



District and State Career Development Conferences

DRESS CODE

Professional appearance is an important aspect of the overall preparation of DECA members for the business world. To that end, Tennessee DECA supports a dress code for its career-based functions that exemplifies the highest standards of professionalism while being non-discriminatory between males and females.

Tennessee DECA has adopted the following official dress standards for the district and state career development conferences. Students, advisors and chaperones must follow the dress code.

Competitors must wear an official DECA blazer (or suit jacket) during interactions with the judges. While official DECA blazers are not required during briefing and testing, professional business attire is required. Professional business attire should also be worn to all conference sessions, including workshops and special meal functions, such as luncheons and banquets.

For a more polished, professional appearance, it is recommended that attendees wear appropriate hosiery/socks.

AN OFFICIAL DECA BLAZER OR SUIT JACKET IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION OR AN AWARD ON STAGE.

WHEN APPEARING BEFORE JUDGES

FEMALES: Official DECA blazer (or suit jacket) with dress skirt or dress slacks and a dress blouse or official blazer with a dress; dress shoes

MALES: Official DECA blazer (or suit jacket) with dress slacks, collared dress shirt and necktie; dress shoes and dress socks

DECA GENERAL SESSIONS AND MEAL FUNCTIONS

FEMALES: Business suit or blazer with dress blouse and dress skirt or dress slacks or business dress; dress shoes

MALES: Business suit or sport coat with dress slacks, collared dress shirt and necktie; dress shoes and dress socks

EVENT BRIEFING, MANUAL REGISTRATION AND TESTING, LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES/INSTITUTES

FEMALES: Dress blouse or dress sweater with dress skirt or dress slacks (blazer optional) or business dress; dress shoes

MALES: Collared dress shirt and necktie with dress slacks (blazer optional); dress shoes and dress socks

DECA BUSINESS CASUAL

- Casual slacks (e.g., Dockers), blouse or shirt, socks and casual shoes.
- Jeans, t-shirts and athletic shoes are not included in business casual attire.

UNACCEPTABLE DURING DECA ACTIVITIES

- Skin-tight or revealing clothing
- Midriff-baring clothing
- Swimwear
- Athletic clothing
- Leggings or graphic designed hosiery/tights
- Clothing with printing that is suggestive, obscene or promotes illegal substances

When judging adherence to the dress code, Tennessee DECA asks that advisors, teachers and chaperones use observation as the tool for assessing compliance. Tennessee DECA does not support or condone the touching of students or their clothing as a means of determining whether or not a student is following the dress code guidelines.

*Updated on August 1, 2017
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