

Oregon DECA Constitution

Article I. Name

Section 1.1 The official name of this organization shall be Oregon DECA, and may be referred to as the Oregon Association of DECA.

Article II. Purpose

Section 2.1 The mission of Oregon DECA is to prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management.

Section 2.2 Oregon DECA's guiding principles shall be to help student members leverage their DECA experience to become academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible, experienced leaders.

Section 2.3 Oregon DECA's core values and attributes are competence, innovation, integrity and teamwork.

Article III. Organization

Section 3.1 Oregon DECA is an association of local chapters within the State of Oregon.

Section 3.2 Oregon DECA shall be composed of four divisions including: High School, Collegiate, Alumni, and Professional. Student members of the High School Division shall be governed by an Executive Council of elected officers.

Section 3.3 The administration of Oregon DECA shall be vested in the Board of Trustees. The Oregon DECA Corporate Bylaws define the membership, duties, authority, and selection process of the Board of Trustees.

Section 3.4 The Executive Council shall consist of the officers of the Oregon DECA High School Division.

- A. The Executive Council may appoint such committees, as they deem necessary for the operation of that division, subject to the approval of the Executive Director or their designee.
- B. The Executive Director, or their designee, shall be advisor to Executive Council. In addition, the respective advisors of the officers shall serve in an ex-officio capacity to the Executive Council.

Article IV. Membership

Section 4.1 Chartered Association

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- A. Charter Holder. Oregon DECA is chartered through the Oregon Department of Education as a chartered association of DECA Inc., with the administration, policy, and governance entrusted to Oregon DECA, Inc.
- B. Chartered Association. The state association shall consist of all affiliated chapters within the boundaries of the State of Oregon. A chapter may be affiliated in public and private schools in which Career Technical Education or the equivalent courses are offered. The chapter shall be composed of students possessing the qualifications for membership.

Section 4.2 Local Chapter

- A. Organization. A chapter may be organized whenever, in the judgment of teachers, students, and administrators, it would be advantageous to do so.
- B. Affiliation. Affiliation shall be made according to the process prescribed by DECA Inc.
- C. Chapter Bylaws. Chapter bylaws shall be adopted by the local chapters to govern the transaction of business. Bylaws shall be consistent with those of the national and state association.
- D. Charter. Upon approval by DECA Inc. a local chapter charter shall be issued. The local chapter shall then be recognized as an affiliate of Oregon DECA.
- E. Good Standing. Local chapters in good standing shall be those that maintain policies consistent with those of DECA Inc., and Oregon DECA, Inc. and which annually send to the National Office:
 - State and National dues for each participating student by published deadlines each year.
 - A list of names and addresses of the officers of the local chapter immediately upon election;
 - Any amendments made to chapter bylaws.
- F. Suspension. Any local chapter failing to meet the requirements for good standing, may be suspended from membership for one year, as determined by the Board of Trustees.
- G. Reinstatement. Upon meeting the requirements for good standing, the local chapter may be reinstated by the Executive Director or their designee.

Section 4.3 Membership Qualifications

- A. Active Members. Any student interested in pursuing a career in marketing, finance, hospitality, management, or entrepreneurship shall be eligible for active membership in an organized chapter within the school. Active members shall be eligible to hold office, to make motions, and to vote.

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- B. Collegiate Members. Any student attending a post-secondary institution within the State of Oregon, has paid dues, and meets the membership criteria set forth by DECA Inc. and Oregon DECA, Inc. shall be considered an active collegiate member.
- C. Alumni Members. An active member upon graduation from high school or post-secondary instruction shall be entitled to an alumni membership upon receipt of annual dues.
- D. Professional Members. Supporters of Oregon DECA from the community, education, and industry shall be recognized as professional members upon receipt of annual dues.

Section 4.4 Honorary Members

- A. Any individual who has rendered outstanding service to Oregon DECA by advancing its mission and purposes, shall be eligible for honorary membership.
- B. Honorary members shall be elected by a majority vote at any meeting of the Executive Council and approved by the Board of Trustees.
- C. Honorary members shall have the privilege of attending all meetings of the organization.

Article V. Voting

- Section 5.1 Members shall exercise their voting privileges in Oregon through duly selected Voting Delegates of each chapter of Oregon DECA in good standing. Apportionment of the number of Voting Delegates per chapter shall be set according to the policies of the Board of Trustees.

Article VI. Meetings

- Section 6.1 Each active division of Oregon DECA shall conduct a minimum of one meeting annually for the purpose of conducting the association's business.
- Section 6.2 The Executive Council shall meet as scheduled, and with the approval of the Executive Director or Board of Trustees may call special meetings.
- Section 6.3 Parliamentary Procedure for all meetings of Oregon DECA shall be governed by *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

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Article VII. Chartered Association Officers

- Section 7.1 Chartered Association Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the Voting Delegates at an annual business meeting of that division. The Chartered Association Candidate Guide shall define all voting and elections procedures.
- Section 7.2 The Chartered Association Candidate Guide and Officer Handbook shall define the positions, duties, qualifications, and procedure for removing officers and filling vacancies in office.
- Section 7.4 Oregon DECA members seeking to be a candidate for DECA National Office shall follow the procedures outlined in the Oregon DECA National Officer Candidate Guide and shall be approved by the Board of Trustees.
- Section 7.5 Individuals elected as Chartered Association Officers shall assume their office at the close of the annual State Career Development Conference at which they were elected.

Article VIII Finances

- Section 8.1 The Board of Trustees shall manage all Oregon DECA finances, determine financial policy, approve all budgets, and shall make available annual financial statements for inspection upon request.
- Section 8.2 The Board of Trustees shall have the authority to determine fees to cover program and operational expenses of Oregon DECA.

Article IX. Emblem and Colors

- Section 9.1 The emblem of Oregon DECA shall be determined by DECA Inc.
- Section 9.2 The colors of the Oregon DECA shall be the same as those adopted by DECA Inc.

Article X. Amendments

- Section 10.1 This Constitution may be amended at the annual business meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Voting Delegates present and voting.
- Section 10.2 The amendments may be proposed by:
- Any local chapter in good standing
 - The Executive Council
 - The Board of Trustees
 - The Executive Director or their designee

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- Section 10.3 Amendments must be received in the State Office thirty (30) days prior to the annual business meeting.
- Section 10.4 Amendments shall be approved by the Executive Director or their designee.
- Section 10.5 Notices of the proposed amendments shall be distributed to local chapters by the Executive Director prior to the annual business meeting.

Amendment History

Last Revised February 2014