



2024 SCDC WRITTEN EVENT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

The Written Event upload portal will be open February 16-22, 2024.

Written Event Online Submission Instructions in this packet apply for the following:

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| Business Growth Plan (EBG) | Independent Business Plan (EIB) |
| Business Services Operations Research (BOR) | Innovation Plan (EIP) |
| Business Solutions Project (PMBS) | Integrated Marketing Campaign Event (IMCE) |
| Buying & Merch. Operations Research (BMOR) | Integrated Marketing Campaign Product (IMCP) |
| Career Development Project (PMCD) | Integrated Marketing Campaign Service (IMCS) |
| Community Awareness Project (PMCA) | International Business Plan (IBP) |
| Community Giving Project (PMCG) | Merit Awards Program (MAP) - <i>Upload Gold level projects only</i> |
| Finance Operations Research (FOR) | Sales Project (PMSP) |
| Financial Literacy Project (PMFL) | Sports & Ent. Marketing Operations Research (SEOR) |
| Franchise Business Plan (EFB) | Start-Up Business Plan (ESB) |
| Hospitality and Tourism Operations Research (HTOR) | |

In addition to the Written Event Online Submission Instructions, the following events ALSO require hard copies delivered/mailed to the Michigan DECA office:

Innovation Plan (EIP)
Integrated Marketing Campaign Event (IMCE)
Integrated Marketing Campaign Product (IMCP)
Integrated Marketing Campaign Service (IMCS)
Start-Up Business Plan (ESB)

Merit Award Program (MIGMAP) - **Bronze, Silver & Gold levels in hardcopy, only Gold level uploaded**
Chapter Awards Program (MICAP) – **no digital copy uploaded, only a hard copy needed**

Entries must be received by the Michigan DECA office by 4:00 p.m. on February 22, 2024.

- **We strongly recommend that all shipped packages should be sent in enough time to be received no later than February 21, 2024.** Packages scheduled to be received after this date run the risk of not arriving on time, and not being able to be screened for competition.
- We strongly recommend using UPS, as the drivers will deliver directly to our office.
- All USPS (postal service) packages take an extra day to be delivered to our office after they are delivered to the EMU campus mailroom. Please plan for this delay.
- Ship the packages with a tracking number to confirm that they have been delivered to our office.
- Use this address for shipping projects: Michigan DECA/EMU, 208 King Hall, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

The following applies to ALL written projects:

- **The DECA Written Event Statement of Assurances and Academic Integrity form, certifying the originality of the work must be signed by the advisor and each student listed on the event before the event is submitted.** Only those students who signed the Statement of Assurances and Academic Integrity form and have been included on the chapter's registration will be allowed to compete in the event. All content must be original work of the student(s) that signed the DECA Statement of Assurances and Academic Integrity form.
- **NEW FOR 2024: The Statement of Assurances and Academic Integrity form should be a separate PDF file from the project.**
- **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.
- 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.
- We strongly recommend that these projects have a minimum number of pages of at least half of the maximum pages allowed.
- Project entries must be in the following order: Cover Page, then the actual event following the guidelines set by DECA. (Do not include any evaluation forms.)
- **If the written project was created using Canva, you may select either "PDF Print" or "PDF Standard".** Downloading it in any other format could result in penalties if TurnItIn cannot 'read' the words for the plagiarism review.
- Michigan DECA staff will upload all entries to TurnItIn.com to be screened for plagiarism. The entries will be screened by Michigan DECA staff. Evidence of plagiarism or cheating shall result in the student (and partner, if applicable) being disqualified from competition.
- A team of volunteer advisors will review the projects online to assess penalty points prior to the conference.
- No refunds will be given for disqualified dropped students. Any project that receives 25 or more penalty points (*Merit Award Program is 30 or more penalty points, Chapter Award Program is 40 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.
- For the events with only the online submission, Michigan DECA will send the entries to judges that have volunteered to evaluate written events online prior to the State Conference. Other judges will be evaluating the presentation at the State Conference. Michigan DECA staff will print the executive summary for each judge hearing the presentation at the State Conference. The two scores will be added together to determine the State Champion for each section.
- For the Innovation Plan, the three Integrated Marketing Campaign events, Start Up Business Plan, Merit Award Program, and Chapter Awards Program, judges will be recruited to evaluate both the presentation and written entry at the State Conference.

1. Save the written projects as a PDF format:

- **DO NOT PRINT AND SCAN THE PROJECT TO A PDF FILE.** (*TurnItIn.com will not be able to read the text.*) **It needs to be exported, printed, or saved as a PDF file.**
- **A fully signed Statement of Assurances MUST be saved as a separate file from the project.**
- Files cannot be larger than 11.9MB.
- Please name your files as:
 - Project file: EVENT CODE STUDENT NAMES (e.g., BMOR CAMPBELL SMITH JONES)
 - Statement of Assurances Form: EVENT WS CODE STUDENT NAMES
- Note: If the written project was created using Canva, you may select either “PDF Print” or “PDF Standard”. *Downloading it in any other format could result in penalties if TurnItIn cannot ‘read’ the words for the plagiarism review.*

2. All students must be first registered in the State Conference Registration Portal.

3. For Written Event Submissions, chapter advisors will navigate to the JudgePro Project Submission Portal at <http://judgespro.decaregistration.com/org/jpmi-scdc/conf/scdc>

4. Login using the same Advisor username and password that you use for the DECA Membership Portal.

5. On the top menu, click on the blue PROJECTS button.

6. You will see all of your registered students, sorted by event.

- **You cannot make any changes to the student’s events or teams in the Project Submission Portal.** If you see any errors in events or team members, contact Ann Day at aday7@emich.edu since the conference registration portal has closed.

7. Click on the **UPLOAD FILES** button on the correct row.

8. Click on the blue button named **CLICK HERE TO UPLOAD A NEW FILE.** **It must be a PDF files, no larger than 11.9 MB. You can upload both the Written Statement of Assurances file and the Project file.**

9. Note: you do not need to change the Event Entry in the Title column.

10. Repeat to upload additional projects.

FINAL CHECK:

- **Did you attach a fully signed Written Statement of Assurances for each project as a second file?**
- **Are your chapter’s projects submitted in the correct events?**
- **Are the correct students assigned to each event?**
- **No duplicate project submissions?**

If you need to change a written project once uploaded, you can log back in and upload a new file as many times as you need until the Project Submission Portal closes at 11:59 p.m. on February 22, 2024.

Please contact Ann aday7@emich.edu if you have any questions.