

In 1941 Dr. Alonzo Grace, Director of the Division of Education, allocated funds for distributive education in schools. So, during the early 1940's distributive education programs were growing across the country. Distributive education was the general name for marketing, business, and selling education at the time. These programs were brought to Connecticut by James A. Dorsey, who was made the Connecticut supervisor for distributive education in 1942. Dorsey introduced distributive education and cooperative work programs first to New Britain and Middletown. At this time development was slow because many people held the belief that schools should not teach business and work. Cooperative work programs, in which students in distributive education classes worked after school to gain experience in the job market, were especially frowned upon. The programs grew nonetheless and they soon branched out to Greenwich, Hamden, Waterbury, and East Hartford.

The first organized meeting between Connecticut schools to discuss starting a DECA association (a then new organization for distributive education students) was at Greenwich High School on September 18, 1952. In 1953 Connecticut became a chartered DECA State Association.

In 1956 Helen B. O'Donnell became the second State Supervisor for distributive education.

The first North Atlantic Regional Conference was held on October 25-26, 1963 at the Roger Smith Hotel in Stamford.

Connecticut DECA has come a long way and we continue to grow each year. Currently our State Advisor is Dennis Kelly, our Associate State Advisor is Felicia Mandeville, and our Fiscal Officer is Michael Bunko. Our student State officers for the 2018-2019 year are Jayden Regisford (President), Matthew Bahre (Vice President), Jasmine Glaspie (Historian), Ida Hoxha (Social Media Correspondent), Cassandra Barbino (Social Media Correspondent), Hannah Smolicz (Corresponding Secretary), Loriana Nicolas (Recording Secretary), Faaiz Quaiser (Treasurer), and Allyse Ernest (Community Service Coordinator).