

CTE Directors,

I appreciate the opportunity to discuss DECA's national travel arrangements for a few minutes during the November 10th directors meeting.

Historically, DECA students and advisors have travelled as a group to the national conference. Utah DECA works with airline providers to reserve blocks of tickets. We never know until after the state conference how many students and advisors from each school will travel (which students are state winners) but we have a good estimate of how many will travel in the total group. Because the DECA national conference is held at the end of April within the current school year there is less than 60 days from the state conference to the national conference. Almost all airline contracts can only be cancelled 90 days or more in advance. DECA is contractually obligated to purchase the seats or pay various attrition charges which are \$50 or more per seat. Also, if DECA underestimates the number of seats needed additional seats are purchased at the current rate which is often significantly higher.

The past two years we've seen a few schools exercise more control over the travel process. Sometimes the schools still choose to travel with Utah DECA but sometimes they decide to make their own travel arrangements. That decision impacts other schools because we no longer know how many seats we need to book. The other CTSO's have a longer window between the state conference and the national conference so they can offer options DECA contractually can not.

I have schools who want Utah DECA to continue to provide all airline arrangements but others who want to make those arrangements themselves. I can't do both so I need some direction from the group. Below are a few options I'd like you to consider as we discuss how best to move forward.

Option 1: LEA's will be responsible for making transportation arrangements (air & ground) for the DECA National Conference. Utah DECA will provide contact information for potential travel agents and group ticketing options but will not enter into contracts with travel providers.

Option 2: All LEA's will make a good faith effort to participate in Utah DECA's transportation arrangements (air & ground) for the DECA National Conference. Utah DECA would provide LEA's with flight information and costs by December so they can request board approval if needed. LEA's would notify the Utah DECA board of directors by the 1st of January if they choose to opt out. If the Utah DECA board determines the risk is too high (too many LEA's may choose to book their own travel arrangements) all LEA's would be notified that they will be responsible for all travel arrangements.

Benefits of Utah DECA traveling together:

1. More teachers traveling together with students.
2. Students are kept together in larger groups.
3. The cost of the trip for students and advisors is set. No last minute increases.
4. Airline prices are averaged for all passengers.
5. Utah DECA provides the service of a travel agent.

Benefits of LEA's making transportation arrangements:

1. Full control for LEA's
2. Less risk for Utah DECA
3. Decreased workload for state advisor
4. Some LEA's could see a cost savings

Thank you for your time in considering this situation. I look forward to learning about some possible solutions that can benefit our students.

Vince

CTSO State Event Calendar 2016 - 2020

2016

Date	Organization	Event	Day of Week
Feb 25-26	DECA	State Career Development Event Conference	Th-F
March 7-9	FBLA	State Conference	M-W
March 10-12	FFA	State Convention	Th-S
March 15-16	TSA	State Conference	T-W
March 17-18	HOSA	State Leadership Conference	Th-F
March 22-23	FCCLA	State Conference	T-W
Mar 31 - Apr 1	SkillsUSA	State Skill & Leadership Conference	Th-F

2017

Date	Organization	Event	Day of Week
Feb 23-24	DECA	State Career Development Event Conference	Th-F
March 1-3	FBLA	State Conference	W-F
March 9-11	FFA	State Convention	Th-S
March 14-15	TSA	State Conference	T-W
March 16-17	HOSA	State Leadership Conference	Th-F
March 23-24	SkillsUSA	State Skill & Leadership Conference	Th-F
March 28-29	FCCLA	State Conference	T-W

2018

Date	Organization	Event	Day of Week
Feb 22-23	DECA	State Career Development Event Conference	Th-F
Feb 28-Mar 2	FBLA	State Conference	W-F
March 8-10	FFA	State Convention	Th-S
March 13-14	TSA	State Conference	T-W
March 15-16	HOSA	State Leadership Conference	Th-F
March 20-21	FCCLA	State Conference	T-W
March 22-23	SkillsUSA	State Skill & Leadership Conference	Th-F

2019

Date	Organization	Event	Day of Week
Feb 21-22	DECA	State Career Development Event Conference	Th-F
March 6-8	FBLA	State Conference	M-W
March 14-16	FFA	State Convention	Th-S
March 19-20	TSA	State Conference	T-W
March 21-22	HOSA	State Leadership Conference	Th-F
March 26-27	FCCLA	State Conference	T-W
March 28-29	SkillsUSA	State Skill & Leadership Conference	Th-F

2020

Date	Organization	Event	Day of Week
Feb 27-28	DECA	State Career Development Event Conference	Th-F
March 5-7	FBLA	State Conference	W-F
March 12-14	FFA	State Convention	Th-S
March 17-18	TSA	State Conference	T-W
March 19-20	HOSA	State Leadership Conference	Th-F
March 24-25	FCCLA	State Conference	T-W
March 26-27	SkillsUSA	State Skill & Leadership Conference	Th-F

Notes: *

DECA	4th week in February (Th-F)
FBLA	1st Week in March (W-F)
FFA	2nd Week in March (Th-S)
TSA	3rd Week in March (T-W)
HOSA	3rd Week in March (Th-F)
FCCLA	4th Week in March (T Eve - Th noon)
SkillsUsa	4th Week in March (Th Eve - F)

* Standard Weeks. May vary in certain years based on special circumstances

Easter weekend will be avoided if possible. However, CTE Directors have agreed to support and encourage participation when events fall on individual district spring breaks.

Easter Dates:

3/27/2016, 4/16/2017, 4/1/2018

4/21/2019, 4/12/2020, 4/4/2021