

ICDC 2026

March

25 – ICDC Qualifying Written Entry Submissions Open

30 – ICDC Blazer Order Deadline (www.shopdeca.com)

31 – DECA Emerging Leader Honor Award Applications Due

April

1 – ICDC Payment Due - NO REFUNDS

8 – ICDC Qualifying Written Entry Submissions Due Online

25–28 – DECA ICDC (Atlanta, GA)



GENERAL INFORMATION

- **EVENT UPLOAD DIRECTIONS ARE ATTACHED TO THE MARCH 23 EMAIL.**
- The DECA ICDC program is [now available online](#). It will be shared in Tuesday's DECA Direct Weekly.
- [Atlanta Hilton](#) - If you are bringing a bus or will have a car, please reach out to the hotel directly.
- **Atlanta Slide Deck**, attached with safety and general ICDC information directly from DECA Inc.

COMPETITIVE EVENTS

- **Briefings/testing are mandatory.**
- **Accommodation Requests:** https://deca.formstack.com/forms/services_for_special_need_students
- There are no requests for competitive event times.
- Sunday times posted in app on Saturday
- Monday times provided at testing

DRESS CODE

Emerging Leader Series

- Blazers are not required

WHEN APPEARING BEFORE JUDGES AND ON-STAGE

- **Official DECA blazer**
- Dress slacks or dress skirt or business dress
- Collared dress shirt and appropriate neckwear (necktie, ascot, scarf) or dress blouse
- Dress shoes

GENERAL SESSIONS, MEAL FUNCTIONS, EVENT BRIEFING, MANUAL REGISTRATION, TESTING

- Business suit or sport coat or blazer (blazer optional)
- Dress slacks, dress skirt or business dress
- Collared dress shirt, dress blouse or dress sweater
- Blazer optional
- Dress shoes
- Necktie/scarf (optional)

ICDC EXPECTATIONS

- **This is a school function – for both students and chapter advisors.**
- Everyone must do their part.
- Be where you are assigned to be.
- Safety is everyone's responsibility.
- General etiquette – silence cell phones, no chatting, **stay for the duration of the session/assignment.**

Advisor Duty

Event Assistants

In response to the increased number of competitors, and as a result, extended shifts last year, the Event Management Assignments have been **realigned to shorten shifts**. DECA will provide ribbons for competitive events assistants and the number of **Shop DECA gift cards will be provided each day based on the assignments**. We currently have **96 required duty slots**, so you may be asked to sign up for more than one shift. Your flexibility and willingness to support are essential in helping us meet our *required commitments*.

All advisors attending ICDC are required to complete a duty. These duties are mandatory and non-negotiable.

<https://bit.ly/ICDC2026Duties>

In addition, I have created a hotel duty option for advisors who have medical considerations or have a chaperone available. **This role ensures we have a designated contact person available at the hotel**, particularly to support advisors traveling alone with students.

State Association Meeting

Virginia Association Meeting will be Saturday, April 25th at 5:30pm at the Hilton Atlanta. (Room TBD)

Can my members take their IB Exam at ICDC?

DECA is working with the International Baccalaureate Organization to arrange IB examinations on April 27, 28 and 29 at the DECA International Career Development Conference in Atlanta. Once members have qualified for ICDC, interested finalists needing to take the IB examination in Atlanta must have their school IB Coordinator fill out a request form and send it to support@ibo.org to the attention of Jacqueline We are, Assessment Operations by April 1, 2026. Please note that there is a \$52 USD fee per student associated with this process. Schools will be invoiced by IBO at the end of May. DECA will work to accommodate competition appointments to the best of its ability given the nature of volunteer judges' schedules.

Atlanta Safety Tips

TRAVEL SMART

- 1** Do not answer the door in a hotel or motel room without verifying who it is. If a person claims to be an employee, call the front desk and ask if someone from their staff is supposed to have access to your room and for what purpose.
- 2** When returning to your hotel or motel late in the evening, use the main entrance of the hotel. Be observant and look around before entering parking lots.
- 3** Close the door securely once you enter your room and use all of the locking devices provided.
- 4** Do not needlessly display guestroom keys in public.
- 5** Place all valuables in the hotel or motel's safe deposit box.
- 6** Remove convention badges outside of meeting site.
- 7** Clean Car Campaign **ATTENTION!** **DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLE ITEMS IN VEHICLES IN PLAIN SIGHT**
 - Laptop Computers
 - MP3 Players
 - Loose Change
 - Bags or Boxes
 - Purses or Wallets
 - Cell Phones or Chargers
 - Cameras
 - GPS Devices
- 8** When walking, stick to well-lit, busy areas; walk with a purpose. Don't be distracted by use of your head phones or cell phone.
- 9** Do not give money to panhandlers. NOTE: monetary solicitation is illegal in the downtown convention area.
- 10** Need directional assistance downtown? Call an Ambassador @ 404-210-9600 or send a text to 404-732-4200
- 11** Always make note of the driver's name and license plate number of the car you are using.
- 12** See Something, Say Something Text 404.344.5355
- 13** Stay alert near street car tracks.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
911
CITY OF ATLANTA
Police: 404-614-6544
Fire: 404-546-7000