

Official Dress Code for the International Career Development Conference

Professional appearance is an important aspect of the overall preparation of DECA members for the business world. To that end, 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.

DECA's board of directors has developed the following official dress standards for the International Career Development Conference. Students, advisors and chaperones must follow the dress code.

Competitors must wear an official DECA blazer during interaction with the judges. ***While official DECA blazers are not required during briefing and testing, professional business dress is required.*** Professional dress should also be worn to all conference sessions including workshops and special meal functions such as luncheons.

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

An official DECA blazer is required to receive recognition/an award on stage.

When Appearing Before Judges

Females

Official DECA blazer with dress skirt or dress slacks and a dress blouse or official blazer with a dress; dress shoes

Males

Official DECA blazer with dress slacks, collared dress shirt and necktie; dress shoes and dress socks

DECA General Sessions, 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 Activities/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, casual shoes.
Jeans, t-shirts and athletic shoes are ***not*** included in business casual attire.

The following are unacceptable during DECA activities:

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

When judging adherence to the dress code, DECA asks that advisors, teachers and chaperones use observation as the tool for assessing compliance. 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.