



# Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations Biennium Report

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As required by Minnesota Statutes 2000 M.S. 124D.34, Subd. 10

## **ESTIMATED COST OF PREPARING THIS REPORT:**

This report provides information which is maintained by the Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations as a part of its normal business functions. Therefore, the cost information reported below does not include the cost of gathering the data but rather is limited to the estimated cost of actually analyzing the data, determining recommendations and preparing this report document.

Special funding was not appropriated for the cost of preparing this report. The estimated cost incurred by the Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations in preparing this report is **\$ 348.00**.

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## **SUMMARY**

The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations (MFSO) is the collective umbrella co-curricular Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) reside under in Minnesota. The MFSO was created in 1996 by the Minnesota State Legislature to bridge the public and private funding of Career and Technical Student Organizations. The MFSO acts as an independent state agency and allocates legislative funding to co-curricular career and technical student organizations. As a non-profit, the MFSO provides assistance to the Career and Technical Student Organizations it serves in the following areas: Leadership Training, Conference Support, Board Development, Legislative Initiatives and Individual CTSO Grants. The MFSO serves the following career and technical student organizations:

### **Secondary**

BPA – Business Professionals of America  
DECA – Marketing Education  
FCCLA – Family, Career and Community Leaders of America  
FCCLA-HERO – Service Occupations and other related programs  
FFA – Agriculture and Agribusiness education  
HOSA – Health Occupations  
SkillsUSA – Technical and Industry Occupations

### **Post Secondary**

BPA – Business Professionals of America  
DEX – Delta Epsilon Chi – Marketing Education  
PAS – Post Secondary Agriculture Students  
SkillsUSA – Technical and Industry Occupations

Highlights over the past 2 years include:  
Leadership Development;  
Fund-raising Development Plan;  
CTE Assessment Testing Support;  
and CTSO Board, Policy and Procedure Development.

The MFSO continues to maintain a strong working relationship with the Minnesota Department of Education and the Minnesota State College and Universities.

## **MISSION & HISTORY**

### **Mission**

The MFSO promotes and supports career and technical student organizations as they work to provide student opportunities for leadership, personal development, community service and career preparation.

### **History**

Career and technical student organizations have served students for over 70 years. After federal legislation provided for agriculture and homemaking education, FFA (Future Farmers of America) and FHA (Future Homemakers of America) were established. As new career initiatives were added at the state level, other career and technical student organizations were developed.

Originally, all student organizations were state and federal programs, which over the years evolved into independent 501 c3 non-profit organizations. With the advent of the School-to-Work program, student organizations developed a much higher profile as an integral part of the educational process where students experienced application of skill and developed personal leadership qualifications.

In 1996 by the Minnesota State Legislature agreed to boost support for this extremely important component of the education process by creating the Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations to bridge the public and private funding of Career and Technical Student Organizations. Modeled after the highly successful Minnesota Academic Excellence Foundation, the legislature established the group and appropriated monies for not only the operation of the Foundation, but also for disbursement to the various student organizations for their operations. Additionally, they charged the Foundation with the responsibility of securing additional funding through outside sources of support for these same student organizations.

## **THE BIENNIUM**

### **Staffing**

The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations currently has one part time staff employed by contract: Executive Director, Emily Saed. Saed has been with the MFSO since November 2003.

The MFSO maintains a relationship with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) through a contractual agreement; the MFSO utilizes the MDE for administrative and fiscal services. The state provides the contract and payment arrangements for staff, the necessary administration for the Legislative dollars granted to the Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) and any additional public funding received. Through this arrangement the MFSO has been able to receive the services of an administrative assistant, grants coordinator and additional support as needed.

Many of the individual CTSO work closely with state specialists. This allows them to continue to receive guidance on curricular issues affecting their students and advisors.

### **Operations**

The MFSO has continued to provide assistance to the Career and Technical Student Organizations it supports, some including: Student Workshops, Board Development, and over-all general guidance.

Over the past year the MFSO worked with the Student Organizations, the MDE and MnSCU to implement assessment testing pilot programs throughout the state. The MFSO is monitoring the impact of the testing with regard to participation and necessary financial support.

The MFSO designated a committee to review its current definitions of student organizations and its current funding formula. The MFSO Board of Directors addressed concerns of equitable allocations by passing the proposed changes to the membership guidelines in February 2007. (Please see attachment C, Definitions.)

The MFSO purchased on-site storage for the student organizations to maintain records and store supplies.

The MFSO maintains a website that is updated regularly: [www.mnctso.org](http://www.mnctso.org).

## **Private Funding**

The MFSO is now focusing its efforts on acquiring private funds going directly to the Career and Technical Student Organizations it serves.

Early in the biennium, the MFSO hired a professional grant writer in an effort to acquire private funding for the MFSO. The grant writer was unsuccessful. Saed and the MFSO Board of Directors then developed a different strategy and fund development plan. Grants are now being written for the individual CTSO and money does not pass through the MFSO. This strategy allows the grantor to give directly to the program and/or organization they best align with; versus expecting the grantor to provide funding to a “pass-through” organization. This strategy also requires the individual CTSO to provide any follow-up measures necessary. Saed is currently writing the grants in cooperation with the Executive Directors of the Student Organizations.

At this time, 12 grants have been submitted of behalf of the CTSOs.

## **Public Funding**

\$725,000.00 was received each fiscal year in the Biennium. These funds were disbursed according to Legislation\*. The MFSO has been limited in its ability to distribute Legislative Funding through the established formula. (Please see Attachment A, Funding Distribution.)

The MFSO receives limited additional support through Perkins funding provided by the MDE and MnSCU offices that is project specific and based on fund availability.

Currently, the MFSO is seeking planning money for the integration of CTSO in the classroom at the post secondary level.

## Legislative Initiatives

The MFSO develops and adheres to Legislative Principles based on the belief co-curricular career and technical student organizations are an integral part of career and technical education programs, and supports and seeks legislation to further that belief.

### **The MFSO actively seeks:**

Removal of the language limiting the Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations ability to disburse funds according to a membership based formula that is fair and equitable to the Career and Technical Student Organizations it serves.

## Current Legislation

In the FY04 Legislative Session the Legislation governing the MFSO was modified significantly. The changes required the MFSO to abandon the formula it had used previously to disburse funds received by the Legislature and adhere to the following Legislation:

129.17 Subd. 17. [STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.] For student  
129.18 organizations:  
129.19 \$725,000 ..... 2006  
129.20 \$725,000 ..... 2007  
129.21 \$40,000 each year is for student organizations serving  
129.22 health occupations.  
129.23 \$38,000 each year is for student organizations serving  
129.24 service occupations.  
129.25 \$88,000 each year is for student organizations serving  
129.26 trade and industry occupations.  
129.27 \$84,000 each year is for student organizations serving  
129.28 business occupations.  
129.29 \$131,000 each year is for student organizations serving  
129.30 agriculture occupations.  
129.31 \$125,000 each year is for student organizations serving  
129.32 family and consumer science occupations.  
129.33 \$95,000 each year is for student organizations serving  
129.34 marketing occupations.

## **Leadership & Development**

Over the past two years the MFSO has focused on Board Development and the Policies and Procedures of the individual student organizations. The MFSO has provided facilitation to the student organizations during strategic planning sessions held by their Board of Directors.

The MFSO has constructed universal policies on finance including purchasing fixed asset, and fiscal responsibility, and updating the student code of conduct/code of ethics including comprehensive electronic media policies.

The MFSO has also assisted in funding student leadership activities including the annual joint endeavor for new state officer training utilized by 7 student organizations in FY07 and 5 in FY08.

## **Conclusion**

Over the course of the Biennium, the MFSO provided leadership and development to the Career and Technical Student Organizations it serves through workshops, conferences, project development and financial support.

In the next Biennium the MFSO seeks to provide more direct funding to the organizations it serves through both public and private fund development. The MFSO will continue to strive to provide the necessary leadership and guidance to make the organizations it serves more successful.

## **A Word from the Career and Technical Student Organizations**

### **HOSA**

MN HOSA is the Career & Technical Organization that serves students with goals of being in the healthcare industry. As all of the CTE's, our vision is to see qualified workers in the workforce. HOSA focuses on 100% in healthcare. With the new technology and the health care needs to our communities and our country, HOSA has updated its vision to secure the future of quality emergency and nonemergency healthcare services through education, community service and volunteerism. We look to our Industry Support Partners for guidance in expertise in areas where we are needed at this time.

MN HOSA serves over 700 members in the state with the intention to reaching all students that could benefit from the services we offer. We remain focused on the recruitment and preparation of young people to become the skilled healthcare work force of the 21st century. In fact, our "pipeline" has guided more than 1.2 million students into health professions nationally. HOSA is the solution to the healthcare shortage.

### **FCCLA**

The Minnesota Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is a dynamic and effective student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important family, work and societal issues through career and technical family and consumer sciences education. MN. FCCLA is the lead state agency for National and Global Youth Service Day and a Department of Education Approved Provider for Character Education. Members focus on the multiple roles of family members, wage earners and community leaders and develop skills through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge and career preparation.

### **HERO (FCCLA-HERO)**

Minnesota FCCLA - HERO held its first State Leadership Conference in the spring of 1971 under the name Minnesota Association of H.E.A.R.T. (Home Economics and Related Training.) Our focus is to provide leadership opportunities for students in service occupations programs. In 1981 H.E.A.R.T. changed its name to HERO and in 2001 to FCCLA – HERO to align with the national name change to FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America), which was formally FHA/HERO. Being part of FCCLA provides national leadership opportunities for occupational students. Minnesota FCCLA - HERO remains a separate organization from Minnesota FCCLA (FLA/FHA) which allows us to focus on the uniqueness of the service occupations programs. FCCLA - HERO lets students learn and develop practical, realworld skills and talents – keys to success whether they are entering the working force directly after high school or going on to post-secondary education.

FCCLA - HERO offers members the opportunity to shine through "high challenge, low threat" competitions. We offer over 50 state level and national STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) Events, which recognizes members for efforts and achievements in occupational programs, leadership skills, and individual and chapter projects.

## DEX

Delta Epsilon Chi is student organization dedicated to creating leaders for the future of professional careers in sales, marketing, management and entrepreneurship. There are many avenues for students to participate in Delta Epsilon Chi at the local chapter, state and international levels. Active students can be exposed to real world learning application in our competitive events program, leadership development, and social intelligence while gaining a greater commitment to the communities that they live in.

## DECA

More than fifty years ago, the Distributive Education Clubs of America was organized around an ambitious goal: To improve educational and career opportunities for American students. In the years since that formation, we continue to be on the cutting edge of educational innovation, nationally known for integrating academic achievement with career skills and creating links with the business community. Over time, the needs of our membership changed, and we changed to meet them—long ago outgrowing the modest network of “Distributive Education Clubs” mentioned in our original name.

Now referred to as DECA—An Association of Marketing Students, the fundamental reasons we formed remain at our core. First, effective marketing education gives young people the tools and aptitudes they need to pursue their dreams. Second, marketing education works best when it’s part of an integrated education program. Former member Steve Weber thinks the same! “Minnesota DECA has given me the opportunities of a lifetime. Through my local chapter, I participated in all three levels of competition: district, state, and nationals. I had the opportunity to serve District 3 DECA as their President. Through DECA, I gained crucial management decision making skills, which had assisted me during my college coursework, and have continued to assist me in every day tasks at work, even to this day. The feedback and advice a member of Minnesota DECA receives from the judges during competition is invaluable, and I have referenced my written projects several times in writing documents for other courses and for personal uses.” Minnesota DECA functions as the companion student organization to marketing education programs in secondary schools throughout Minnesota.

## BPA Post- Secondary

Business Professionals of America is a national career and technical student organization consisting of 23 state associations and more than 54,000 members. The organization serves students who are currently, or were previously enrolled, in a business education program at a secondary or postsecondary institution. Business Professionals of America Minnesota Association College Division has 10 active college chapters with a student enrollment of 290 students, and 21 local advisors. We have one executive director. MN BPA College Division operates on a budget provided by the Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations of approximately \$33,885.00. Other revenue for this organization comes from local chapter state dues. We have several colleges interested in starting new chapters in 2009!

## BPA Secondary

Business Professionals of America is a professional organization for both teachers/advisors and students. For students, membership helps develop pride in the business occupation for which they are preparing. Membership means that advisors and students have a state and national organization working to help build a positive image for business education and to plan programs, develop materials and provide a sense of unity for business education students and educators throughout the country. By providing a comprehensive program of regional, state and national competition, the organization develops, measures and recognizes the business and office skills, leadership abilities and chapter team efforts that members are working on in the classroom. Competition is offered in information processing, data management, administration, computer programming, financial analysis, small business management, banking concepts, computer-aided graphics, employment skills, verbal communications, parliamentary procedure, desktop publishing and many more areas. BPA gives its members a winning edge in the competitive world of business by teaching them what they need to know to survive and succeed in the years ahead.

In the words of former member Ben Oberle, "Business Professional's of America has instilled in me the confidence and professionalism I will need to pursue all of my goals in the business world. If it weren't for BPA, I would not have had the continued success I am still having today." That's why we are here. . .

## PAS

Minnesota PAS (Post Secondary Agricultural Students) was formed as a national organization in 1980 and serves those students that are in 2 or 4 year schools that offer agriculture related course. Students have the opportunity to participate in leadership and career development events at the state and national level. Those events include: Public speaking, Employment Interview, Ag. Sales, Career Planning and Progress, Livestock, Dairy, Crops, Soils, Horticulture, Floraculture, & Equine to name a few.

## FFA Agricultural Education

With a past rooted in the values of American agriculture and an eye on the future of an ever-changing world, FFA has become one of the largest and most diverse student groups today. Established in 1928, the organization now has a membership of nearly half a million students nationwide. With a continued focus on premier leadership, personal growth and career success, FFA is one of the symbols of what is positive in America's youth.

Minnesota FFA encourages the nearly 180 School Districts continue to provide Agricultural Education programs serving students through an integrated model of classroom/laboratory instruction, experiential learning, and leadership and personal skill development.

"My advisor encouraged me to write down goals as a freshman in school; set times and dates. I continued to focus on how to achieve them. I looked at what my father and grandfather had accomplished in our cow calf operation, here, near Sebeka, (MN); and this is where I want to spend my life with my family." remarked Miles Kuschel, third generation operator at Rocking K ranch and the 2004 Star Over America Placement winner.

## SkillsUSA

SkillsUSA (formerly known as VICA) is a national nonprofit organization. SkillsUSA is a Partnership of students, teachers and industry. While working together to ensure America has a skilled work force, SkillsUSA helps every student excel. SkillsUSA serves high school and college students who are enrolled in programs preparing them for technical, skilled and service careers. SkillsUSA adds to students' technical training by teaching them leadership skills, team work, citizenship and character development – all things that go into shaping responsible, reliable employees who will one day become leaders in our workplaces. SkillsUSA is showing everyone how vital career and technical education is to America's future.

## Attachment A

### Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations Funding Distribution

The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations is charged with a variety of responsibilities by the Minnesota Legislature including distributing public funding.

#### MFSO Funding Formula

The MFSO allocates funding based on the following formula created in 2000 and modified in 2002. The formula takes into consideration the growth and development of each of the Student Organizations annually.

#### **The Formula has three components:**

##### Part A - Base Funding

- This plan distributes 60% of the formula funds equitably to each individual CTSO for the "base."
- "Base" resources are allocated by a fixed amount for each student organization. A maximum of two organizations can be recognized for each of the seven career areas defined in M.S. 124D.34.

##### Part B - Membership Factor

- Twenty-five percent (25%) of the formula funding is allocated on the basis paid state and national members served.

##### Part C - Chapter Factor

- Fifteen percent (15%) of the formula funding is allocated on the basis of nationally affiliated chapters.

Part B and Part C of the formula are distributed based on the number of career and technical students served

## Attachment B

## Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations Legislative Principles

### The MFSO Supports:

- the continuation of funding for the Carl D. Perkins Fund.
- student organizations' right to organize at the state and national level.
- the continuation of funding for all vocational, career and technical student organizations operating in secondary and post-secondary institutions.
- the continued disbursement of state funding for vocational, career and technical student organizations through the Board of Directors of the M.F.S.O.
- the continued funding of comprehensive curriculum, essential programs and services.
- occupational licensing procedures that supply both secondary and post-secondary institutions with an adequate number of skilled instructors of vocational, career and technical programs.
- funding for replacement of equipment needed by vocational, career and technical education programs in order to stay current and relevant.
- applied learning environments and class sizes that provide individual teacher attention to students and increase parent-teacher cooperation and foster effective teaching.
- education employees receiving adequate compensation and quality preparation. Including, improving preparation programs to make them practical in application and relevant to the classroom.
- the MnSCU bonding initiatives as needed for the maintenance, growth and development of education within the Minnesota State College System.
- the MnSCU student activity fees being spent exclusively on student activities.
- allowing students to pursue a particular "area of emphasis" in secondary and post secondary education.
- culturally diverse activities within all vocational, career and technical student organizations at the secondary and post secondary level.

### The MFSO seeks:

- Removal of the language limiting the Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations ability to disburse funds according to a membership based formula that is fair and equitable to the Career and Technical Student Organizations it serves.

## Attachment C

## Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations Definitions

### Organization:

A career and technical state organization must:

- satisfy all requirements to be in good standing with the national organization;
- have at least 300 members by June 1, 2010;
- have at least 10 active chapters; and
- have a maximum of two organizations that are recognized for each of the 7 career areas as defined in M.S. 124D.34\*.

### Chapter:

A career and technical student organization chapter must:

- be part of a Career and Technical Education (CTE) state approved program;
- be a state and nationally recognized, chartered chapter; and
- have ten (10) or more members that meet CTE grade level guidelines (currently 10-14).

### Member:

A chapter member must:

- be a student who has fully paid state and national CTSO dues for the current year;
- be enrolled in an approved CTE program at a Minnesota education school or college in grade levels that meet state CTE guidelines.

### Reporting:

Each CTSO organization must:

- report the current year's student membership and chapter numbers to the MFSO office prior to June 1 of each fiscal year;
- submit to an audit at the discretion of the MFSO Board of Directors.

**Attachment D**

Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations  
Actual (current) CTSO Fund Disbursement

Student Org. Name	60%	National Membership	25%	National Chapters	15%	Total Amount by formula	Additional Legislative Funding	Final Grants to Organizations
<i>Total \$ Value</i>	\$331,800.00	N/A	\$138,250.00	N/A	\$82,950.00	\$553,000.00		
BPA High School	\$30,163.63	1,371	\$10,885.74	72	\$8,059.68	\$49,109.05	\$1,581.66	\$50,690.71
BPA Post-Secondary	\$30,163.63	227	\$1,802.38	12	\$1,343.28	\$33,309.29		\$33,309.29
DECA High School	\$30,163.63	2,561	\$20,334.34	56	\$6,268.64	\$56,766.61		\$56,766.61
DEX Post-Secondary	\$30,163.63	1,219	\$9,678.86	23	\$2,574.62	\$42,417.11		\$42,417.11
FFA High School	\$30,163.63	6,406	\$50,863.64	173	\$19,365.62	\$100,392.89		\$100,392.89
PAS Post-Secondary	\$30,163.63	281	\$2,231.14	5	\$559.70	\$32,954.47		\$32,954.47
FCCLA High School	\$30,163.63	1,124	\$8,924.56	120	\$13,432.80	\$52,520.99	\$72,479.01	\$125,000.00
HOSA High School	\$30,163.63	710	\$5,637.40	40	\$4,477.60	\$40,278.63		\$40,278.63
HERO	\$30,163.63	523	\$4,152.62	30	\$3,358.20	\$37,674.45	\$325.55	\$38,000.00
SKILLS USA High School	\$30,163.63	1,704	\$13,529.76	122	\$13,656.68	\$57,350.07		\$57,350.07
SKILLS USA Post-Secondary	\$30,163.63	1,273	\$10,107.62	88	\$9,850.72	\$50,121.97		\$50,121.97
Total	\$331,799.93	17,399	\$138,148.06	741	\$82,947.54	\$552,895.53		\$627,281.75
		\$7.94		\$111.94				