



## **State Officer Candidate Study Guide**

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The process to become an officer for the Business Professionals of America, Ohio Association is lengthy but extremely rewarding. The student members of the Ohio Association have entrusted leadership of their organization to their elected State Officer Team. Members who choose to be candidates must understand the required level of commitment and dedication. In return, the experience officers gain through classroom instruction, Workplace Skills Assessment Programs, and BPA will help develop the skills necessary for successful servant leadership.

## **Preparing for the Selection Process**

Career Technical Education is the platform from which Business Administration, Finance, and Marketing Education is taught. It is vital to understand this relationship and how it fits into the general education picture. How does Business Administration, Finance, and Marketing Education fit into Career-Technical Education?

- What is the purpose of Career-Technical Education?
- How did Career-Technical Education Begin?
- How is Career-Technical Education Funded?
- What are the 16 career fields represented in Ohio's Career-Technical Education?
- Why should program like Business Administration, Finance and Marketing programs be taught in school?

## **Practice Impromptu Scenarios**

Many State Officer candidates will prepare for the interview process by envisioning and even role-playing various scenarios they may encounter as a Business Professionals of America, Ohio Association State Officer. With all the roles an Officer must fulfill, it is imperative s/he enters the term with a high level of understanding of business education, BPA, and industry. The following are examples of questions asked or problems encountered by former State Officers:

- What is the purpose of Business Professionals of America?
- What makes Business Professionals of America different from other career-technical student organizations?
- What are the characteristics of an engaged and involved BPA local chapter?
- How can chapter officers develop interest and enthusiasm within local chapters?
- What is the best way for new members to start participating in BPA?
- What are some ways a local chapter can increase membership?
- What are some creative ways in which local chapters can fundraise?
- How would you advise a local chapter to proceed with creating and executing a service project?
- In addition to competitions, what does Business Professionals of America have to offer members?

# Fundamental Information to Know about BPA

## Business Professionals of America, Ohio Association

Headquarters | 25 South Front Street | MS #604 | Columbus, OH 43215

BPA is an integral part of Business, Finance and Marketing unit of Career-Technical Education within the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). BPA officers should be familiar with the following ODE administrative staff.

- **Vacant as of September 24, 2021**, Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Julia Simmerer, Senior Executive Director, Center for Teaching, Leading and Learning
- Leah Amstutz, Director of Career-Technical Education
- Matt Winkle, Associate Director of Career-Technical Education
- Brenna Bartlett, Assistant Director of Career-Technical Education and Board President
- Crystal Dortch, Education Program Specialist and State Advisor
- Dee Sturgill, Business, Finance and Marketing Consultant
- Hamet Ly, Administrative Professional

Visit the Ohio BPA Website | [www.bpa.org/ohio](http://www.bpa.org/ohio)

Visit the National BPA Website | [www.bpa.org](http://www.bpa.org)

## Business Professionals of America's Name

**Business:** The field for which Business Professionals of America prepares students. We educate BPA members to work efficiently in a variety of business settings.

**Professionals:** Students join Business Professionals of America to take advantage of a wide range of professional development opportunities.

**America:** Symbolizes pride in the United States and its free enterprise system.

## Mission Statement

The mission of Business Professionals of America is to develop and empower student leaders to discover their passion and change the world by creating unmatched opportunities in learning, professional growth and service.

## Vision Statement

The vision for Business Professionals of America is: To be an innovator in Career and Technical Education, providing our members with opportunities for growth through **education, competition, community service and personal development.**

## BPA Pledge

*We are met in a spirit of friendship and goodwill as we prepare for careers in a world-class workforce. We work together to develop professionalism and leadership through Business Professionals of America and pledge our loyalty to our nation.*

## The Emblem



The four points of the BPA shield stand for Ambition, Leadership, Sociability and Poise. The shield itself stands for honor and dignity and the importance of business in America. The stripes represent education, citizenship, loyalty, patriotism, competency and dependability. The bar represents

the service provided by employees in business occupations. The quill and inkwell represent the stability of business occupations through the ages and the torch represents worthy goals.

## Official BPA Colors

*Navy* signifies the success achieved through leadership and professionalism. *Tan* represents the bountiful fields of opportunity in America. *Red* symbolizes the friendship obtained through teamwork in our organization.

## BPA Attire

- The nametag is worn on the right side of the jacket.
- The highest torch award pin earned is placed on the right lapel.
- The national merit pin is placed on the right lapel.
- The year membership pin is placed on the left lapel.
- The officer pin is placed on the right lapel above the name tag.

## Special Olympics

Special Olympics is Ohio Association's and National BPA's service project. In Ohio, the school with the highest Special Olympics contribution receives a plaque at the State Leadership Conference.

## Logo and Tag Line

The official tagline is "Giving Purpose to Potential" To ensure there is clear communication of Business Professionals of America, the tagline must always appear with the logo on printed pieces. The tagline can be on one or two lines, depending upon the size and shape of the graphic piece. The size of the tagline cannot be smaller than 7-point font.