



**Tristen Bennet**  
VP of Membership



## Legendary Membership!

Hey guys, what's up? It's your VP of membership, Tristen Bennet. I just want to begin by saying that the steps you take in DECA to being a chapter, state, or national official can and will change your life. The more work you put in, the greater the outcome is. Now.....let's hop into the depths of the beginning steps you can take.



Whether you are a freshman, sophomore, or junior joining DECA, you have the opportunity to achieve a leadership role in DECA. What you need to do is begin by showing a strong dedication and work ethic in the club while proving yourself to be an important member in the program. After this, simply ask your superior for the ins and outs about what kind of requirements are needed to get to a leadership role. This will show them what you have in mind and what kind of semi-short term goals you have.

As you are either elected or appointed into a chapter leadership role, you have time to celebrate your accomplishment but you don't want to take your mind off of the game. After all, you don't want to get a senioritis type thing any time soon. ;)



Onto the process that chapter officers take. You will achieve one of 6 roles in your leadership: President, VP of Leadership, VP of Career Development, VP of Marketing, VP of Finance or VP of Hospitality. Depending on your mentality and aspirations, you will be assigned a role however, these positions DO NOT show superiority among your peers or other officers as the goals of each chapter officer are very different. Some may want to increase membership and recruit (such as myself), while others want to increase the funds and sponsorships that your chapter is receiving. Another goal you may have is to generally grow the name of DECA in your community through outreach programs and various works of kindness in your relative town. Whatever your approach is, you have to be sure to set yourself both short-term and long-term goals. This will keep your mind set on the bright light ahead while allowing you to also focus on the path one stepping stone at a time.

As a junior or sophomore chapter officer, you have the opportunity of being a state officer lying right in front of you and let me tell you, it sure is rewarding and fun!! If your dedication to the club is just too much for your chapter alone and you are an outgoing student who cares about your club, moving up to a state officer position is for you. There will be much more for you to learn about that in the future but if you are eager to begin that journey, go to the Montana DECA website ([mtdeca.com](http://mtdeca.com)) and click on the 'Leadership' tab or simply click this link: <http://www.mtdeca.com/#!leadership/c1po2>

If you are a great member that is passionate about joining your chapter officer team, click on this link to give you a few good reasons for why this is an amazing opportunity: <http://www.decadirect.org/DECA-Direct-Online-Exclusive/May-2014/4-Reasons-Why-You-Should-Become-a-Chapter-Officer/>

Thank you all very much for reading this and if you have any questions at all, please feel free to email me at [tmcbennet98@gmail.com](mailto:tmcbennet98@gmail.com) or never hesitate to approach your relative advisor. Please please remember to have fun and make this time in your life as LEGENDARY as possible!!!