

News Release

For Immediate Release February 21, 2025 Contact Nicole Cowan Brand and Communications Project Manager 206-285-1195 | nicole@wadeca.org

Share Your Business Expertise with the Next Generation: Volunteer as a DECA Judge!

BELLEVUE, WA – Ready to make a difference in the lives of student leaders and young entrepreneurs in business and marketing? Washington DECA invites you to volunteer as a judge at the 2025 State Competition! On **February 27 and 28**, nearly 5,500 ambitious high school students will gather in downtown Bellevue to showcase their talents in one of DECA's 50 competitive categories.

The event will take place at the prestigious **Hyatt Regency Bellevue** and the **Meydenbauer Center**, located in the heart of downtown Bellevue offering a dynamic and inspiring atmosphere for both students and volunteers. This is your chance to support the next generation of entrepreneurs, innovators, and business professionals by sharing your expertise and enthusiasm.

"We are excited to welcome 5,500 students to our thriving business community. Volunteer judges play an integral role in this experience. Your feedback and support will not only help students develop their skills but also boost their confidence as they pursue careers in business," said Linda Andersen, Competition Coordinator, DECA representative.

What should I expect as a Volunteer Judge?

- **Impact Student Lives:** Your feedback will shape students' confidence and skills as they prepare for their futures.
- **Business Networking:** Connect with educators, business professionals, and other community leaders who share your passion and want to give back to the community.
- **No Experience Necessary!** New to judging? No problem! Simple training will leave you confident and prepared.
- **Appreciation:** Enjoy refreshments throughout the day as a token of gratitude for your time and commitment.

How to Get Involved:

Sign up or learn more about becoming a volunteer judge at the Washington DECA State Competition. Please visit <u>tinyurl.com/decajudges24</u> or email <u>emily@wadeca.org</u>. Currently, spots still remain for February 28 from 7:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Join us in nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs and business leaders—volunteer your time and share your expertise today!

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About DECA:

DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. Approximately 200,000 members participate in DECA-related activities annually across the United States, Canada, and beyond. Through DECA's competitive programs, students gain practical experience that equips them for future success in the business world. <u>Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn</u>