



Emblem Building Ceremony

- Purpose** The purpose of the Emblem Building Ceremony is to allow the contestants to demonstrate, in a business-like manner, their understanding of the symbolic representation of the colors and emblematic parts of the Business Professionals of America emblem.
- Equipment** The emblem may be presented using any material of choice (i.e., wood, plastic, metal) or by use of an electronic method (i.e, PowerPoint). The emblem should be no larger than 21 ½" X 28".
- Procedure** After the introduction of the President, the officers will build the emblem. Each officer participating will walk to the shield, place their portion of the Emblem on the shield, turn and speak the respective part, then return to the original sitting or standing position. Each officer should be seated or in the standing position before the next officer begins.



The Ceremony

President

Business Professionals of America has an attractive emblem composed of significant parts which represent the aims and objectives of our organization. Will the officers please assist me in building our emblem?

(The shield may be pre-placed or put into place at this moment; pointing to the empty shield) Our emblem, first consisting of a **shield**, signifies honor, dignity, and the importance of business in America.

Vice President

(standing next to the shield, indicate to the four points) The **four points** of the shield represent the ambition, leadership, sociability, and poise of our members.

Treasurer

(place four stripes in the upper-right section of the shield and two stripes in the bottom-left section) The **stripes** represent education, citizenship, loyalty, patriotism, competency, and dependability—essential characteristics of every successful business professional.

Historian

(place the bar horizontally across the middle of the shield) The **bar** represents the service provided by those engaged in business occupations; to themselves, to their employers, and to their nation.

Secretary

(place the inkwell in the bottom-center of the shield with the quill extending to the bottom-right section of the shield) The **quill and inkwell** represent those early leaders who developed American independence, our free enterprise system, our democratic system of government, and our codes of social behavior which have brought this nation to a position of world leadership. This portion of our emblem signifies scholarship, character, and courage.

Parliamentarian

(place the torch in the top-left section of the shield) The **torch** signifies the ambition of our members as they strive to achieve goals which bring recognition to themselves and to our national organization which is comprised of state associations and local chapters.

President

Honor and dignity, purposeful education, dependable service, professional development, leadership and good character, courage, and patriotism—these parts of the national emblem are symbolic of the goals and purposes of Business Professionals of America.

Please rise and join me in reciting the official pledge of our organization.

Official 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.

President

Please be seated.