



# Constitution

Revised

July 2009

# **Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division**

## **Constitution**

### **PREAMBLE**

With the identification of business careers as an area of technical education, it has become necessary to provide student organization experiences for students in business and career education programs.

Leadership development through student organizations can be effective in strengthening technical education for business careers. It is deemed essential that:

1. There be established a business oriented student organization to serve the needs of those receiving initial, refresher, or upgrading business careers.
2. This organization shall be an identifiable part of the technical education curriculum preparing students for business careers.
3. The organizational pattern facilitates the use of existing student organizations as an integral part of the educational pattern for business careers as established in law and regulations.
4. This organization provides a means for individual chapters to organize their student organization and to participate as members of a state and national student organization serving the educational needs of business career students.

### **Article I--Name**

The name of this organization shall be "Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division".

### **Article II--Purpose**

The purposes of this organization are:

- To assist local chapter members in the growth and development of their business careers.
- To unite in common bond without regard to race, creed, or national origin of students enrolled in business classes with business careers as their objective.
- To develop leadership abilities through participation in technical education, civic, recreational and social activities.
- To assist students in establishing realistic training and employment objectives.
- To create enthusiasm for learning.
- To promote high standards in ethics, workmanship and scholarship.
- To develop the ability of students to plan together, organize and carry out worthy activities and projects through the use of the democratic process.
- To foster an understanding of the functions of labor and management organizations.
- To develop and strengthen confidence in themselves and their work.

- To develop character, train for citizenship, and foster patriotism.
- To develop and participate in a cooperative effort.
- To provide satisfactory social and recreational activities.
- To foster practical application of business workplace skills through competition.

### Article III--Organization

Section 1: The Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division is an organization of local chapters in the State of Minnesota, each operating in accordance with a charter granted by the Business Professionals of America Minnesota Association, Inc.

Section 2: The operating policy of this corporation shall be managed by the Board of Directors, as stated in the constitution.

Section 3: The Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division will have an Executive Council of officers who will be elected annually by the voting delegates of the association, who in turn will make recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect to the welfare of the association.

Section 4: The Business Professionals of America Minnesota Association, Incorporated, is a non-profit, educational corporation consisting of those persons who are officially designated by the State Department of Education to serve as the Board of Directors and to serve as the sponsoring agency for the student organization bearing the name, Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division.

### Article IV--Membership

Section 1: The association of any local chapter of the State of Minnesota may be chartered as a member of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division upon the approval of the Board of Directors of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division.

Section 2: The member chapter of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division shall be chartered as local associations within the State of Minnesota. A local association will consist of students enrolled in any college course with an interest in business and/or related fields.

Section 3: Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division will recognize chapter memberships through the local association. Chapter memberships of local association will be recognized as active members.

Active members shall be students enrolled in the current academic year in any college course of business careers as approved by MNSCU or other accrediting agencies. An active member must pay dues as established by Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division and will be eligible to hold state office,

participate in state award programs, serve as a voting delegate, or to otherwise represent his/her local chapter in state and/or national Business Professionals of America affairs.

Professional members may be persons associated with or participating in the professional development of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division. Such members may include former students, advisors, instructors, employers, advisory committee members, and others willing to contribute to Business Professionals of America Minnesota Association Post-Secondary Division. Professional and alumni members will pay dues as established by Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division, but will be ineligible to serve as state voting delegate, hold state office, or otherwise represent a local chapter in Business Professionals of America Minnesota Association College Division.

Honorary Life members may be individuals approved by the Executive Council and Board of Directors of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division.

Section 4: APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP. Any local advisor of business career education may apply for membership through the Board of Directors by submitting a letter requesting the issuance of a charter for that local association of Business Professionals of America, and including a copy of the constitution and by-laws, a list of local members, a list of local officers, a remittance of \$2.00 (non refundable) for the charter fee. The Board of Directors will notify the person making application of acceptance.

#### Article V--Voting

Local chapters who are members of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division shall exercise their voting privilege through state voting delegates at the Professional Development Conference. The allocation of the voting delegates will be decided by the Board of Directors.

#### Article VI--Officers

Section 1: Officers for the College Division shall be elected by majority vote of the voting delegates at the Professional Development Conference of the Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division and shall consist of those offices defined in the Bylaws. The collective group will be called the Executive Council.

Section 2: Officers elected at the Professional Development Conference will continue to hold office until the end of the following Professional Development Conference

#### Article VII--Meetings

Section 1: The election of new officers shall be held each year with the time and place to be selected by the Board of Directors of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division.

Section 2: A State Leadership Conference offering the Workplace Skills Assessment Program shall be held each year with the time and place to be selected by the Board of Directors of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division.

Section 3: Parliamentary procedures for all meetings will be governed by the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

#### Article VII--Advisors

Section 1: A business instructor, business department chairperson, or others as approved by the Board, will serve as advisor of each Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division chapter.

Section 2: The State Advisor will be the Minnesota State Business Education Specialist of Adult and Career Education.

Section 3: An advisory committee to assist Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division with growth and development may be appointed as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division.

#### Article VIII--Finances

Section 1: Local chapters will be responsible for state and national dues according to the number of individual members claimed in each membership classification.

#### Article IX--Emblems and Colors

The official emblem and colors of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division shall conform to those adopted by Business Professionals of America.

#### Article X - Amendments

To amend this constitution, the proposed amendment must be presented in writing by a local chapter, through its voting delegates, to the State Officer Team of Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division. The State Officer Team has the responsibility to correct the proposed amendment but not alter its purpose. The State President will present the amendment to the Board of Directors of the Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Association, College Division where it must be approved by majority vote. The amendment must be published and submitted to all chapters 15 days prior to the Professional Development

Conference and requires a three-fourths approval by all voting delegates.

#### Article XI--Rules, Regulations, and By-Laws

Each chapter will adopt such rules, regulations, and by-laws as are deemed necessary by the voting delegates and the Board of Directors to operate the chapter.