DECA State Career Development Conference Regulations and Notes

December, 2016



The Connecticut DECA State Career Development Conference will be structured as close to the International Career Development Conference as possible to better prepare our winners to compete and win on the grand stage.

In order to foster a positive and fair competitive experience, this document outlines regulations in effect.

Each chapter is to bring one unopened ream of white printer paper, one box of blue pens or one box of sharpened pencils. These supplies will be dropped off during chapter registration and disseminated to the judges’ tables.

**Principles, Individual Series and Team Events**

1. Role plays will be taped to the tables, just like ICDC or, in the event of space issues, handed to the student competitor. They are not to be written on or manipulated in any way.
2. A stack of unfolded, plain white paper will be provided in the preparation area, just like ICDC.
3. Pens and pencils will be provided, just like ICDC.
4. All materials are to be left with the judge upon completion of the role play, just like ICDC.

**All Other Events (ie manuals)**

1. As per the DECA guide rules and regulations, see [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org) for more information.

**Event Limits**

Principles of Business Administration 3 entries per chapter

Team Decision Making 3 teams per chapter

Individual Series Events 5 entries per chapter

Written Events 3 entries per chapter

Chapter Team Events 1 entry per chapter

**In general, students are to arrive to Principles, Individual Series and Team events:**

1. Dressed appropriately
2. Without writing utensils
3. Without a cell phone
4. Without papers of any kind or other aids – however a FOUR FUNCTION non graphing calculator is allowed
5. On time – but be flexible as, with any large event, it is possible that there are delays or events that move faster than scheduled.

**Students may NOT:**

1. Use cell phones at all, in the competitive event area, during the hours when competition is being held.
2. Bring their own paper into the competition area but they may study in the recreation areas.
3. Bring their own writing utensils into the competition area.
4. Discuss role plays during the hours when the competition is being held. If a student does this they are also making it harder on themselves to win!

Students found in violation of the above rules may, at the discretion of the Connecticut State Advisor, be assessed a penalty up to and including disqualification.

**General Notes:**

All efforts are made to make this a fair and enjoyable learning experience. However, there are hundreds of human beings involved and there may be judges that do not follow the judging guidelines. As long as that judge acts the same for all competitors, scoring should be fair. For example, if a team event only gives 20 minutes to prepare it is not optimal – but if all teams ***in that event*** have 20 minutes, it remains fairly equitable.

***Chapter Advisors are NOT to discuss judging issues or complain to judges or chief event advisors – all issues are to go DIRECTLY to the DECA state advisor only.***

**Dress Code:**

As a general rule, students are to wear full, professional business attire (not business casual). The DECA blazer, while mandatory at ICDC, is not at SCDC, but may be worn. Typically business attire means dress shoes, dress socks, business slacks or skirt, a blazer and collared shirt. Men’s Wearhouse and K&G offer discounts to DECA members (see the DECA website for printable coupons).

See below for some tips (thanks Keegan Obrien and DECA Direct for these):

1. One should not wear a black skirt or black dress pants with the navy DECA blazer—this is a major fashion faux pas! Stick with khaki or grey.
2. On the same note, one shouldn’t wear black dress shoes with a khaki skirt or khaki dress pants. These colors don’t go well together and therefore aren’t a professional look. Wear a brown or cordovan-colored shoe for a better match.
3. Don’t overdo it on fragrance (cologne and perfume) or jewelry. If one has to ask if something is okay, it probably isn’t!
4. Think conservatively for competition and treat it as one would a job interview. The desire to stand out and look flashy is understandable, but remember that “dressing for success” isn’t the same as “dressing to impress.” Stick to conservative colors and an overall conservative look.
5. When wearing a blazer or suit jacket with two buttons, only button the top button. When wearing a jacket with three buttons, only button the top two. Unbutton your buttons when sitting down.

**Female Competitors**

1. Skirts should be within two inches of the knee.
2. Hosiery may seem old fashioned, but it is still a more conservative look and therefore perhaps the preferable one for some judges.
3. Shoes should be close-toed and one shouldn’t have an extremely high heel. If one can find a professional looking flat, go with that. In almost all cases, boots simply don’t look professional for DECA competition.
4. If one has long hair, find a way to wear it up in a professional fashion so it isn’t played with; it’s amazing what one does when they’re nervous.
5. Keep makeup simple and professional in appearance.

**Male Competitors**

1. Wear a tie and learn how to tie it properly. Just don’t try to learn how 30 minutes before a role-play, when you ought to be focusing on your presentation and not worrying about your outfit. The tie should hit the belt buckle—it shouldn’t be any shorter or any longer than this.
2. Shave any facial hair. This doesn’t mean trimming it, but rather losing it completely. While people in the business world may have beards, goatees, etc., caution against facial hair for DECA competitions or job interviews. Being clean-shaven is simply more professional looking.
3. Your dress socks should match your dress pant as closely as possible. Athletic socks are absolutely unacceptable.
4. Athletic footwear is never acceptable as a dress shoe, no matter what color the shoe is. Buy dress shoes!
5. There are so many great, conservative ties in patterns that incorporate navy blues, light blues and yellows that go very well with the newer DECA blazer patch.