



Career and Technical Student Organizations

The Mn Foundation for Student Organizations

The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations

The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations (MFSO) was created in 1996 by the Minnesota State Legislature to ensure the stability of and provide collaborative leadership and funding to the Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) in Minnesota. The MFSO is governed by a Board of Directors that representing a variety of career areas.





The MFSO acts in an advisory capacity to the MDE and to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities in allocating, managing and reporting on legislative funds awarded to the CTSOs for basic operations.

The MFSO provides a collaborative environment, encouraging success and growth for Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) in Minnesota.

Current initiatives of the MFSO include:

- Student Leadership through Civic Awareness
- Providing Opportunities to Underserved Populations.
- CTSO Guidance and Development

What is a CTSO?

- CTSOs are career and technical student organizations. They support the academic content of CTE programs in the classroom, internships and other work experiences.
- CTSOs are considered an integral part of CTE; they help students develop the technical, academic and leadership skills that are essential for success.
- All CTSO programs include business and industry partnerships, ensuring they are prepared to enter the workforce.
- CTSOs provide student members the opportunity to compete in skill based competitive events at the local, state and national level.

The MFSO serves the following CTSOs:

Secondary

- BPA – Business Professionals of America
- DECA – Marketing Education
- FCCLA – Family, Career and Community Leaders of America
- FFA – Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- HOSA – Health Occupations
- SkillsUSA – Technical and Industry Occupations

Post Secondary

- BPA – Business Professionals of America
- Collegiate DECA – Marketing Education
- SkillsUSA – Technical and Industry Occupations



To be recognized (for funding purposes) as a Career and Technical Student Organization in Minnesota by the MFSO, the student organization must:

- Satisfy all requirements to be in good standing with the national organization;
- Serve students in grades 9 – 14; and
- Have a minimum of 300 student members and 10 active chapters in Minnesota.

Minnesota's CTSOs



BPA & BPA Post Secondary

Business Professionals of America is the CTSO for students pursuing careers in business management, information technology, finance, office administration and other related career fields. BPA provides educational experiences that further develop social intelligence, civic consciousness, leadership skills and self-esteem for its members.



The BPA Torch Award

The Torch Awards Program is an individual recognition award for those who participate in a variety of personal growth and service activities. There are seven different activity areas in the Torch Awards Program. To be eligible for each award, students must obtain a certain number of points in each of these seven categories:

1. Leadership
2. Service
3. Cooperation
4. Knowledge
5. Friendship
6. Love, Hope, & Faith
7. Patriotism



The Torch Award is given at 4 levels, each requiring a different number of points. Minnesota Students have consistently received this award in both the High School and College division.

DECA and Collegiate DECA

The mission of DECA and Collegiate DECA is to enhance the education of all students with interests in marketing, management or entrepreneurship. DECA assists students in developing skills and competencies for marketing careers, while building self-esteem, experiencing leadership, and providing community services.



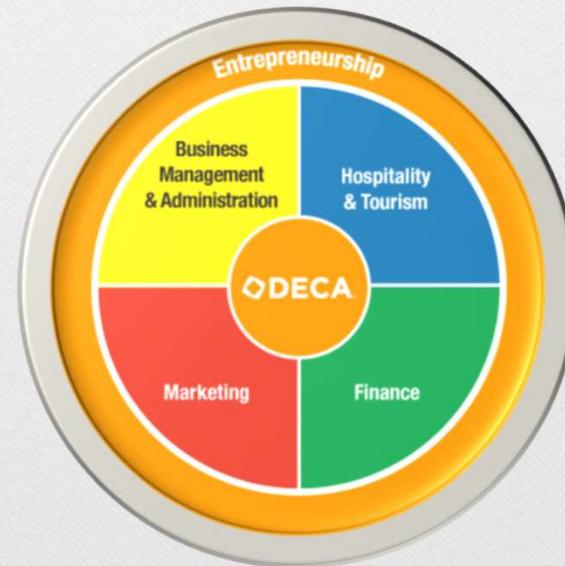
DECA's Comprehensive Learning Program

Integrates into Classroom Instruction: An integral component of classroom instruction, DECA activities provide authentic, experiential learning methods to prepare members for college and careers.

Applies Learning: DECA members put their knowledge into action through rigorous project-based activities that require creative solutions with practical outcomes.

Connects to Business: Partnerships with businesses at local and broader levels provide DECA members realistic insight into industry and promote meaningful, relevant learning.

Promotes Competition: As in the global economy, a spark of competition drives DECA members to excel and improve their performance.





FCCLA



To Promote Personal development, Leadership, through family and consumer sciences education for the multiple roles of:

- Family members
- Wage earners
- Community leaders

Members develop skills for life Through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, Practical knowledge and career preparation.



FCCLA “Stop the Violence!”

MN FCCLA offers a variety of National and State initiatives for FCCLA members. The FCCLA Students’ Taking On Prevention (STOP) the Violence program empowers youth with attitudes, skills, and resources in order to recognize, report, and reduce youth violence. FCCLA members use peer education to:

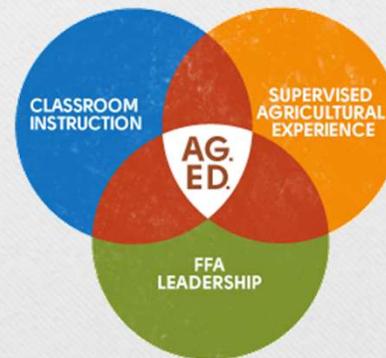
- Reach their peers with violence prevention education
- Recognize warning signs of potential youth violence
- Encourage young people to report troubling behavior
- Collaborate with school and community resources to address youth violence
- Develop and implement local action projects to reduce the potential for violence in their school

FCCLA offers national recognition to chapters that complete STOP the Violence projects. Students from Minnesota has received this award on several occasions.

FFA

The FFA Organization is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agriculture, food and natural resource education. The FFA award and degree programs recognize students for excellence in academics, career development, leadership and community service. Students gain hands-on experiences through:

- Classroom and laboratory experiences
- Supervised Agricultural Experiences (experiential learning)
- Leadership and Career Experiences in FFA



The Miracle of Birth Center

The CHS Miracle of Birth Center, a one-of-a-kind agricultural education exhibit, is the birthplace of nearly 200 calves, lambs, goats and piglets during the 12 days of the Minnesota State Fair. The exhibit is staffed by primarily by FFA student members. There are daily performances including showcases about FFA.



The CHS Miracle of Birth Center is also home to the FFA Chapter House & Leadership Center, which offers expanded meeting and educational space.

HOSA

The mission of Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) is to enhance the delivery of compassionate, quality health care by providing opportunities for knowledge, skill and leadership development of all health science technology education students, therefore, helping students to meet the needs of the health care community.

100% Healthcare in all events and activities!



HOSA's MRC Camp

Each year HOSA partners with the Medical Reserve Corps to train young people to prepare for a variety of disaster scenarios. The focus is Connecting Youth with Disaster Preparedness and Promoting Leadership through information, training and development of a specialized team of youth volunteers within MN HOSA to address disaster preparedness, reduce the risk and understand recovery. Goals include:

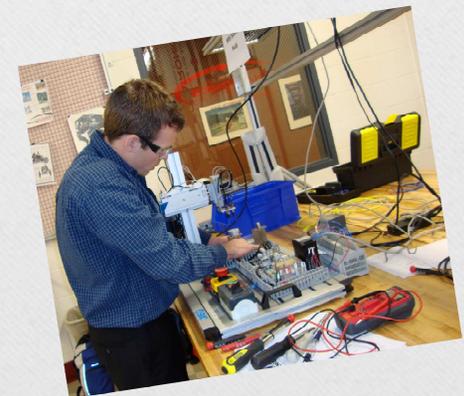
- To prepare community emergency service roles while working with youth in areas of education and promotion of good health and safety.
- To foster community change in growth of members through connecting youth with Public Health initiatives in preparing and presenting educational services to peers and communities.
- Add value to member's leadership roles in life by teaching and discovering how to use their talents in preparing others for disasters in their homes, schools and communities.





SkillsUSA High School and College

SkillsUSA empowers its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. SkillsUSA improves the quality of our nation's future skilled workforce through the development of Framework skills that include personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics. SkillsUSA creates opportunities for students, educators and business through leadership training, volunteerism opportunities, competitions and conferences, which enhance students' self-worth and employability skills to create a seamless transition into the workforce.



SkillsUSA Framework



SkillsUSA has an impact on the lives of America's future workforce through the development of personal, workplace and technical skills that are grounded in academics.

The Benefits of a CTSO

Employability

- Employers look for students with academic knowledge, technical skills as well as intangibles like ethics, teamwork, problem solving, critical thinking and the ability to communicate ideas clearly and concisely.
- Students are able to build foundations that make them employable by participating in extended learning opportunities like CTSOs.
- Co-curricular activities that happen outside of school in the “real world,” help students see the “big picture,” thereby providing the relevance students need and the perspective employers seek.

Employability Impact

CTSOs offer skill assessments which measure the student's skill competencies against current industry standards.

- 81% of dropouts stated that more “real world” learning would have influenced them to stay in school ¹
- 93% of school administrators found CTSOs to be effective at developing leadership skills. ¹
- 90% of educators found CTSOs to effective in improving academic performance. ²

¹ Bridgeland et al., 2010, ² NRCCTE Alfeld et al.,

Competitive Events

- Competitive events reflect a broad range of technical and academic skills. They include prepared speech, job interview, career display as well as more technical competitions such as robotics, nursing assistant, welding, sports marketing, soil and water conservation, and financial literacy.
- CTSO event evaluation process involves students in both a written component such as an exam or report and an interactive component with an industry professional serving as a judge.
- The CTSOs competitive events directly contribute to every student being college and/or career ready when they graduate from high school or complete their program of study.

Competitive Event Process

CTSO members have the opportunity to experience the competitive events program at a variety of different levels.

- District or regional competitions range from 50-800 students and are located throughout the state.
- State Competitions range from 500-2,000+ members have the opportunity to compete, network and broaden their professional interests.
- National Competitions range from 5,000-15,000+ students, advisors, businesspersons and alumni gather for several days of competitions, leadership training and career academies.

Community Service Projects

A critical part of all CTSOs is Community Service. They are done at the local, state and national level. Some examples include:

SkillsUSA: Integrated a community service project into their state conference; making 2000 sandwiches to be distributed through MRD (The Sandwich Project). This year they will be increasing the amount to 3000.

High School BPA: Champlin Park BPA Chapter ran the Rebels with a Cause Powder Puff game raising donations for the American Cancer Society, Feed My Starving Children, The Animal Humane Society, and our school food shelf, The Shelf. Over \$2000 was raised for these charities.



Industry Partnerships

All of the career and technical student organizations have industry partnerships that provide event sponsorship, prizes, scholarships, equipment and other financial and in-kind donations. Many of these sponsors also serve as industry representatives advising classroom standards.



Starting a Chapter

Bringing a CTSO into the Classroom

“Shop Around” Find out what CTSO best suits your campus and program(s) of study.



Once you have decided, go to that CTSOs website and check out the section on starting a chapter!

MINNESOTA FFA ASSOCIATION
ABOUT PARTICIPATE SUPPORT RESOURCES CONTACT

HOW TO JOIN AG ED

FFA is an integral part of agricultural education. To join FFA, you must be enrolled in an agriculture course at your school. Contact your school counselor or agriculture teacher to enroll in an agricultural education program and join FFA.

Find an FFA Chapter Near You
In some instances, business owners do not have an FFA chapter in their schools have been able to join FFA chapters in neighboring school districts. Whether or not you can get an FFA chapter in a neighboring school district is a state and local decision. Click here to see our list of current Minnesota FFA chapters.

Current Minnesota FFA Chapters

FFA Membership Dues
Membership dues for the National FFA Organization are \$7 a year. Of this total cost, \$2.25 goes to the publication and distribution of *FFA News Digest*, the national magazine. A subscription to the magazine is included in your membership fee.

Minnesota state association dues are \$4. Local FFA chapters may charge additional dues for membership. These charges would be in addition to the \$11 national and state dues as your actual cost of membership may be more than \$11.

FFA New Horizons
With your FFA membership, you receive four issues of *FFA News Digest*, the National FFA Organization's member magazine. With understanding and informative features articles on everything from farmout activities and career spotlights to important FFA news, our award-winning magazine is a great resource for FFA members.

SkillsUSA
About Membership Resources Competitions Events Programs

Membership Resources

SkillsUSA serves more than 200,000 students and educators annually and awards the Gold Seal of Achievement to the top 10% of students in the nation. The organization has 122 state chapters with over 25,000 members. Learning programs in 14 state and national associations. More than 2,000 educators and administrators are professional members of SkillsUSA.

Call 844-875-4557

Downloads

- Member Operator and Trainer Directory
- Blank Background Images

Join, Renew or Login

- Membership ID
- Membership ID Card
- Change Current Address Plan
- State Participation Plan PDF and PDF
- National
- Leadership Opportunities
- Renewals
- Address
- Security

Dues and Deadlines
SkillsUSA annual dues are \$7 plus state dues, which vary by structure, national dues are \$12 plus state dues, which vary. The national membership deadline is March 1st each year, but many state deadlines for state dues are earlier. [State dues and state dues due dates](#)

Membership Kit
Upon request, we are glad to mail a [SkillsUSA Membership Kit](#) to help you involve staff or students. To request a kit, call 800-354-9512.

To start a new SkillsUSA chapter, you simply need to get permission from your school.

FCCLA Minnesota
ABOUT LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS EVENTS NEWS COMPETITIONS

Membership

STATE STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Wendy Ambrose
Executive Director
Phone 656.390.2950

EMAIL WENDY

COMPETITIVE EVENTS
LEARN MORE

GET INVOLVED
LEARN MORE

EVENTS CALENDAR
LEARN MORE

For Affiliation of a chapter (new or continuing) please see the National FCCLA website.

MN FCCLA CHAPTERS MAY AFFILIATE AS AN FCCLA CHAPTER (ANY GRADE) OR AN FCCLA MIDDLE-LEVEL CHAPTER

hosa future health professionals MINNESOTA
National HOSA Contact Us

Membership

Congratulations on starting a new HOSA Chapter!!
Nationally, HOSA boasts 66,000 members. As health care grows and becomes more in demand, so does HOSA membership. Don't miss an opportunity to be a part of the HOSA family. View the various types of membership opportunities on the National HOSA site: <http://hosa.org/node/25>

Your first step for starting a new HOSA Chapter is to reach out to your State Advisor. For MN HOSA, the State Advisor is Summer Hagg, director@minnesotahosa.org

You will want to supply Summer with the following information:

- School Name
- School Address
- School Phone Number
- School (HOSA) Advisor

There is plenty of information to review on the National HOSA site as you begin your journey of becoming a new HOSA Chapter: <http://hosa.org/about>

New Advisor Handbook

© 2005 Minnesota HOSA
<http://minnesotahosa.org>
Website designed by Heidi Corning

MINNESOTA DECA
Home Conferences Competitive Events Districts Officers Judges Advisors About MN DECA Dhs

Why DECA?

DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, financial, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

DECA enhances the co-curricular education of members through a comprehensive learning program that integrates classroom instruction, applies learning, connects to business and promotes competition.

DECA's activities assist in the development of academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible, experienced leaders.

MN DECA, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit student organization with more than 3,000 members throughout Minnesota. MN DECA is funded in part by The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations.

OTHER BENEFITS FROM DECA MEMBERSHIP

1. You will learn that ENTREPRENEURSHIP at the top generates enthusiasm throughout the organization.
2. Ambitious goals result in GREAT ACHIEVEMENT that when you establish concrete goals.
3. Participation can be an exciting experience in PERSONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.
4. A chance to practice and learn valuable lessons in the importance of COMMUNICATIONS & HUMAN RELATIONS.
5. Participation gives valuable experience in practical ORGANIZATIONAL TECHNIQUES, valuable in business.
6. Proud achievements will help you develop greater SELF-CONFIDENCE & A BETTER SELF-IMAGE.
7. Participation in conferences and offerings will give you experience in RESPONSIBILITY AND FOLLOW THROUGH.
8. Personal and organizational experience may spark the skills of ORIGINALITY & CREATIVITY.

BPA
ABOUT STUDENTS EDUCATORS EVENTS GET INVOLVED CONTACT NEWS Programs

How Can I Get Involved with BPA?

There are many ways to bring your talents, expertise and guidance to over 40,000 members of Business Professionals of America (BPA). As the premier CTSO for students pursuing careers in business management, information technology, finance, office administration and other related career fields, we are always looking for opportunities to introduce new stakeholders to our organization.

Join

When you join Business Professionals of America you have the chance, within our network, to expand your skill set and experiences and learn skills that will help you succeed in your career. As a member, it's a good thing to put your resume to work for you the night when applying for jobs right out of college with the help of thousands of members. Instead of being the empty space on a resume, you can proudly display that you have the opportunity to be a member.

Join Today

Contact the State Director.

BPA

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SkillsUSA High School and College Division

Jessa Dahmes, Director
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Robbinsdale, MN 55422
Phone: 715-225-4784
Email: executive.director@mnskillsusa.org

Check out the Advisor Resources on the CTSO Website.

Incorporate the CTSO into your syllabus/curriculum and include a membership form.



Create awareness- all of the CTSOs have “kick-off” videos and promotional information.



Select a meeting date and ADVERTISE the meeting.



Hold Officer Elections and let your chapter develop its program of work.



Bring a CTSO to the Classroom!

- “Shop Around” Find out what CTSO best suits your program(s) of study.
- Contact the CTSO State Director.
- Check out the Advisor Resources and incorporate the CTSO into your syllabus/curriculum and include a membership form.
- Create awareness- all of the CTSOs have “kick-off” videos and promotional information.
- Select a meeting date and ADVERTISE the meeting.
- Hold Officer Elections and let the students “dive” into the program of work.



What is the Role of the MFSO in supporting CTSOs?



Each year the MFSO Board of Directors reviews the strategic plan and assesses the needs of the CTSOs. Based on that information, goals and initiatives are developed. Current initiatives of the include:

- Student Leadership through Civic Awareness
- Providing Opportunities to Underserved Populations.
- CTSO Guidance and Development

Civic Awareness

CTSO Day at the Capitol provides student leaders in the CTSOs an opportunity to engage their state Representatives and Senators in discussions about the impact career and technical education and student organizations have had on their life. The Experience Includes:

- Afternoon/Evening Civic Awareness Training
- Introduction/Welcome to the Capitol
- Meetings with Representatives and Senators
- Tour of the Capitol/Committee Meetings/General Session



CTSO Day at the Capitol

Supporting Underserved Populations

Addressing Poverty in the Classroom

Educators are often challenged to understand the needs of students in underserved populations. Economically disadvantaged students have a disproportionate number of obstacles in their everyday life we are often not aware of.

The MFSO has provided poverty awareness training to CTSO advisers and CTE education professionals; helping to create an equitable and supportive environment to students living in poverty and to increase awareness of the everyday obstacles of poverty.

Supporting Underserved Populations

Providing Opportunity

The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations (MFSO) has made it a priority to ensure underserved populations have an opportunity to engage in meaningful participation in co-curricular Career and Technical Student Organizations. The MFSO supports individual CTSO programs and projects meeting these objectives. These are a few examples:

- SkillsUSA: 98% of the students from an economically disadvantaged chapter qualified to take a technical skill assessment and [of that 98%] 100% passed.
- BPA Post Secondary: Partnered with Certiport to provide certifications at a reduced cost. 60% of the members attending the leadership conference took an industry certification exam; [of that 60%] 90% were awarded the certification in their career area.
- FCCLA: An economically disadvantaged chapter attended the annual leadership conference; following the conference: 81% said they are better able to set priorities; 75% are better able to communicate with others; 69% identified motivation as a skill they acquired at the CTSO conference.

CTSO Guidance & Development

MFSO Annual Workshop: Building a Better CTSO

Each year the MFSO provides a workshop for CTSO leadership, staff, and advisors free of charge. Past year topics have included:

- Cultural Competency
- Grant Writing & Fund Development
- CTSO Program Development
- Building Business and Industry Partnerships

Who benefits from CTSOs?

Students

Administrators

Educators

Industry



**BUSINESS
PROFESSIONALS
of AMERICA**
Giving Purpose to Potential



future health professionals



The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations
www.mnfso.org

