
ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1.

The official name of this organization shall be Arizona DECA.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE AND MISSION

Section 1.

Arizona DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in high schools throughout Arizona for careers in marketing, finance, and hospitality management.

Section 2.

Arizona DECA integrates into classroom instruction, applies learning, connects to business, and promotes competition. Arizona DECA prepares the next generation to be academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible, experienced leaders. Arizona DECA values competence, innovation, integrity, and teamwork.

ARTICLE III ORGANIZATION

Section 1.

Arizona DECA shall be composed of high school chapters located within the state of Arizona.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

Each chapter shall be composed of student, advisor, alumni, and professional members.

ARTICLE V CHARTER

Section 1.

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) holds the charter for Arizona DECA. The charter holder is the ultimate legal authority for Arizona DECA, and supersedes the authority of this Constitution, and the High School Division Bylaws.

Section 2.

The Chartered Association Advisor of Arizona DECA shall be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the charter holder. The charter holder shall define the duties, responsibilities, and authority of the Chartered Association Advisor. In this role, the Chartered Association Advisor may act on behalf and hold the authority of the charter holder.

ARTICLE VI GOVERNANCE

Section 1.

The Board of Directors shall be responsible for representing all the various stakeholders of the organization, ensuring collaboration and inclusion between them, and providing the Chartered Association Advisor advice and recommendations on the direction and operation of the organization.

Section 2.

The Board of Directors shall consist of:

- The Chartered Association Advisor
- The High School State President
- Four (4) advisors representing current Arizona DECA chapters
- Up to ten (10) from the business and industry community
- ADE Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) State Director
- ADE Program Specialist for Arizona marketing and finance programs
- ADE Program Project Specialist for Arizona DECA

Section 3.

The Board of Directors shall include an Executive Committee, which will consist of the following positions:

- Board Chair
- Past Board Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary

Section 4.

The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of three times during each fiscal year. Each meeting shall include a report from each stakeholder group on their direction, finances, and operations.

Section 5.

Business and industry representatives on the Board of Directors may serve up to two (2) consecutive three-year terms, then must remain off the board for a minimum of one (1) year before becoming eligible for reappointment. Advisor representatives serving on the Board of Directors shall serve two-year terms. Upon completion of a term, advisors must remain off the Board for a minimum of one (1) year before becoming eligible for another term. Notwithstanding these term limits, any Board member serving as Board Chair during the final year of their term shall be granted a one-year extension to serve as Immediate Past Board Chair, ensuring continuity of leadership and an effective transition of responsibilities.

ARTICLE VII BRAND GUIDELINES

Section 1.

Use of Arizona DECA and DECA Inc. logos, names, themes, and other copyrighted, trademarked, or intellectual property must be used with the approval of the Chartered Association Advisor and must follow the branding guidelines established by Arizona DECA and DECA Inc.

ARTICLE VIII FINANCES

Section 1.

The fiscal year of Arizona DECA shall be from July 1 through June 30. Upon completion of the fiscal year, Arizona DECA must have finances reviewed by Board Chair and Treasurer and report findings to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX MEETINGS

Section 1.

Each year, Arizona DECA shall hold a State Career Development Conference which shall serve as the official annual meeting of Arizona DECA. The Executive Director shall be empowered to call special meetings as may be deemed necessary.

ARTICLE X VOTING DELEGATES

Section 1.

Each division shall exercise their Arizona DECA shall exercise their voting privileges through voting delegates as approved by each chapter. Each chapter shall be allowed a specific number of voting delegates based on their total membership as of the end of the previous fiscal year. Each chapter shall receive two voting delegates. For every 50 total members a chapter has, one additional voting delegate will be allocated. No chapter may have more than six voting delegates. Each voting delegate shall receive one vote.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

Section 1.

To amend this Constitution, the proposed amendment must be presented in writing to the Board of Directors. This Constitution may then be amended by a majority vote of approval by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII RULES, REGULATIONS, AND BYLAWS

Section 1.

Rules, regulations, and bylaws deemed necessary in the proper conduct of each division of this organization shall be adopted by each division. No rules, regulations, or bylaws shall be adopted which are contrary to this Constitution.

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1

The official name of this division shall be the High School Division of Arizona DECA but may do business as the Chartered Association of Arizona DECA (or simply Arizona DECA).

ARTICLE II ORGANIZATION

Section 1.

Each Arizona high school participating in a marketing, finance, and/or hospitality management program shall be entitled to one chapter in the High School Division of Arizona DECA. Organization within the individual school shall be determined by that school. Chapters must be in compliance with the Constitution and High School Division Bylaws of Arizona DECA and DECA Inc. Chapters must pay fees as established by the Chartered Association Advisor.

Section 2.

The High School Division of Arizona DECA shall be divided into districts for organizational purposes. The Chartered Association Advisor retains ultimate discretion for all competition-related decisions.

ARTICLE III CHARTERED ASSOCIATION ADVISOR

Section 1.

The Chartered Association Advisor is additionally charged with the overall management of the High School Division of Arizona DECA and should meet the expectations of the role as outlined by DECA Inc. and the Arizona Department of Education.

Section 2.

The Arizona DECA Executive Director shall serve as the Chartered Association Advisor known as the State Advisor.

Section 3.

The Chartered Association Advisor has the power to create contract, staff, or volunteer positions to assist in their duties of managing the High School Division of Arizona DECA. Appointment to the DECA Inc. Representative seats allocated by DECA Inc. shall be at the discretion of the Chartered Association Advisor.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

Active members of the High School Division of Arizona DECA shall be students who are enrolled in or have completed an ADE-approved high school marketing, finance or hospitality management program in the state of Arizona. Exceptions may be granted by the chapter's advisor for students who are not enrolled in a qualified program. An active member will be eligible to hold chapter, chartered association, or international office; participate in chapter, district, chartered association, regional, or international activities and competitions; serve as a voting delegate; and represent their chapter in district, chartered association, regional, and international DECA affairs.

ARTICLE V STATE OFFICERS

Section 1.

The State Officers of Arizona DECA shall consist of no more than 10 members. State Officers shall be collectively known as the State Officer Team. The State Officer Team shall develop and implement an annual Program of Leadership. All State Officers shall be elected as State Representatives by a majority vote of approval by the voting delegates of Arizona DECA present at the voting session of the State Career Development Conference. The positions of the state officer team will be appointed to each state officer by the Chartered Association Advisor.

Section 2.

It shall be the duty of State Officers to represent the student members of the High School Division of Arizona DECA and assist in overall chartered association management functions. Additional duties of the State Officers shall be determined by the Chartered Association Advisor. Should any State Officer be unable to execute their duties or complete their term of office, they will be removed from their position on the State Officer Team.

ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

Section 1.

To amend these bylaws, the proposed amendment must be presented in writing to the Board of Directors at least 60 days prior to the State Career Development Conference. Upon a majority vote of approval by the Board of Directors, the proposed amendment must be presented in writing to the chapters at least 30 days prior to the State Career Development Conference. These bylaws may then be amended by a majority vote of approval by the voting delegates of the High School Division of Arizona DECA present at the State Career Development Conference.