

Written Event Submission Guidelines

The following requirements are in effect for **all written events** submitted to Michigan DECA for the State Conference only. These requirements are in addition to the guidelines set by National DECA.

1. All students competing at the State Conference MUST be included on the chapter's submitted conference registration before you can upload projects.
2. Advisors are responsible to ensure that the written projects are submitted under the correct event and that team members paired correctly. If Michigan DECA discovers that an event has been submitted incorrectly (for example, a BOR project submitted as BMOR), a \$25 fee per project will be assessed.
3. All entries (*except Chapter Award Project*) must be digitally uploaded during the window of February 9-15, 2024, through the online competition submission portal. Complete instructions on how to upload projects will be provided in January.
4. The **DECA Written Event Statement of Assurances and Academic Integrity form** (*on page 55 of the national DECA Guide*), certifying the originality of the work must be signed by the advisor and each student listed on the event before the event is submitted. The DECA Written Event Statement of Assurances and Academic Integrity form must be the first page of each entry. Only those students who signed the DECA Written Event Statement of Assurances and Academic Integrity form and have been included on the chapter's registration will be allowed to compete in the event. The signature(s) must be either physical signatures or digital signatures. Typed names in a font will not be accepted as signatures.
5. **All content must be original work of the student(s) that signed the DECA Written Event Statement of Assurances and Academic Integrity form. No part of the written project can be previously entered into competition or submitted in another DECA competitive event.** Any events that are found to be plagiarized or previously submitted into competition will be disqualified. Those students will be dropped from the conference, and are not eligible for a refund of the conference registration fee.
6. Entries must be in the following order: completed and signed DECA Statement of Assurances and Academic Integrity form, Cover Page, then the actual event following the guidelines set by DECA. (Do not include any evaluation forms.)
7. Chapter Advisors should review the work of the students and only submit written events that are a positive reflection on their chapter and their school.
8. We strongly recommend that these projects have a minimum number of pages of at least half of the maximum pages allowed.
9. A team of volunteer advisors will review the projects online to assess penalty points prior to the conference.
10. Any project that receives 25 or more penalty points will not be eligible to compete or attend the State Conference. The registration fee will be refunded at the 50% refund rate. *Note: Merit Award Project and Chapter Award Project have different penalty point thresholds. Refer to the event guidelines for complete details.*
11. Michigan DECA staff will upload all entries to TurnItIn.com to be screened for plagiarism. The entries will be screened by Michigan DECA staff by the end of February. Evidence of plagiarism or cheating shall result in the student (and partner, if applicable) being disqualified from competition. No refunds will be given for disqualified students.

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Events submitted online only:

Each of the Written Events listed below must be uploaded using the Competition Portal during the window of February 16-22, 2024. No hardcopy will be turned in for these events:

- Business Growth Plan (EBG)
- Business Services Operations Research (BOR)
- Business Solutions Project (PMBS)
- Buying and Merchandising Operations Research (BMOR)
- Career Development Project (PMCD)
- Community Awareness Project (PMCA)
- Community Giving Project (PMCG)
- Finance Operations Research (FOR)
- Financial Literacy Project (PMFL)
- Franchise Business Plan (EFB)
- Hospitality and Tourism Operations Research (HTOR)
- Independent Business Plan (EIB)
- International Business Plan (IBP)
- Sales Project (PMSP)
- Sports and Entertainment Marketing Operations Research (SEOR)

The following additional guidelines apply (in addition to items 1-11 on page 60):

12. Michigan DECA will share the uploaded entry file to judges that have volunteered to evaluate the written portion of the project online prior to the State Conference.
13. A different judge will be recruited to evaluate the presentation portion of the project at the State Conference. Michigan DECA staff will print the executive summary for each presentation judge at the State Conference.
14. The two written score and presentation score will be added together to determine the State Champion for each section.

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Written Event Competition at the DECA International Conference:

The following applies to ALL written events except for Chapter Award Program and Merit Awards Program. Refer to the event's guidelines for competition information at ICDC.

1. Any project that receives penalty points at the State Conference must be corrected prior to being submitted at the International Conference.
2. All international competitive events with a written entry component will require that the written entry be submitted online prior to the DECA International Career Development Conference. The window for submission through the online competition portal is March 27 - April 10, 2024.
3. Preliminary presentations for international written events without an exam component will present to the judge on Sunday, April 28, 2024. The written entry will be evaluated prior to ICDC. No competition will take place on Monday for these events. Finalists will continue to be announced Tuesday morning. This includes events in these categories:
 - Business Operations Events
 - Project Management Events
 - Entrepreneurship Written Events
 - Stock Market Game
4. Penalty Points will be accessed for international written events to only the finalists' projects after the preliminary presentations, to determine the event finalists. Not every project will be accessed for penalty points.