1. A DECA State Career Development Conference shall be held annually called by the Executive Council of Michigan DECA.
- Section 2. The Executive Council shall meet at least twice between the beginning of the school year and the time of the State Career Development Conference.
- Section 3. The Executive Council shall be empowered to call special meetings.

ARTICLE VI. Voting:

- Section 1. Voting delegates shall exercise their voting privileges at the State Career Development Conference of Michigan DECA. The basis for the number of voting delegates will be: one voting delegate for each forty active members or major fraction thereof, with a minimum of one voting delegate per chapter.
- Section 2. Alumni, professional and honorary members will not be entitled to vote.



ARTICLE VII. Officers:

- Section 1. The Executive Council shall be elected by a simple-majority vote of the voting delegates at the annual State Career Development Conference.
- Section 2. All officers elected shall begin their term of office as of July 1, of the year elected.

ARTICLE VIII. Advisors' Council:

There shall be an Advisor's Council to Michigan DECA which shall consist of two chapter advisors elected from each district. This board shall act in a consultative manner, advising and recommending to the Executive Council and State Director on matters of policy affecting finances, structure, and operation of the state DECA program.

ARTICLE IX. Finances:

- Section 1. There shall be a Budget Committee that reviews and approves the annual budget.
- Section 2. Local Chapters shall be responsible for payment of state and national dues.

ARTICLE X. Membership in Michigan DECA:

- Section 1. Michigan DECA shall maintain membership in DECA Inc. as a chartered State Association.
- Section 2. This association shall be represented by official delegates to the annual International Conference of the High School Division of DECA in compliance with attendance criteria for that meeting.
- Section 3. In order to be a voting delegate at the International Meeting, the delegate so designated must be an active member. Delegates to the International meeting of DECA shall be selected according to merit.
- Section 4. Additional delegates to the Annual International Meeting may be selected by the State Director on recommendation from local chapter advisors.
- Section 5. The number of delegates shall be variable with the directives of the national constitution. The number of alternates shall be the same as the number of delegates.

ARTICLE XI. Emblem and Colors:

Section 1. The emblem of Michigan DECA shall be a diamond-shaped design.

Section 2. The colors of the organization shall be blue and gold.

ARTICLE XII. Distribution of Assets: (dissolution clause)

In the event of dissolution, all assets real and personal shall be distributed to such organizations as are qualified as tax exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provisions of a future United States Internal Revenue Law.



# Michigan DECA High School Division By-Laws

*Revised March 12, 2010*

## ARTICLE I. Duties of State Officers:

Section 1. President: It shall be the duty of the president to preside over the annual State Career Development Conference, the Leadership Development Conference, and the Executive Council meetings. The president shall perform such duties as the office may require, including appointment of special committees.

Section 2. Vice Presidents: It shall be the duty of the vice presidents to work with local chapters in dealing with matters concerning the promotion and publicizing of DECA activities within the District assigned to them. Other duties include: a) Communicate problems and concerns of the local chapters within the District to the Executive Council, b) Serve as the liaison person to coordinate materials for the DECA Newsletter.

## ARTICLE II. Vacancies:

The State Director may appoint at the earliest date, an acting State Officer to serve out the unexpired balance of an elected officer's term when such office becomes vacant.

## ARTICLE III. Dues:

Section 1. Annual state dues for active membership shall be determined by the Executive Council.

Section 2. All active Michigan DECA members must automatically become affiliated with National DECA on dual membership basis.

## ARTICLE IV. Amendments:

Section 1. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the authorized voting delegates at the State Career Development Conference of Michigan DECA provided that such amendments are submitted in written form to the Executive Council 60 days prior to the State Career Development Conference. Proper amendments shall be submitted to the chartered chapters at least 15 days prior to the State Career Development Conference.

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

Section 3. The Executive Council may establish annually a "Committee of the Constitution" to study and submit at the annual State Career Development Conference recommendations for revisions.

ARTICLE V. Rules, Regulations, and By-Laws:

Section 1. Such rules, regulations and by-laws as are deemed necessary in the proper conduct of this constitution shall be adopted.

Section 2. No rule, regulation or by-law shall be adopted which is contrary to this constitution.

Section 3. Authority for business meetings of Michigan DECA shall follow Robert's Rules of Order (Revised).

ARTICLE VI. Districts:

Section 1. Districts shall be established for the purpose of facilitating Michigan DECA programs and activities to a greater extent to the members involved. A Representative of each District shall coordinate specific activities of the Michigan DECA program in their District.

Section 2. Such Districts shall be designated by the Advisors' Council.