

# CONSTITUTION OF THE ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION OF DECA

## ARTICLE I – NAME

The official name of this organization shall be the Arkansas Association of DECA.

## ARTICLE II – PURPOSES

The purposes of this organization are:

- To assist local Chapters of DECA in the growth and development of their Chapter and its members.
- To further develop a respect for education in marketing, management, and entrepreneurship that will contribute to career development.
- To promote understanding and appreciation of the responsibilities of citizenship in our free, competitive enterprise system.
- To aid in the development of personality, poise, character and leadership.
- To bring employers and employees together in a relationship mutually beneficial.

## ARTICLE III – ORGANIZATION

**Section 1:** The Arkansas Association of DECA is an association of approved local DECA Chapters of the State of Arkansas.

**Section 2:** Each division of the Arkansas Association of DECA shall have an Executive Board responsible for the administration of that division's activities and business. The State DECA Advisor, State DECA Co-Advisor and the Program Coordinator for Business and Marketing Education will serve as non-voting members of each Executive Board for that division.

The membership of the Professional Division of DECA will elect two "at-large" representatives annually to serve three-year terms on the Executive Board.

All state officer advisors will serve as non-voting advisory committee members and are required to attend all committee meetings.

Delta Epsilon Chi and the Collegiate Division sponsors will also serve as voting members of the Executive Board for those divisions. At-large members may be elected if those divisions see fit to do so.

All Sponsors/Advisors of chartered DECA Chapters will serve as non-voting Advisory Committee members for their respective divisions and are encouraged to attend all Executive Board meetings.

**Section 3:** The State Association may be composed of five divisions: High School, Delta Epsilon Chi, Collegiate, Alumni and Professional. Each division shall have an Executive Board of officers who will be elected annually by voting delegates of that division.

**Section 4:** Charters shall be issued to local DECA Chapters by the State Executive Board of the Arkansas Association of the DECA.

## **ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1:** The members of the Arkansas Association of DECA shall be Chartered Chapters of that State Association with membership limited to Arkansas Activities Association member schools, except as prohibited by Federal and State law and/or State Board of Education requirements.

**Section 2:** Classes of membership which shall be recognized by the Arkansas Association of DECA are:

### **ACTIVE MEMBERS:**

High School Division: These shall consist of students enrolled in marketing related courses.

Delta Epsilon Chi Division: These shall be students enrolled in marketing related courses in a Community College or Career and Technical School.

Collegiate Division: These shall be students enrolled in an approved teacher-training program.

An active member must pay all dues as established by the State Association and National DECA in order to be eligible to hold a State or National office, participate in State or National competitive events, and if chosen, serve as a voting delegate and represent his/her Chapter in State or National DECA affairs of his/her division.

### **ALUMNI MEMBERS:**

These must have been active members of ONE of the other Divisions of DECA and not now be an active member of any Division.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS:**

These persons may be associated with or participating in the professional development of DECA as approved by the State Association. Such members may include teacher-coordinators, teacher-educators, and Marketing Education Supervisors; employers and/or training station sponsors of M.E. students; advisory committee members, and others willing to contribute to DECA's growth and development. Professional members

will pay dues as established by the State Association, but will be ineligible to serve as a voting delegate, hold office, or otherwise represent his/her State Association.

### **HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS:**

These shall be leaders in the field of education, in business, or in government and must be approved by the State Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE V – VOTING**

Each Chapter shall elect two delegates who shall be considered voting delegates at the State Career Development Conference.

## **ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS**

**Section 1:** A State Career Development Conference shall be held each year and shall serve as the official annual meeting of the Arkansas Association of DECA.

**Section 2:** The State Executive Board shall be empowered to call special meetings.

## **ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS**

**Section 1:** The officers of the High School Division of the Arkansas Association of DECA shall be the Association President, Vice President of Leadership, Vice President of Career Development, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Hospitality, and Vice President of Marketing. The officers of the Collegiate Division of the Arkansas Association of DECA shall be president, vice president and secretary/treasurer. The maximum number of state officer candidates that can be nominated by a chapter shall be limited to two in any one year.

**Section 2:** These officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the voting delegates of their division at the annual State Career Development Conference.

**Section 3:** Officers shall serve from the close of the annual State Career Development Conference through the close of the following year's conference. In the event of a vacancy, the State Executive Board may appoint the officer(s) to fill the vacancy.

## **ARTICLE VIII – DUES**

**Section 1:** State Association dues may be that amount set by the voting delegates to the annual State Career Development Conference. National dues will be that amount set by National DECA. State and National dues are to be paid according to the guidelines established by National DECA.

**Section 2:** The State Advisor shall report each school year as to which chapters have paid their membership dues in full. These chapters shall be designated as chapters in good standing.

**Section 3:** The membership year shall be September 1 to August 31 inclusive.

## **ARTICLE IX – EMBLEMS AND COLORS**

The emblem of the Arkansas Association of DECA and its colors (blue and gold) shall be that same as those adopted by the Distributive Education Clubs of America, Inc.

## **ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1:** This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the authorized voting delegates to the State Career Development Conference; provided, however, that all chapters in good standing, the State Sponsor and State Advisor will be notified in writing of the content of any proposed amendment at least 30 days prior to said State Career Development Conference. Only such amendments shall be made as are in keeping with the purposes stated in Article II of this Constitution.

## **ARTICLE XI – AUDIT**

The Arkansas DECA accounts shall be audited each year.

## **ARTICLE XII – VOTING DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

The number of voting delegates shall be variable with the directive of the National Constitution. Voting delegates shall be determined by the State Advisor.

## **ARTICLE XIII – RULES, REGULATIONS, AND BY-LAWS**

**Section 1:** Such rules, regulations, and by-laws as are deemed necessary for the proper conduct of this organization shall be adopted.

**Section 2:** No rules, regulations, and by-laws shall be adopted which are contrary to this Constitution.

**Section 3:** In all meetings, Robert's Rules of Order, Revised shall serve as standard procedure.

Adopted February 28, 1972

Amended March 14, 1977; March 5, 1979; May 5, 1990; April 11, 1983; February 25, 1991; February 25, 2003; March 5, 2017