

DECA Board Member Nomination and Election Policy

1. Purpose and Overview

This policy sets out guidelines for how DECA Board members may be nominated and elected.

The DECA Board Member Nomination and Election Policy should be utilized in conjunction with the DECA Constitution. Where the Board Member Nomination and Election Policy is silent on an issue, the Constitution has jurisdiction. Where the Constitution is silent on an issue, the Board has jurisdiction.

For the purposes of this document, email is considered to satisfy the condition of “written.”

2. Eligibility

Board members must be current members of DECA who are in good standing and are elected for one-year terms. For the purposes of the Board, a year stretches between consecutive DECA Annual General Member (herein after referred to as ‘AGM’) meetings.

Any current member can seek election to the Board by providing a completed application to the current board, at a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the AGM, subject to the terms and conditions set out below and in DECA’s Constitution. The Board reserves the right to evaluate expressions of interest in conjunction with applications, DECA’s Constitution and DECA’s Board Member Nomination and Election Policy, and to select candidates who will be put forward for membership approval via vote at DECA’s AGM to join the Board.

3. DECA review of Board Member Applications and Expressions of Interest

In reviewing applications, DECA Board members will strive to review without bias to gender, race, nationality, disability, sexual preference, religion, or belief, and will consider DECA’s Guiding Principles, any past support of or volunteer experience with DECA, and whether the applicant:

- has, or appears to have, a conflict of interest;
- has publicly misrepresented DECA and/or DECA’s events or community involvement, including via social media;
- engaged in any behaviour or actions that are disrespectful to any Board or DECA member(s) and/or are not in keeping with DECA’s guiding principles.

At least twenty-five (25) days prior to DECA's AGM, DECA will post on its website an application to complete for candidates interested in becoming Board members, and information on how and where to submit the application, including the deadline for receipt of the application by DECA.

At least ten (10) days prior to the AGM, selected candidates for Board membership will receive written notice of their selection.

At least one week (7 days) prior to the AGM, DECA will post on its website a list of candidates eligible for election to the Board for membership review, with a brief description and summary of why each individual wants to join the board

4. Interim Board Changes

Where a vacancy occurs on the Board during the year/between AGMs, the Board can appoint an interim replacement. Where possible, the Board should provide an opportunity for DECA members to seek appointment. Board members appointed as interim replacements must seek election at the next AGM along with the rest of the Board.

5. Process

At the AGM, DECA members will have the opportunity to elect the new DECA Board, inclusive of returning DECA Board members.

The following conditions apply to the Board Election process:

- Quorum for DECA members at the AGM must be double the number of Board members present. If quorum is not reached at AGM, voting can be completed by email to the membership.
- Board members can be considered elected if no objections are raised during the AGM. If voting is completed by email due to lack of quorum at AGM, Board members can be considered elected if no objections are raised via email responses.
- If an objection is raised, the Board member must be elected by two-thirds of the DECA members present. If voting is completed by email due to lack of quorum at AGM, the Board member must be elected by two-thirds of the email responses.

- Following the AGM and election by DECA members, the new DECA Board will be proclaimed. The new board becomes effective as of the AGM or after the email vote.