

South Dakota 2025 Fall Leadership Experience

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

Chapter Roll Calls - The Learning Center

8:30 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.

Each chapter will be assigned a room to meet in prior to the opening session. Chapters will take attendance, receive their name tags and get an overview of the day from their chapter leadership team. They will also walk over to the Terrence Sullivan Health Science Center.

Fall Leadership Experience Opening Session Terrance Sullivan Health Science Center

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

The conference kicks-off with an introduction to DECA by the State Officer team. This session highlights the benefits of joining DECA, an overview of its competitive events, and networking opportunities. Discover the long-standing tradition of state pin trading at national conferences in DECA by exchanging Ideal for new members seeking insight into DECA's structure and goals.

Opening Session Highlight: The Art of the Virtual Challenge

DECA now offers 12 Virtual Challenges. This workshop will introduce those challenges to students so they understand what is involved and how they can participate. These challenges are a way for students to be in DECA and not necessarily go through all the competition elements.

DECA Competitive Testing - The Learning Center

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Participants will take an official 100-question DECA exam in one of four areas: Business Administration, Finance, Hospitality & Tourism, or Marketing. During the Closing Ceremonies, students will learn how to access their test results, interpret their scores, and identify study strategies to be successful at SCDC and ICDC.

Workshop & Lunch Rotation

10:50 a.m. - 1:50 p.m.

Attendees will be divided into four groups and rotate through 50-minute workshops in a round-robin format. To ease lunch congestion, students will eat in three staggered lunch periods. Group assignments are given after testing so early finishers can begin workshops.

The Price of the Peach: Planning Your Perfect ICDC Trip

Room 272

Workshop Times:

10:50 a.m.; 12:15 p.m. & 1:05 p.m.

Get ready for the ultimate DECA experience—ICDC in Atlanta, Georgia! In this interactive session, the South Dakota State Officer Team will guide you through the real costs of attending the International Career Development Conference. From airfare and hotel stays to meals, attractions, and spending money, you'll build a realistic budget and explore money-saving strategies to make your trip both affordable and unforgettable. Whether you're fundraising with your chapter or saving on your own, this 50-minute workshop will help you plan so financial stress doesn't stand in the way of your ICDC success.

Role-Play Ready: Mastering Your DECA ICDC Scenario

Room 273

Workshop Times:

11:00 a.m.; 12:20 p.m. & 1:00 p.m.

Get ready to bring your best to ICDC 2026 in Atlanta! In this 50-minute session, you'll learn how DECA role-plays are structured, how to use performance indicators effectively, and how to follow a simple "roadmap" for success—from introduction to closing. You'll also practice a short mock scenario to apply what you've learned and leave with strategies to compete confidently and professionally.

Explore Atlanta: Designing Your Ultimate ICDC Itinerary

Room 266

Workshop Times:

11:15 a.m.; 12:10 p.m. & 1:05 p.m.

Plan your perfect ICDC adventure in Atlanta! Using city maps and travel guides, students will work in teams to create a fun, realistic itinerary highlighting Atlanta's top attractions, food, and culture. Each group will share their 60-second "chapter itinerary" showcasing how they'll make the most of their trip.

Awards & Recognition - Terrence Sullivan Health Science Center

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The Fall Leadership Experience concludes by recognizing outstanding performances in workshops and activities. Awards will be presented to the top three participants in each of the four testing areas. Attendees who earned a "Go the Extra" ticket will have the chance to draw for special ICDC-themed prize packs — including travel essentials and ten \$5 Starbucks gift cards. A highlight of the ceremony will be showing students how to view their test results, check correct answers, and access study resources to prepare for SCDC 2026 and potentially earn a trip to ICDC in Atlanta, Georgia, April 25–28, 2026.

Chapter Reflection & Collaboration Time

2:30 p.m. to ???

After the workshops, each chapter can return to their assigned room for a debrief session with their chapter officers or you may stay in the Health Science Center. This is your chance to reflect on what you've learned, share ideas, and discuss which competitive events spark your interest for the year ahead. Use this time to brainstorm chapter goals, plan upcoming activities, and connect as a team.

If your chapter needs to begin traveling home, this time can also serve as your departure and discussion period on the road—make it meaningful and use it to set your sights on success for the year!

Students should register online at: <https://forms.gle/t1VmB3Fqtt7BSgYZ6>