

Registered Student Organization Constitution

Collegiate DECA

Drafted on: (04/09/2025)

Article I: (Collegiate DECA)

- The name of this organization shall be Collegiate DECA

Article II: Purpose of Organization

- Section I: The purpose of this organization is to prepare emerging business leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in various business functions through real-life competitive business simulations and events. We aim to prepare business students at the collegiate level to be academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible, and experienced leaders
- Section II: Policy Agreement.
 - We agree to adhere to all applicable policies and procedures of George Mason University and all local, state, and federal laws. Officers and members are expected to be familiar with the George Mason University policies and procedures. Including, but not limited to:
 - <https://studentcenters.gmu.edu/policies-procedures-guidelines/>
 - <https://brand.gmu.edu/events/policies>
 - <https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/>
 - <https://studentconduct.gmu.edu/>
 - <https://oacc.gmu.edu/access-services>

Article III: Membership

- **We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ethnic national origin (including shared ancestry and/or ethnic characteristics), sex, disability, military status (including veteran status), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, pregnancy status, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law.**
- A Registered Student Organization is open to all George Mason University students.
 - *Exceptions in Federal and Commonwealth law, and university policy are:*
 - *Official political party student groups*
 - *Groups affiliated with established places of worship*

- *Social Greek-lettered fraternities and sororities (Fraternity and Sorority Life: FSL will be following up with our groups on guidance for their language)*
- State which people are qualified for membership
 - People that are qualified for membership as follows:
 - Membership in this organization will not be restricted on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, pregnancy status or genetic information.
 - All GMU students are qualified for membership. Students pursuing a academic journey related to a business discipline are preferred.
 - All active members must be currently enrolled GMU students with a minimum academic achievement record defined as a cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0.
 - Type of Membership:
 - Active Members: Currently enrolled George Mason students (who attend meetings/functions and pay dues if applicable).
 - Associate Members: (may include members of faculty/staff, community members or students from other schools).
 - Honorary Members: (alumni or community members).
 - Membership Requirements: all members must pay dues and be actively engaged in every step of planning.
 - Membership Privileges:
 - Active Members: Only active members of the board will be allowed to vote on matters concerning the organization.
 - Membership Revocation: Membership privileges can be revoked if members do not attend meetings on a regular basis or are not involved with the organization's planning activities, specifically the competition weekend itself.

Article IV: Officers

- Officers must be enrolled at George Mason University during their elected terms.
- **Titles of the Board Officers:**
 - President: Administrative duties, supervising events, working closely with executive board, creating event ideas and managing competition information/registration
 - Vice President: Supporting all of the duties of the President
 - Treasurer: Keeping track of financial information for dues and registration finances
 - Secretary: Sending emails, keeping a track of meeting minutes, organizing information

- The length of an officer's term is primarily one academic year starting from Fall, unless our democratic voting system leads to a different outcome after serving one year.
- An officer may be removed from their duties if they fail to repeatedly complete their duties, have inefficient communication with other board members, or have inappropriate conduct.
- **Minimum Qualifications:**
 - Must maintain a minimum of at least 2.0 Grade Point Average through out the term.
 - Abide by all of the policies as set by the university's Student Code of Conduct.
- Officers may be removed from their position if they fail to fulfill their duties.

Article V: Advisor

- The primary advisor shall be a member of the faculty or staff at George Mason.
 - An advisor may offer guidance and support for the organization. An advisor may not complete assigned tasks, hold decision-making, or have voting authority, as organizations are student-initiated and student-run.
 - The advisor will be selected based on the board members' inputs and vote.
 - The advisor may be removed from his or her duties if he or she fails to keep in touch with the organization's activities.

Article VI: Elections

- Officer Elections will take place prior to the Student Involvement re-registration process as found on the website: [Registered Student Organizations Registration](https://gmuedu.sharepoint.com/sites/SIRSOHub) or <https://gmuedu.sharepoint.com/sites/SIRSOHub>
- Elections will take place in April near the end of the spring semester.
- The nominating procedure will last for 2 weeks. All members are allowed to submit nominations. Nominations will be submitted through a Google Form.
- Nominees will fill out the board application form and present their qualifications through a speech
- A secret ballot is the method that will be used for voting and the President and Vice President will be responsible for tallying votes.
- For transitioning of current and new officers there will be a short shadow period in which new officers are familiarized with operating procedures and necessary paperwork

Article VII Impeachment or Resignation

- Should an elected officer fail to perform the responsibilities or abuse the privileges of their elected position, the officer shall be subject to impeachment and removal from their office.
- The procedures for removing an individual from their official position and for an individual wishing to resign from their position is by having a meeting with the

individual, President, Vice President and providing a written statement of explanation. They will be removed from the shared board drive and Mason360.

- The executive board will announce the search for appointing or electing a new officer to a position that has been vacated should a current officer resign from their elected or appointed position or should a current officer be impeached or removed from their position. They will consider current active members and publicize the need for an interim officer.

Article VIII: Meetings

- The group will meet monthly.
- The president and vice president preside, lead, and plan the meeting
- The executive board will have separate meetings once a month before the group meeting
- Quorum is a simple majority of the active membership plus one officer
- The parliamentary rules of order that will be used is the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order

Article IX: Finance

- The amount of dues and the method of collection will be decided by a majority vote and discussion amongst the executive officers and consideration of members opinions. This discussion will occur annually prior to the fall semester.

Article X: Amendments

- Student Involvement must review all amendments in the same manner as a completely new constitution.
- To propose an amendment to the constitution, members must have a written proposal explaining the specific wording to insert into the constitution and an explanation for why it is being proposed. To approve an amendment, a majority vote and discussion will be conducted with active members, associate members, and the executive board members.

Article XI: Ratification

- The constitution will be ratified with a majority vote from the board members.
- This constitution shall become effective upon approval by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the membership, and a Student Involvement staff member.

Constitution Ratified on:

- Insert all dates the constitution is amended and ratified.
- 04/09/2025