



STUDENT TRAVEL TIPS

One of the perks of DECA membership is the opportunity to travel in professional business style. Here are a few tips to ensure a successful trip!

BEFORE YOU LEAVE

- As you prepare for your trip, ask yourself the following questions.
 - Where am I going?
 - What is the weather forecast?
 - What type of conference is it?
 - Do I have any special responsibilities?
 - What activities are planned?
 - How many days will I be there?
- Only pack necessary items, especially if you will be traveling via airplane. Keep in mind that airlines have restrictions and baggage costs.
- Remember that you are in effect in school, and all school rules still apply.
- Discuss financial commitments you will have with your chapter advisor. You should discuss a plan for your money with your advisor so you do not have too much excess cash on hand.
- Be sure to have photo identification, such as a driver's license or school ID.
- Provide your parents with the name and phone number of the hotel as well as information from your chapter advisor.

DURING THE CONFERENCE

- Alert your chapter advisor of your whereabouts, and always know your chapter advisor's plans. Always be able to contact your chapter advisor.
- Keep the name and contact information of another chapter advisor in case of emergency.
- Keep the hotel's front desk phone number and address with you at all times in case of emergency.
- Keep your hotel room number a secret - the fewer people that know it, the better.
- Wear your name badge only for DECA events, and remove your name badge if you leave the hotel or conference area.
- When using mass transit, go to the middle of the car so other passengers can board.
- When waiting for an elevator, stand back from the doors to allow elevator occupants to exit before you enter.
- Travel in groups. You should travel with an adult after nightfall.
- Be in your room at curfew. Your advisor will be checking.

ALWAYS BE ALERT

- Be aware of your surroundings and use caution. If something seems out of the ordinary, alert your chapter advisor or the authorities immediately.
- Use common sense, and don't put yourselves in danger.
- Don't socialize with people who are not part of the conference, and especially don't give out any information such as your hotel information.

REPRESENT THE DECA BRAND

- **Promote DECA:** Be prepared to explain what DECA is with poise and enthusiasm.
- **Know Your DECA Story:** Take time to practice your I Am DECA Story and incorporate a brief overview and your goals for the conference.
- **Act Professionally:** Behave in a courteous and respectful manner that reflects positively on you, your school, your advisors, and DECA.
- **Attend and Be on Time:** Remember, your attendance is required at most sessions. Go over your personal schedule with your advisor. Represent DECA with pride by being on time and staying for the duration of the program.
- **Dress for Success:** Ensure your wardrobe meets all requirements of the DECA Dress Code.
- **Tip for Service:** Remember that the rule of thumb is to tip 15-20% for meals with wait service.

