



# Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations Biennium Report

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**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.

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## **SUMMARY**

The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations (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:  
Private Fund Development;  
Civic Awareness Trip,  
CTE Advisor Development Programs;  
and Board Development.

The MFSO has maintained 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. The state has provided leadership and funding for these organizations since their beginning.

The MFSO was created in 1996 by the Minnesota State Legislature to bridge the public and private funding of Career and Technical Student Organizations. (Please see Minnesota Statute enclosure.)

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.

During that time, the Minnesota legislature agreed to boost support for this extremely important component of the education process by creating the Minnesota Foundation for 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 2005-2006 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.

The MFSO created an ad-hoc committee dedicated to the Best Practices of each CTSO. Each of the organizations were reviewed and based on the results the MFSO will be requiring the following information, in addition to the required state paperwork:

- Year to Date Fiscal Report
- Any changes to Annual Plan
- Copy of Liability Insurance Policy (or written verification of National Insurance Coverage)
- Code of Ethics/Code of Conduct
- CTSO Policies and Procedures
- Current Board of Directors Roster

The MFSO also made some physical changes. The MFSO has a new onsite conference room that was completed in November 2005.

The MFSO purchased a new online domain, [www.mnctso.org](http://www.mnctso.org).

## **Private Funding**

The MFSO has received limited private funding, most notably, a grant from the Bremer Foundation designated for civic awareness. The MFSO is exploring options regarding private funding assistance: hiring a grant writer and/or contracting with a mailing house for individual donor campaigns are being discussed.

The MFSO has focused its efforts on acquiring private funds going directly to the Career and Technical Student Organization's it serves.

## **Public Funding**

\$725,000.00 was received each fiscal year in the 2005-2006 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 fund disbursement schedule.)

The MFSO receives limited additional support through specific Perkins Project Grants to provide faculty/advisor development and recruitment and retention of underserved populations.

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

*\*Please see pages 10-11 for additional information on MFSO Funding.*

## Legislative Initiatives

The MFSO actively supports:

Increased funding of comprehensive career and technical education curriculum, essential programs and services.

Additional technology funding for replacement and/or upgrade of equipment and facilities needed by vocational, career and technical education programs in order to meet industry standards.

A council focusing on secondary and/or post-secondary vocational, career and technical education created and funded through legislation.

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.

Exploratory funding through the Minnesota State Legislature to determine the impact of co-curricular post secondary Career and Technical Student Organizations with regard to the employability of students.

## 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**

The MFSO hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Adult Continuity Leadership Conference. The emphasis was on changes in CTE licensure, student motivation, and recruitment of CTSO Alumni. Approximately 100 attended the St. Cloud conference.

In June, 2007 the MFSO will be hosting a Civic Awareness Trip to Washington DC. The 11 Career and Technical Student Organizations served by the Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations had the opportunity to bring one or more of their state officers to Washington DC to serve as ambassadors for the Co-curricular Student Organization they serve. Student Representatives will be selected through a competitive grant process. They will meet with their US Senators and Representatives to discuss the impact Career and Technical Education has on their life and the importance of its continued support at the Federal level.

Over the past two years, the MFSO has taken a much more “hands-on” approach in the development of the Career and Technical Student Organizations it serves.

## **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 non-emergency 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, real-world skills and talents – keys to success whether they are entering the working force directly after high school or going on to post-secondary education. With the guidance and inspiration of teachers/advisers, FCCLA - HERO members grow into well-rounded young adults through:

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. The competitive events let students plan for the multiple roles as wage earner, family member and community leader in addition to simulating real world, on the job experiences.

### **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 2007!

### **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.

Therefore, 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 Fund Disbursement Schedule**

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.

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

- **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.

**Attachment B**  
**Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations**  
**2007 Legislative Principles**

**Federal Legislative Issues**

- The MFSO supports continuation and increased funding for the Carl D. Perkins Fund.
- The MFSO supports the continuation of the U.S. Department of Education as an individual cabinet level department.
- The MFSO supports student organizations' right to organize at the national level.

**State Legislative Issues**

- The MFSO supports student organizations in their continued efforts to organize at the state level.
- The MFSO supports the continuation and increased funding of all vocational, career and technical student organizations operating in secondary and post-secondary institutions.
- The MFSO supports 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 MFSO supports funding of comprehensive curriculum, essential programs and services. Furthermore the M.F.S.O. supports full funding of state-mandated programs.
- The MFSO supports occupational licensing procedures that supply both secondary and post-secondary institutions with an adequate number of skilled instructors of vocational, career and technical programs.
- The MFSO supports funding for replacement of equipment needed by vocational, career and technical education programs in order to stay current and relevant.
- The M.F.S.O. supports all continued and increased technology funding in secondary and post-secondary institutions.
- The MFSO supports non-traditional, applied learning environments.
- The MFSO supports class sizes that provide individual teacher attention to students, increase parent-teacher cooperation and foster effective teaching.

- The MFSO supports education employees receiving adequate compensation and quality preparation. Including, improving preparation programs to make them practical in application and relevant to the classroom.
- The MFSO supports continuous improvement through funded professional development.
- The MFSO supports MnSCU bonding initiatives as needed for the maintenance, growth and development of education within the Minnesota State College System.
- The MFSO supports MnSCU student activity fees being spent exclusively on student activities.
- The MFSO supports the creation of a council focusing on secondary and/or postsecondary vocational, career and technical education.
- The MFSO supports allowing students to pursue a particular “area of emphasis” in secondary and post-secondary education.

- The MFSO opposes discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, veteran’s status, marital status, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, status due to public assistance, or any other group or class against which discrimination could occur.
- The MFSO supports culturally diverse activities within all vocational, career and technical student organizations at the secondary and post secondary level.



## **Attachment C**

### **Definitions**

#### **Organization**

- Satisfies all requirements to be in good standing with the national organization
- At least 100 student members
- At least 5 active chapters
- A maximum of two organizations can be recognized for each of the seven career areas defined in M.S. 124D.34

#### **Member**

- An individual student who pays state and national dues from individual or family sources OR
- An individual student for whom state and national dues are paid from chapter, school or private sources

For purposes of providing funding for student organizations, the foundation will fund organizations whose members are:

A student in grades 10-14 (or an ungraded equivalent) who holds active, paid concurrent state and national membership in a student organization and meets all of the following criteria:

- 1) Is currently eligible to participate in the organization's activities and/or competitive events at the local, regional, state and national levels.
- 2) Is currently eligible to hold office in the organization at a local, state and/or national level.
- 3) Is currently eligible to vote in local, state and/or national organization elections.
- 4) Is a resident of Minnesota or is registered and attends a Minnesota education system.

#### **Chapter**

- A school, institution, building or program where a career and technical student organization offers the opportunity for students to be members of a chapter.
- A nationally recognized, chartered chapter.
- Active/current student membership.
- The majority of the chapter members are in grades 10-14.

#### **Reporting**

- The most current student membership and chapter numbers need to be reported to the Foundation office prior to June 1 of each year.
- Numbers reported will be subject to audit at any time.

Membership numbers from the previous fiscal year will be used to generate the funding for the following fiscal year.

### Actual FY06 Funding Distribution

							Legislative Funding Directive	Final Grants to Organizations
<i>Total \$ Value</i>	\$330,300.00	N/A	\$137,625.00	N/A	\$82,575.00	\$ 550,500.00		
BPA High School	\$30,027.27	1,387	\$11,359.53	93	\$9,708.27	\$51,095.07		\$51,095.07
BPA Post-Secondary	\$30,027.27	244	\$1,998.36	14	\$1,461.46	\$33,487.09		\$33,487.09
DECA High School	\$30,027.27	2,654	\$21,736.26	70	\$7,307.30	\$59,070.83		\$59,070.83
DEX Post Secondary	\$30,027.27	1,197	\$9,803.43	12	\$1,252.68	\$41,083.38		\$41,083.38
FFA High School	\$30,027.27	6,497	\$53,210.43	174	\$18,163.86	\$101,401.56		\$101,401.56
PAS Post Secondary	\$30,027.27	184	\$1,506.96	5	\$521.95	\$32,056.18		\$32,056.18
FCCLA High School	\$30,027.27	1,383	\$11,326.77	144	\$15,032.16	\$56,386.20	\$67,053.71	\$125,000.00
HOSA High School	\$30,027.27	755	\$6,183.45	33	\$3,444.87	\$39,655.59		\$39,655.59
HERO	\$30,027.27	449	\$3,677.31	26	\$2,714.14	\$36,418.72	\$1,301.59	\$38,000.00
SKILLS USA High School	\$30,027.27	625	\$5,118.75	104	\$10,856.56	\$46,002.58		\$46,002.58
SKILLS USA Post Secondary	\$30,027.27	1,425	\$11,670.75	116	\$12,109.24	\$53,807.26		\$53,807.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$330,299.97</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>\$137,592.00</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>\$82,572.49</b>	<b>\$550,464.46</b>		<b>\$620,659.54</b>

Notes: