DECA’s Principles of Business Administration Events measure the student’s proficiency in those knowledge and skills identified by career practitioners as common academic and technical content across marketing, finance, hospitality, and business management and administration.

The Principles of Business Administration Events are designed for first-year DECA members who are enrolled in introductory-level principles of marketing/business courses. Advanced students with multiple course credits in this area are better served in more advanced competitive events. Students who were previously members of DECA are not eligible for these events.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS DEVELOPED

Participants will demonstrate knowledge and skills described by selected business administration core performance indicators which are aligned with National Curriculum Standards and industry validated. Complete lists of performance indicators are available at [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org). Participants in these competitive events are not informed in advance of the performance indicators to be evaluated.

Participants will also develop many 21st century skills, in the following categories, desired by today’s employers:

- Communication and Collaboration
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Information Literacy
- Leadership and Responsibility
- Social and Cross-cultural Skills
- Creativity and Innovation
- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Initiative and Self-direction
- Productivity and Accountability

A crosswalk is available at [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org) that shows which 21st century skills are developed by participating in each competitive event.

Many Common Core Standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts & Literacy are supported by participation in DECA’s competitive events. Crosswalks are available at [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org) that show which common core standards are supported by participating in each competitive event.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are used to determine the activities and careers that are included in each of the Principles of Business Administration Events.

- **Principles of Business Management and Administration**: The content interviews will use language associated with careers in Administrative Services, Business Information Management, General Management, Human Resources Management, and Operations Management.
- **Principles of Finance**: The content interviews will use language associated with careers in Accounting, Banking Services, Business Finance, Insurance and Securities, and Investments.
- **Principles of Hospitality and Tourism**: The content interviews will use language associated with careers in Hotels, Restaurants, and Tourism and Travel.
- **Principles of Marketing**: The content interviews will use language associated with careers in Marketing Communications, Marketing Management, Marketing Research, Merchandising and Professional Selling.

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EVENT OVERVIEW

- Principles of Business Administration Events consist of two major parts: a business administration core exam and a content interview with a business executive. A second content interview will be given to finalists. The business administration core exam items and the content interview situations are selected from a list of performance indicators identified in the National Curriculum Standards for Business Administration developed by MBAResearch for the Career Clusters® Framework and validated by industry representatives.

- The participant will be given a 100-question, multiple-choice, business administration core exam.

- The participant will be given a written assignment to review. In the content interview the student is asked to explain or demonstrate mastery of a selected group of performance indicators in an interview with an industry representative.

- In the content interview portion of the event, participants must accomplish a task by translating what they have learned into effective, efficient and spontaneous action.

- A list of four performance indicators specific to the assignment is included in the participant’s instructions. These are distinct tasks the participant must accomplish during the interview. The judge will evaluate the participant’s performance on these tasks and on follow-up questions.

- Participants will have 10 minutes to review the assignment and to develop a professional approach to the interview. Participants may use notes made during the preparation time during the interview.

- Up to 10 minutes are then allowed for the participant to interact with a judge and explain the designated concepts. The judge is a qualified business executive. Following the interview, the judge evaluates the participant’s responses and records the results on an evaluation form developed especially for each content interview event.

- Participants may not bring printed reference materials, visual aids, etc., to the competitive event. Participants may use a four-function calculator during the exam and preparation period. Scientific/graphing calculators, cell phones/smartphones, iPods/MP3 players, iPads/tablets may not be used.

- Materials appropriate for the situation may be handed to or left with the judge. Materials handed to the judge must be created using materials provided during the designated preparation period.

- If any of these rules are violated, the adult assistant must be notified by the judge.

- The maximum score for the evaluation is 100 points. The presentation will be weighed at twice (2 times) the value of the exam score. The exam score carries forward into the final round of competition.

PRESENTATION JUDGING

Participants will be evaluated according to the Evaluation Form associated with the content interview.

The participant will have a 10-minute preparation period and may make notes to use during the interview.

After introductions, the judge will begin the 10-minute interview. Following the participant’s explanation of the designated concepts, the judge will ask the questions related to the interview that are provided in the event. These questions will cause the student to think and respond beyond the performance indicators provided.

Close the interview by thanking the participant for his/her work. Then complete the Evaluation Form, making sure to record a score for all categories. The maximum score for the evaluation is 100 points.