

District 6 DECA Membership, Chapter Info & Dates

Dear District 6 Chapter Advisors,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 DECA year!

As we begin another exciting season, I want to thank each of you for the time, energy, and commitment you invest in your students and chapters. Because of your efforts, District 6 remains one of the **fastest-growing and most active districts** in Florida DECA.

Over the past four years, our district has experienced tremendous growth, increasing from approximately **545 members to more than 1,800 members as of June 2026**. This growth is a testament to the outstanding work being done in our classrooms and communities. It also brings both opportunities and challenges. As our membership expands, so do the possibilities for leadership development, competition, and chapter engagement. At the same time, we must continue adapting our procedures and events to serve an increasingly larger and more geographically diverse membership.

One of the most exciting opportunities created by this growth is the continued **expansion of DECA into middle schools**. As more districts and administrators recognize the value of career-connected learning, leadership development, and competitive experiences, we are seeing increased interest from younger students and educators. Building a stronger pipeline from middle school through high school allows us to introduce students to DECA earlier, develop future chapter leaders, and strengthen the long-term sustainability of our organization throughout District 6. While this expansion presents new opportunities for engagement and growth, it also requires thoughtful planning to ensure a high-quality experience for students at every level. This year, *District 6 only* is creating a role-play event for Middle School students at the District level to balance the playing field for them.

Perhaps nowhere is our district's growth more evident than in competitive events. District 6 covers a large geographic area, and balancing accessibility, fairness, and competitive integrity is becoming increasingly complex. Last year, the introduction and expansion of pitch deck requirements significantly increased participation in prepared events. The number of prepared event teams/competitors grew from approximately **76 teams in 2025 to more than 120 teams in 2026**. While this growth reflects increased student engagement and opportunity, it also affects scheduling, judging capacity, venue space, and the amount of travel required for many schools. Our goal is to finalize our contracts with larger venues for future District Conferences.

Our goal remains the same: to provide as many students as possible with the opportunity to present their work, demonstrate their skills, and gain valuable feedback from business professionals. At the same time, we must ensure that competitive events remain fair, rigorous, and consistent for all participants. Finding the right balance between opportunity and competitive equity is not always easy, but it is a challenge we are committed to addressing thoughtfully as our district continues to evolve.

Included in this packet, you will find important information for the upcoming year, including:

- 2026-2027 Membership Dues Information
- District 6 Calendar of Events
- Resources and Important Links for Chapter Officers
- Updated 2026-2027 District Competition Procedures and Rules for our District Conference at **Keiser University, Tampa**

Please review these materials carefully and share them with your officers and chapter leadership teams as appropriate. Additional updates and reminders will be communicated throughout the year.

Thank you for your partnership and dedication to making DECA an impactful experience for our members. Together, we will continue building strong leaders, preparing emerging professionals, and creating opportunities for every student in District 6.

We look forward to seeing all of you and your students throughout the year!

Best Regards,
Dr. Theodore Newfield, Ms. Grace Seibold, Ms. Misti Anderson
District 6 Advisors
Florida DECA

DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP DUES FORM

SCHOOL: _____

CHAPTER NAME: _____

ADVISOR: _____

ADVISOR EMAIL/ PHONE NUMBER : _____

PLEASE LIST THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS REGISTERING:

_____ Students registering x \$6 = _____

_____ TOTAL PAID students x \$6 = _____

If owed membership from previous year: _____

Make checks payable to District 6 DECA (memo “ School Name Dues”)**Preferred Payment is Credit Card****If HCPS School – MUST USE Purchase Card*****Payment Deadline to have your chapter members registered on the membership portal, to compete in the District Tournament:******Monday, October 26, 2026*****Send Checks to:****Armwood High School****ATTN: Ted Newfield****Mail Route # 4 (for HCPS Sites)****12000 US Hwy 92, Seffner FL 33584***(Please do not write below this line.)*

Paid with school check # _____

Paid by Credit Card: _____ (Date Received)

Please attach the DECA Inc Membership list from the DECA Membership Site.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

District 6 and FL DECA Dates:

September 18th (9 am – 3 pm) - District 6 Advisor Training @ University of Tampa

TBD - District 6 – Virtual District Competition Meeting

August 1 – Nov 13th – Helping Hands Project – see flyer below for more information!

Starts -> After last SCDC -> Ends Jan 15, 2027 – Chapter Business Plan Date range

Sept. 25th – Oct. 23rd – District Competition Registration Portal is Open **Registration is \$15**

October 16-18th - Envision @ Embassy Suites – USF Campus (see next page for more details)

October 23rd - DECA Inc. – Membership for D6 competitors due!

*DECA Inc. membership registration is open all year

October 28th – Nov 6th - District Competition Testing

October 30th – Pitch Decks Due (Events EIP, ESB, IMCE, IMCP, IMCS) – Virtual Submittal

– DECK and Video Link for Judge (more info coming)

November 9th – District 6 Competitor confirmation deadline – you must confirm your competitors or they will not compete!

November 13 – District Conference @ Keiser in Tampa (see next page for more details)

*Invite Only, Awards will be presented on the same day

Dec. TBD – State Opening of State Projects Team creation and submittals.

December 4th – Team 70 State Officer application deadline

January 1st, 2027 – State Upload of Prepared 20 Page Events is Due

January 7th, 2027 – **Date to Accept Your Competition Slot for State** – The Association Director will Verify Competition Slots and report back to the District Advisor

January 11th – 20th – State Project Invites

January 29th ** - Expected Due Date for State CDC Registration

February 19th, 2027 – DECA Day at Daytona Racetrack Event

February (TBD) – State CDC Testing

March 4th – 7th, 2027 - State CDC Conference – Orlando

March 15th, 2027 – Association ICDC Registration Due

DECA Inc. Dates:

Starts Sept. 1st – Ends (varies until Feb. 22nd) – Corporate Challenges

November – DECA Month

November 20th -22nd – Power Trip in Louisville, KY

December 1st – Chapter Campaigns (how to qualify for the THRIVE conference at ICDC!)

January 27th -31st, 2027 – SEM Conference in Orlando

February – CTE Month

March 23rd – 30th, 2027 – ICDC Prepared Events Upload Due

April 17 – 20, 2027 – ICDC - Anaheim, CA

IMPORTANT LINKS / INFORMATION FOR YOUR CHAPTER

Calling Forward Florida Calls – 6 PM (30 minutes) – Topics are in the image

Link for Meeting: <https://fldeca.org/cff/>



Helping Hands - [Instagram](#) → District 6



Envision Conference



IMPORTANT LINKS / INFORMATION FOR YOUR CHAPTER

Contact Form link for your Officer Team

<https://fldeca.org/chapter-contact-form/>



Interested in a State Officer Position

<https://fldeca.org/officer-candidate/>



Chapter Business Plan

<https://fldeca.org/cbp/>



Personal Business Plan

<https://fldeca.org/pbp/>



District 6 Competition Information and Qualifications November 13th 2026-2027 @ Keiser University Tampa

Important Dates and Deadlines:

September 18th (9 am – 3 pm) - District 6 Advisor Training @ University of Tampa

*We will go over great information regarding competition updates and event changes !

TBD - District 6 – MANDATORY Advisor Virtual District Competition Meeting

November 13th – Helping Hands Project pickup

*Vice President Assisting District 6, Audrina Parker of Steinbrenner High School, will be present to collect donations at this specific event

Sept. 25th – Oct. 23rd – District Competition Registration Portal is Open

***Registration has increased. The 2026-2027 cost will be \$15 per tester.**

October 23rd - DECA Inc. Membership for D6 competitors due!

*DECA Inc. membership registration is open all year, but competitors must be a member in good standing in the DECA Inc. portal to compete by this date.

October 28th – Nov 6th - District Competition Testing

*Testing must be completed by a proctor that is NOT the chapter advisor. This testing must be done on your chapter's school campus between the outlined times and dates sent by DLG in the fall.

October 30th – Pitch Decks Due (Events EIP, ESB, IMCE, IMCP, IMCS) – Virtual Submittal

– DECK and Video Link for Judge (more info coming)

November 7th – District 6 Competitors invites will be sent to advisors

November 9th – District 6 Competitor confirmation deadline.

*You must confirm your competitors or they will not compete!

November 13 – District Conference @ Keiser in Tampa (see next page for more details)

*Invite Only, Awards will be presented on the same day

January 7th, 2027 – Date to Accept Your Competition Slot for FL CDC (State competition)

*All chapters with competitors that have qualified to compete in the FL Career Development Conference (State competition) **must confirm with the District 6 Advisors via email that their competitors will be using a designated D6 allocation to the conference by this date.** The Association Director will Verify Competition Slots and report back to the District Advisor.

***If the District 6 Advisors have not received written communication from your chapter advisor on the designated allocation, we will give the spot to the next placing competitor.**

Middle School Only – Principles of Introductory Business (PIB):

District 6 is excited to offer a middle school (6-8th grade) only event, Principles of Introductory Business”. This is an event **unique to our district**. This event will take the Principles test, and conduct as a normal Principles event would.

Please note that while this event will be awarded a District Award/Medal and recognized during the District 6 Awards but will **not** advance to the FL Career Development Conference. This event is for **learning purposes only**.

Middle school competitors are welcome and encouraged to compete in any event offered but will need to qualify as traditionally outlined in the other sections below and will be competing against high school (9-12) competitors. Middle school competitors can earn allocations to the FL Career Development Conference (State competition) in **any other event**.

To Qualify for the middle school PIB District Competition:

- Minimum score of 55% or maximum Top 8 will be invited to compete at the in person event.
- Competition on 11/13 will run like a normal Principles event. Final scoring for awards will be calculated in the same manner as normal Principles events.
- **The cutoff date to confirm your students invite is November 9th.** If your competitor is not confirmed, they will not compete.

Principles, Individual and Team Events:

To Qualify for District Competition:

- Minimum score of 70 or maximum Top 8
- Knowing that if the top 8 score a 70.1 (tiebreaker) or higher, the 9th place cannot be invited, and so on. **Just because a student scores at least 70% does not automatically mean they are invited to compete.**
- Due to the turnaround, if a spot is declined, replacement students are not possible. The sooner we know, the better.
- **The cutoff date to confirm your students invite is November 9th.** If your competitor is not confirmed, they will not compete.
- Total Students Invited are in the range below.
 - All Principles Events – 48 (5 events + MS only event)
 - All Individual Events – 128 (16 events included PFL)
 - All Team Events – 128 (8 events)

FCE, HTPS, PSE – Financial Consulting, Hospitality and Tourism Professional Selling, or Professional /Selling

To Qualify for District Competition:

- The student needs to score a 65 or higher, no matter what, to be invited to present to a judge. There is no maximum amount of students invited, whoever scores the minimum test requirement will be invited.
- Presentations will be in person in front of a judge.
- Total Students Invited – 40 (on average) - 3 Total events

Prepared Events - IMCE, IMCS, IMCP (Integrated Marketing), ESB (Startup Business Plan), and EIP (Innovation Plan)

To Qualify for District Competition:

- All are invited to submit their Pitch Decks and their Virtual Presentations. Please use the links below.
 - IMCE Link: [here](#)
 - IMCP Link: [here](#)
 - IMCS Link: [here](#)
 - ESB Link: [here](#)
 - EIP: [here](#)
- There will be NO finals round. The same judge for each event will determine who advances using the Pitch Deck and Video submission *only*.
- Students should be in full competition attire while on camera. The video should be done in one take, the metadata will show any edits. The video should be listed on a streaming platform (preferably YouTube) as an unlisted / private video and shared so that the judge can properly access it.
- **These students do NOT attend the November 13th in person competition day.** The chapter will accept the award on their behalf.

Awards

- All Awards will occur on November 13th at Keiser University Tampa.
- Chapters will need to have at least one representative present at each award session to accept trophies/medals for competitors not present.
- Any District 6 student currently on FL DECA Executive Team 69, or has a completed Team 70 application submitted should be at the competition assisting. More details will be shared directly with these students / advisors.

District 6 awards the Top 3 finalists in each event. The top 3 finalists will be given the District 6 allocations to the FL Career Development Conference (state competition). Chapter advisors must have written communication to the District 6 Advisors that their competitors will be using the allocations no later than January 7th 2027. **If the District 6 Advisors have not received written communication from your chapter advisor on the designated allocation, the allocation will be given to the next placing competitor.**

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (Pending changes – final schedule will be emailed to advisors!)

7:45 – 8:00 AM – Registration Opens (competitors should arrive 30 minutes before their specific scheduled time – times will be sent 11/10)

8:00 AM - First Check In + Helping Hands drop off

9 AM - 9:30PM – AWARD SESSION 1: IMCE, IMCS and IMCP

10 AM – 10:30 AM – AWARD SESSION 2: EIP and ESB

11 AM – 11:30 AM - AWARD SESSION 3: Principles

11:30AM - 12PM - AWARD SESSION 4: Team Decision Making

Lunch (on their own)

12:30PM - 1PM - AWARD SESSION 5: Individual Series

1PM - 1:30PM - AWARD SESSION 6: Professional Selling Events

Departure: Goal by 2/2:30 PM

Professionalism / Attire

All competitors will be expected to sign and adhere to the District 6 Competition Statement of Assurances/Code of Conduct. These will need to be signed and physical copies brought to the event as part of the registration check in process.

Each chapter will need to have a **1:10 ratio** of advisors/chaperones to competitors. All advisors are expected to work the event, chaperones attending may be required to work events as well. Please set this expectations with any and all chaperones attending.

All competitors and advisors/chaperones will be expected to be in **full DECA/ business professional attire for the entirety of the competition day**. Students out of attire at the event may be disqualified. Students commuting to/from campus themselves should arrive and depart in professional attire. Please see DECA Inc.'s rules and regulations regarding professional competition attire.