ARTICLE I  NAME

Section 1.
The official name of this organization shall be the “Hillsborough Community College – Ybor City Campus” of Florida DECA/Delta Epsilon Chi” under the umbrella of “Florida DECA Association and Foundation, Inc., and Delta Epsilon Chi, a division of DECA, Inc. and may be referred to as “Florida College DECA.”

ARTICLE II  PURPOSES

Section 1.
To develop middle-level managers in the field(s) of marketing, management, merchandising, entrepreneurship, food service, hospitality, travel and tourism, sports and entertainment marketing, advertising and/or sales.

Section 2.
To develop a sense of individual responsibility.

Section 3.
To provide opportunities for intelligent career choices in marketing, management, merchandising, entrepreneurship, food service, hospitality, travel and tourism, sports and entertainment marketing, advertising and/or sales.

Section 4.
To allow practical application of marketing and management principles and practices through competition.

Section 5.
To provide for mental and physical health through social and recreational activities.
Section 6.
To encourage the use of hospitable, environmental, and ethical standards in marketing functions and management responsibilities.

Section 7.
To promote the growth, better understanding of, and respect for cooperative vocational education in the post-secondary educational institutions, the community, and the State.

Section 8.
To foster the best possible spirit of cooperation among employers, employees, and post-secondary educational institutions.

Section 9.
To encourage the undertaking of community or civic projects by each local Chapter during the year.

Section 10.
To bring employer and/or business and industry representatives on campus to promote career opportunities and provide seminars for students which will also assist in recruitment to the chapter.

Section 11.
To develop leadership, scholarship, and vocational proficiency on a mid-management level.

Section 12.
To coordinate the activities of the officers, committees, and the membership so that all shall be striving for a common purpose.

ARTICLE III  ORGANIZATION

Section 1.
Hillsborough Community College – Ybor City Campus is under the umbrella of Florida College DECA and Delta Epsilon Chi, a division of DECA, Inc. Chapter membership consists of post-high school marketing, management, merchandising, entrepreneurship, food service, hospitality, travel and tourism, sports and entertainment marketing, advertising and/or sales students as designated by their respective educational institutional unit of the State of Florida. Students from additional majors are provided with additional opportunities in the state competitive events program.

Section 2.
The officers of the organization shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Additional duties may be assigned to committees, each being chaired by a student member other than a chapter officer. These committee chairs should be in the training mode as a future chapter officer and state officer.

Section 3.
Elections for chapter officer positions should be conducted between the State Career Development Conference and the International Career Development Conference giving the
officers an opportunity to start their Program of Work for the following academic year. By doing this, officers can communicate over the summer.

Section 4.
The chapter has an assigned chief advisor and other advisors as deemed necessary for the betterment of the chapter. These other advisors work with the chief advisor for the organization.

Section 5.
The chapter has the availability of the State Advisor and Executive Director as a resource for chapter operations and management.

ARTICLE IV  MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.
Membership is available to any student of the university who desires to participate in a well-branded professional organization.

Section 2.
Florida College DECA shall recognize individual memberships only through a local Chapter. Individual memberships of local Chapters which shall be recognized are Student, Professional, and Alumni.

(a) Active members shall be degree and/or certificate seeking students in post-secondary programs and pursuing a career in marketing, management, merchandising, entrepreneurship, food service, sports and entertainment marketing, advertising and/or sales as approved by the State Board for Career and Technical Education. An active member must pay membership fees to State and National DECA/Delta Epsilon Chi and will be eligible to hold State office, participate in State activities including competitive events, serve as a voting delegate, and otherwise represent his/her Chapter in approved activities.

(b) Professional members shall be persons associated with or participating in the professional development of the Hillsborough Community College – Ybor City Chapter of Florida College DECA, Delta Epsilon Chi. Such persons will pay membership fees as established by Florida College DECA, Delta Epsilon Chi, and may include such persons as teachers/professors, committee members, school school administrators, and business and industry professionals.

(c) Alumni members shall be graduates of or students formerly in full-time, post secondary programs of marketing, management, merchandising, entrepreneurship, hospitality, travel and tourism, sports and entertainment marketing, advertising and/or sales as approved by the State Board of Career and Technical Education.

Section 3.
Local Chapters, in good standing, shall exercise their voting privileges through voting delegates at the Annual State Career Development Conference. Each local Chapter will be allowed one (1) voting delegate for each seven (7) members or major fraction thereof, with a maximum of ten
(10) voting delegates from any Chapter. A delegate must be present at the voting session of the Annual State Career Development Conference to exercise his/her vote.

Section 4.
All voting delegates shall be active members. Voting delegates shall have received approval from their Chapter Advisor to be voting delegates prior to the Annual State Career Development Conference.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

Section 1.
The local chapter will schedule meetings no less than twice monthly and will include a community service project in their Program of Work. Members will be eligible to attend the State Career Development Conference, usually held the first week of March and become eligible to participate in the International Career Development Conference, usually held in April.

Section 2.
The Chapter Officers, with the approval of the Chapter Advisor, shall be empowered to call special meetings and approve and implement the responsibilities assigned them by the Hillsborough Community College Ybor City campus chapter.

ARTICLE VI CHAPTER OFFICERS

Section 1.
The officers of Hillsborough Community College Ybor City Chapter shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The duties of each officer are as follows:

(a) It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings, to preside over the chapter officer meetings; to make all necessary committee appointments, including the designation of committee chairpersons; to develop with their officer team a program of work for their term of office; and to be available in promoting the general welfare of the organization.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to serve in any capacity as directed by the President; to service as chairperson of all committees; to accept the responsibilities of the President as occasions may demand, and to be available in promoting the general welfare of the chapter.

(c) It shall be the duty of the Secretary/Treasurer to serve in any capacity as designated designated by the President; to record the proceedings of all business and chapter meetings; to accumulate the minutes and/or proceedings of all committee meetings.

(d) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to present any financial and membership reports necessary; to deposit funds to the chapter account; to withdraw funds as one of the signatures for any approved expenses by the chapter advisor; to keep records of all financial matters; and to be available to promote the general welfare of Florida College DECA.
Section 2.
The officers shall be elected by a single majority vote (a majority defined as fifty (50) percent plus one of the authorized delegates voting at the chapter election session.

Section 3.
To be eligible for a chapter office, a student must have been an active member for at least one term or has held an officer position during their senior year of high school. The candidate for President must have a cumulative average of 2.5, based on a 4.0 system, including the term prior to the deadline for officer qualification. All other officer candidates must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative average based on a 4.0 system.

Section 4.
Officers shall be elected immediately following the Annual State Career Development Conference and before the International Career Development Conference and shall hold office until the close of the following annual State Career Development Conference.

Section 5.
In case of vacancies occurring among the Chapter Officers, the Vice President shall assume the vacant President’s position, and any other vacancy will be filled by appointment by the President with the recommendation of the chapter officers and approval of the chapter advisor. The chapter advisor has the right to make an interim appointment for an individual to serve in a vacant office until the next official meeting of the chapter officers.

Section 6.
Chapter officers may communicate with each other on a regular basis and must keep the chapter advisor informed of all organization activities they undertake. An official “25th of the Month Report” must be submitted by each Chapter Officer no later than the first of the month for the preceding month. No written communication(s) by any chapter officer is to be mailed, e-mailed, etc., without the express approval of the Chapter Advisor.

ARTICLE VII MEMBERSHIP FEES

Section 1.
Local Chapters will be responsible for the collection and payment of State and National membership fees according to the number of individual members claimed by the amount established. Chapter Advisors shall also pay membership fees. Chapters should utilize the ONLINE MEMBERSHIP program. Copies of the Membership Rosters are to be sent to National DECA, 1908 Association Drive, Reston, Virginia 22091-1594, along with a check made payable to “National DECA” for the full amount of State and National Dues. The ONLINE MEMBERSHIP program will generate an invoice for payment. The Chapter Advisor will make a copy of the roster(s) prior to mailing and forward the copy to the Executive Director. Initial membership roster(s) must be mailed to National DECA prior to November 15. Additions roster(s) must be mailed to National DECA prior to February 15.

Section 2.
State membership fees, Florida College DECA, shall be designated by the Executive Director with the approval of the Executive Council. National membership fees shall be paid in accordance with the by-laws of National DECA/Delta Epsilon Chi.
ARTICLE VIII DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Section 1.
In order to be a delegate to the State and International Career Development Conferences, the delegate so designated must be an active member of their State and International DECA/Delta Epsilon Chi.

Section 3.
With permission of the chapter advisor, other delegates may be authorized as delegates to the International Career Development Conference in accordance with limitations set by the state organization and Delta Epsilon Chi.

ARTICLE IX NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATES

Section 1.
No delegate shall run for a national office without the expressed written recommendation of his/her Chapter Advisor and the Executive Director. The Executive Director will have final authority for recommendation.

(revised March 15, 2008 in accordance with the State By-Laws revision of the same date)