

NACE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

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TO: NACE National Office
FROM: Luke Theis
DATE: 02/26/2026

- ☐ New Legislation
☒ Revision to Existing Policy
☐ Deletion of Existing Policy
☐

Policy Title: Article XII Eligibility Exemption, Section A NACE Intent to Compete Exemptions, 3 Senior Status Exemption

Rationale for New or Revised Policy:

This policy revision is necessary to align eligibility standards with the change of year-round competitive structure of NACE and the academic realities of senior-level students. Under the existing framework, eligibility is tied to a single semester, which no longer reflects how NACE competition operates across Fall and Spring semesters.

As a result, senior students who are on track to graduate efficiently and recent Fall graduates who remain academically enrolled in the Spring may be unintentionally excluded from participation despite meeting all academic and institutional expectations.

Sponsors: Eligibility Enforcement Committee

Proposal:

3. Senior and Graduate Status Exemption:

- a. The Senior and Graduate Status Exemption permits eligible senior students and recent graduates to participate in NACE competition during their final academic year or immediate post-graduation term when full-time enrollment is not required or available.
- b. A student may be granted a Senior or Graduate Status Exemption if one of the following applies:
 - i. Senior Status
 1. The student is officially classified as a senior by their institution, is on track to graduate at the conclusion of the Spring or Summer term, and does not have sufficient remaining degree-applicable credits to maintain full-time enrollment.
 - ii. Graduate Status
 1. The student graduated at the conclusion of the Fall term, is enrolled at the same institution during the subsequent Spring term in coursework recognized by the institution.
- c. Scope of Competition Eligibility
 - i. The exemption may be used during the Fall and/or Spring NACE competition seasons.
 - ii. A student may utilize the Senior and Graduate Status Exemption for a maximum of two (2) academic semesters total, inclusive of both senior-status and graduate-status usage.
 - iii. Eligibility under this exemption may not extend beyond the conclusion of the Spring term immediately following graduation.
- d. Limitations
 - i. This exemption applies only to senior students and recent graduates and may not be used by underclass students.
 - ii. The exemption does not apply to students who are not enrolled in coursework at the institution.
 - iii. The exemption may not be used to extend eligibility beyond the five-year clock.

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