



State Scholarships
Mississippi *DECA*
2025-2026



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

SUBMIT ONE APPLICATION FOR ALL SCHOLARSHIPS

\$500 CLAYTON MARBLE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

SPONSORED BY STATE OFFICERS

\$400 MAME SCHOLARSHIP

\$350 MS DECA ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

(Same criteria and rating used for ALL Scholarship Applications)

1. The Scholarship shall be awarded to the student who shows outstanding scholastic ability as well as displaying involvement in school and community affairs, regardless of major in college.
2. This scholarship shall be presented to the college of the recipient's choice in the case of the Clayton Marble Memorial Scholarship and directly to the student for the MAME and Alumni Scholarships upon receipt of documentation of current enrollment in college.
3. The recipient must:
 - A. be a senior in high school
 - B. be a fully paid member of the Mississippi Association of DECA
 - C. not be a current State Officer for the Clayton Marble Memorial Scholarship
4. The candidate chosen for each Scholarship shall submit the following in portfolio style:
 - A. A letter of recommendation from his/her advisor
 - B. An official sealed transcript showing at least a "B" average for all high school work through the previous fall semester, (school grading system must be included)
 - C. Items listed on the "Leadership Component" requirement (see attached rating sheet).
5. The recipient shall be chosen on the basis of a point system for the following categories:
 - A. Written Test
 - B. Interview
 - C. Leadership Component
6. Selected judges will conduct the interview. Interviews shall be given by a minimum of three judges to include: The DECA Chairman of the Board, one MAME representative, and one MS DECA Alumni member.
7. Interviews shall be conducted at fifteen (15) minute intervals. Judges will be given equal opportunity to question each candidate. All interview questions for all Scholarships should be worded to bring out creativity and ingenuity of the candidate.
8. Each interviewing judge shall rate each candidate based on the scale as stated in A, B, and C.

- a. 1-35 points, personality
 - b. 1-30 points, knowledge of marketing and management
 - c. 1-35 points, the answer of overall questions
9. Interview scores shall be averaged to determine the overall interview score.
10. The written test will consist of 50 multiple choice questions on Marketing and Economic Fundamentals. Maximum points on test are 50.
11. The interview score will be added to the test and leadership component scores. The candidate with the highest overall score shall be awarded the Clayton Marble Memorial Scholarship, second place will be awarded the MS DECA Alumni Scholarship, and third place will be awarded the MAME Scholarship.
12. In the event of a tie, the candidate with the highest interview score shall be named the recipient.
13. Scholarship criterion is subject to change only under the supervision of the State Coordinator of Mississippi DECA and a two-thirds vote of the Executive Council.
14. The recipient shall receive the scholarship award check when an official letter of school admission from the registrar's office is received by the State Department. This letter must be received within one-year after the presentation of the scholarship award.
15. In the event that the recipient does not attend school within the one – year period, the scholarship money allotted the recipient will remain the property of Mississippi DECA.



**ON STAGE WITH
MONEY FOR
COLLEGE. FTW!**

Apply for your share of
\$300,000 in scholarships from
DECA's corporate partners.

Scholarship Application

Name _____

Home Address _____

Phone _____

School Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Advisor _____

GPA _____

Career Plans _____

College you plan to attend _____

Application should be the cover sheet for portfolio that will be submitted at registration (by 11:00 a.m.) of the State Career Development Conference!

**Applications (only this page) must be received in the State Office by February 6, 2026,
The awards portfolio is due at registration for the state conference.**

PORTFOLIO GUIDELINES

SCHOLARSHIP LEADERSHIP COMPONENT

PORTFOLIOS MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

OFFICES HELD –

Local – 10 Points (Maximum of 30 Points)

State – 10 Points

Committee Chairperson – 5 Points

(The above may include any organization)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENT – 5 Points Each

(Maximum of 15 points)

Description and/or documentation required

EXTRA-CURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT – 2 Points Each

(Maximum of 10 points)

INVOLVEMENT IN DECA COMPETITION – District – 5 Points for Entering;

3 Additional Points for placing among the Top 3; State Event – 5 points for entering

NEWS ARTICLES WRITTEN AND PUBLISHED – 2 Points each

(Maximum of 6 points – must be submitted to the MS DECA Reporter for publication)

Documentation Required

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION – Submit 2 letters –

(Maximum of 5 points each will be awarded total of 10 points)

(This is in addition to chapter advisor's letter)

150-word Essay:

“How can Education through DECA provide one with a Marketable Future?”.

This should be double-spaced and handwritten by the student.

Creativity – 5 points

Neatness – 5 points

Completeness of thought – 5 points

TOTAL POINTS

NOTE: This should be submitted at registration at the State Career Development Conference in a portfolio along with the advisor's letter of recommendation and an official school transcript showing at least a “B” average for all high school work through the fall semester of the current year.

Comments:

_____: Judge Initials

SCHOLARSHIP INTERVIEW COMPONENT

Student Name_____

Mississippi High School DECA

(INTERVIEW RATING SHEET)

Personality and Leadership Qualities (Possible 35 points) _____

- ◆ Enthusiasm
- ◆ Interest
- ◆ Communication skills
- ◆ Confidence

Knowledge of Marketing and Management (Possible 30 points) _____

- ◆ Free Enterprise concept
- ◆ Future career goals
- ◆ How Business/Marketing Education/Coop has assisted in career goal

Overall General Questions (Possible 35 points) _____

- ◆ Involvement in DECA activities
- ◆ Civic Involvement – College major
- ◆ Other scholarship applied for
- ◆ Career objectives and ambitions

TOTAL POINTS _____

NOTE: Test and Leadership Component scores will be added to this score to determine total points.

Comments:

_____: **Judge Initials**