

# **MSUBillings/Billings Clinic Science Expo 2019 ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL HANDBOOK**

## **2019 Theme: Health, Fitness and Nutrition**

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### **Elementary & Middle School Application Deadline:**

Return Applications by 5:00 pm, Monday, February 25, 2019 to John Walsh, Science Fair Coordinator

By email to [jwalsh@msubillings.edu](mailto:jwalsh@msubillings.edu)

By mail to: John Walsh,  
MSUB Extended Campus  
Montana State University Billings  
1500 University Drive  
Billings, Montana 59101

Or Deliver to: MSUB Extended Campus  
Suite 158, lower level  
College of Education Building  
University Campus  
MSU Billings

## **How to Enter Science Expo:**

1. Pick a science or engineering topic that YOU are interested in.
2. Read this booklet carefully.
3. Choose an adult sponsor. It may be your teacher, your parent, university sponsor, or another interested adult.
4. Develop your Research Project Proposal and then complete the Project Proposal Checklist to see if you need to complete any other forms. If you do, complete those as well.
5. Register by printing off the forms from our website at [www.msubillings.edu/scienceexpo](http://www.msubillings.edu/scienceexpo)  
You can complete the forms and email them back to the Science Expo Coordinator ([jwalsh@msubillings.edu](mailto:jwalsh@msubillings.edu)) or mail them to the Science Expo office at 1500 University Drive, Billings, MT 59101.
6. You will receive acknowledgement of receipt of your registration and if you did not have a project that required additional forms (on the Project Proposal Checklist), you can start your experiments.
7. Students who select projects that involve human subjects, non-human vertebrates, recombinant DNA, pathogens, controlled substances or human/animal tissue, and any potentially bioactive macromolecules (ie. DNA, protein especially CRISPR) must receive written Science Expo approval - read the handbook for exceptions – will have their Project Proposals reviewed by the Science Expo office for safety and will receive notice if they are approved or if they should be modified.
8. All rules, guidelines, state and federal laws governing safety in research and the ethical treatment of animals must be followed.
9. If you have any questions, need project ideas, etc., please contact the Science Expo office at  
· 406-896-5872 or [jwalsh@msubillings.edu](mailto:jwalsh@msubillings.edu).

Visit our website for current information on Science Expo at [www.msubillings.edu/scienceexpo](http://www.msubillings.edu/scienceexpo).

For more information about science project methods and ideas, visit these websites: [www.ipl.org](http://www.ipl.org), [www.discoverychannel.com/education](http://www.discoverychannel.com/education) or [www.sciencebuddies.org/](http://www.sciencebuddies.org/).

*The top 10% of projects in grades 6 – 8 will be eligible for further competition in the ISEF Broadcom MASTERS (Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering for Rising Stars) event to be held in Washington, DC in the fall of 2019.*

### Please Note:

It is to be expected that the level of sophistication of the science project will increase with the student's grade level. Most, if not all, elementary projects will be exempt from needing prior approval and all of its attendant extra paperwork (the need to complete the supplemental forms). Exceptions typically include, but are not limited to, projects that involve human or animal testing.

If you are having a problem determining if your project is exempt, please call the Science Expo office at 406-896-5872.

The reason for all of the precautions is to ensure that the students and those around them remain safe while they learn.

## The Scientific Method\*:

- The scientific method is a way to ask and answer scientific questions by making observations and doing experiments.
- The steps of the scientific method are to:
  - **Ask a Question**
  - **Do Background Research**
  - **Construct a Hypothesis**
  - **Test Your Hypothesis by Doing an Experiment**
  - **Analyze Your Data and Draw a Conclusion**
  - **Communicate Your Results**
- It is important for your experiment to be a fair test. A "fair test" occurs when you change only one factor (variable) and keep all other conditions the same.
- While scientists study how nature works, engineers create new things, such as products, websites, environments, and experiences.
  - If your project involves creating or inventing something new, your project might better fit the steps of the **Engineering Design Process**.

## The Engineering Design Process\*:

- The engineering design process is the set of steps that a designer takes to go from first, identifying a problem or need, to creating and developing a solution that solves the problem or meets the need.
- The steps of the engineering design process are to:
  - **Define the Problem**
  - **Do Background Research**
  - **Specify Requirements**
  - **Create Alternative Solutions**
  - **Choose the Best Solution**
  - **Do Development Work**
  - **Build a Prototype**
  - **Test and Redesign**
- During the engineering design process, designers frequently jump back and forth between steps. Going back to earlier steps is common. This way of working is called "**iteration**", and it is likely that your process will do the same!
- While engineers create new things, such as products, websites, environments, and experiences, scientists study how nature works.
  - If your project involves making observations and doing experiments, your project might better fit the **Steps of the Scientific Method**.

## Comparing the Engineering Design Process and the Scientific Method\*:

While scientists study how nature works, engineers create new things, such as products, websites, environments, and experiences. Because engineers and scientists have different objectives, they follow different processes in their work. Scientists perform experiments using the **scientific method**; whereas, engineers follow the creativity-based **engineering design process**.

Both processes can be broken down into a series of steps, as seen in the table below.

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### **The Scientific Method**

State your question  
Do background research  
Formulate your hypothesis, identify variables  
Design experiment, establish procedure  
Test your hypothesis by doing an experiment  
Analyze your results and draw conclusions  
Communicate results

### **The Engineering Design Process**

Define the problem  
Do background research  
Specify requirements  
Create alternative solutions, choose the best one and develop it  
Build a prototype  
Test and redesign as necessary  
Communicate results

Keep in mind that although the steps above are listed in sequential order, you will likely return to previous steps multiple times throughout a project. It is often necessary to revisit stages or steps in order to improve that aspect of a project.

### **Why are there two processes?**

Both scientists and engineers contribute to the world of human knowledge, but in different ways. Scientists use the scientific method to make testable explanations and predictions about the world. A scientist asks a question and develops an experiment, or set of experiments, to answer that question. Engineers use the engineering design process to create solutions to problems. An engineer identifies a specific need: **Who** need(s) **what** because **why**? And then, he or she creates a solution that meets the need.

### **Which process should I follow for my project?**

In real life, the distinction between science and engineering is not always clear. Scientists often do some engineering work, and engineers frequently apply scientific principles, including the scientific method. Much of what we often call "computer science" is actually engineering—programmers creating new products. Your project may fall in the gray area between science and engineering, and that's OK. Many projects, even if related to engineering, can and should use the scientific method.

However, if the objective of your project is to invent a new product, computer program, experience, or environment, then it makes sense to follow the engineering design process.

**Important Note:** Science Expo accepts engineering projects completed using the engineering design process. But if in doubt, use the Scientific Method.

\* Material above cited from [http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-project\\_scientific\\_method.shtml](http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-project_scientific_method.shtml)

## **Rules & other Useful Information:**

1. All research projects must have an adult sponsor (a parent, a teacher or a mentor).
2. All participants must be enrolled in Grade 1 through 8 either in a public, private, parochial or home school located within the officially sanctioned regions for this science fair. The officially sanctioned Montana counties are:  
Big Horn, Carbon, Carter, Custer, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, Golden Valley, southern half of Judith Basin, McCone, Meagher, Musselshell, Park, Petroleum, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Rosebud, Stillwater, Sweetgrass, Treasure, Wheatland, Wibaux and Yellowstone.
3. The acceptance of the application for competition does not imply approval of any proposed exhibit. All exhibits must first be vetted by the Display and Safety Committee on the day of competition to ensure it conforms to all safety regulations.
4. A student may enter only one research project and it must be his/her own work.
5. Team projects with a **maximum of 3 students** are only allowed in **Grades 7 and 8**.
6. A student may not enter the same project for multiple years. Research continued from a previous year's project is acceptable, provided there has been significant progress made from the previous year's work. Such projects must conform to the ISEF rules and regulations for continued research and will require the completion of **Continuation Projects Form (7)**
7. It is highly recommended that you make a copy of all your submitted paperwork for your records.
8. Completed applications must reach the Science Expo office before the deadline 5:00 pm, **Monday, February 25, 2019**.
9. On the day of competition (Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>), registration and set up will commence at **1 p.m.** in the main Alterowitz Gymnasium on the campus of the Montana State University – Billings and must be completed by **5 p.m.** Each project must be approved by the Safety and Display Committee before the project is considered ready for judging. The project boards may be set up by someone other than the student, if the student cannot be in attendance.
10. Please note that items and materials that may be acceptable parts of the experimentation process may not be acceptable as part of the exhibit. **Hazardous materials of any kind and in any packaging are not allowed in the exhibit.**
11. It is the responsibility of each entrant to familiarize themselves with the regulations and construct their exhibit accordingly.
12. Individual exhibit space is limited to 30 inches front-to-back, 48 inches side-to-side and 108 inches from the floor to the highest point on the exhibit, with or without a table. A standard tabletop is 30 inches above floor level. **Each project must fit in its entirety within these parameters.**
13. Entrants must supply all the tools, thumbtacks, tape and other material necessary to set up their exhibit. **No** part of the exhibit may be attached to the walls of the exhibition building. Entrants must indicate the need for an electrical outlet on the application form and must bring their own extension cord.

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14. **Identification** of a student by name, address, telephone number, fax number, e-mail address or school affiliation on an exhibit is **prohibited**.
15. If the Display and Safety Committee finds that the exhibit is not in compliance with the rules and regulations, modifications may be made to bring the exhibit into compliance. If all modifications fail to bring the exhibit into compliance, it will be disqualified from the competition. Decisions made by the Display and Safety Committee are **final**.
16. Decisions on compliance of any exhibit or exhibit component are based on the ISEF/Science Expo rules and regulations found in this booklet.
17. Students must be present for the judges' interviews starting at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Parents, teachers and non-exhibitors will not be allowed on the exhibit floor and may not coach, prompt or direct student actions during this judging process.** Call the Science Expo Office at 406-896-5872 if you need us to make an exception in this regard.
18. Should it be a team project, not all members of the team need to be available during the judging process but it would be desirable. Designate one member of the team to be the principal spokesperson.
19. Handouts to judges must be limited to a one-page narrative (called the Abstract) that relates the essentials of the project. Such a handout may not contain any lists of accomplishments or acknowledgements.
20. All exhibits must be taken down and removed from the gymnasium from 2 – 3 pm before the Awards Ceremony on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Items found after 6 p.m. Saturday will become the property of the Science Expo.
21. Science Expo sponsors, staff and volunteers assume no responsibility for any loss or damage to an exhibit, exhibit materials or the personal possessions of a participant or visitor.
22. Students may consider displaying a laboratory notebook providing further documentation for their project.

### **Human Participants:**

When students conduct research with humans, the rights and welfare of the participants must be protected. A consent form may be necessary (see following page for a sample.)

The following are **exempt**:

- Testing of a student-designed invention, program, concept, etc. where the feedback received is a direct reference to the product, where personal data is not collected and where the testing does not pose a health or safety hazard.
- When data is taken from pre-existing information that is publically available and does not involve any interaction with humans.
- Behavioral observations in public settings (eg. shopping mall, public park) where the researcher
  - (a) has no interaction with the individuals observed
  - (b) does not manipulate the environment in any way
  - (c) does not record any personally identifiable data.
- The student receives data in a de-identified/anonymous format from a professional and the Science Expo ensures that the data were appropriately de-identified by review of the written documentation.

The requirement for documentation of written informed consent/assent/parental permission is **waived** if the research involves only minimal risk and anonymous data collection and is one of the following:

- (a) Research involving normal educational practices

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- (b) Research on individual or group behavior or characteristics of individuals where the researcher does not manipulate the participants' behavior and the study does not involve more than minimal risk.
- (c) Surveys, questionnaires or activities involve perception, cognition, or game theory and does not involve gathering personal information, invasion of privacy or potential for emotional distress.
- (d) Studies involving physical activity have no more than minimal risk and the probability and magnitude of harm or discomfort is not anticipated to be greater than those ordinarily encountered in DAILY LIFE or during performance of routine physical activities.

If there is any uncertainty, it is recommended that documentation of written formal consent/assent/parental permission be obtained.

**Informed consent** requires that the researcher provides complete information to the participant (and/or parents or guardians) about the risks and benefits associated with participation in the research study. Participants must be informed their participation is voluntary and they are free to stop participating at any time. When written parental permission is required and the study is a survey, the survey must be attached to the consent form.

### **Vertebrate Animals:**

Vertebrate animals are defined as:

- Live, nonhuman vertebrate mammalian embryos or fetuses
- Tadpoles
- Bird and reptile eggs within 72 hours of hatching
- All other nonhuman vertebrates (including fish) at hatching or birth

The use of non-animal research methods is strongly endorsed and students are encouraged to use alternatives to animal research. When students conduct research with animal subjects, health and well-being are of high priority.

Vertebrate animal studies may be conducted at a home, school, farm, ranch, in the field, etc. This includes:

- Studies of animals in their natural environment
- Studies of animals in zoological parks
- Studies of livestock that use standard agricultural practices.
- Studies of fish that use standard aquaculture practices.

These projects must adhere to BOTH of the following guidelines:

1. The research involves only agricultural, behavioral, observational or supplemental nutritional studies on animals AND
2. The research involves only non-invasive and non-intrusive methods that do not negatively affect an animal's health or well-being.

Studies that cause more than momentary and slight pain or distress are prohibited. Animal deaths due to experimental procedures are prohibited.

Animals may not be captured from or released into the wild without approval of authorized wildlife or other regulatory officials. Fish may be obtained from the wild only if the researcher releases the fish unharmed, has the proper license and adheres to state, local and national fishing laws and regulations. **Any accidental or unintentional animal deaths must be reported to the Science Expo Scientific Review Committee.** Please note that possession of live game fish requires a special permit from the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Department.

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A Qualified Scientist or Designated Supervisor must directly supervise all research involving vertebrate animals, except for observational studies where there is no interaction with the animals being observed and there is no manipulation of the animal's environment in any way.

Animal subjects must be treated kindly and cared for properly.

**For a more detailed set of rules, please read the pertinent section in the Intel ISEF 2019 Rules on the High School Registration page.**

### **Potentially Hazardous Biological Agents:**

Rules for use of microorganisms (including bacteria, viruses, viroids, prions, rickettsia, fungi and parasites), recombinant DNA technologies or human or animal fresh/frozen tissues, blood or bodily fluids, and ANY potentially bioactive macromolecules (DNA, RNA, protein especially CRISPR/cas9)

The following types of studies are exempt from review and require no additional forms:

- Studies involving baker's yeast and brewer's yeast, except in rDNA studies.
- Studies involving *Lactobacillus thurgensis*, nitrogen-fixing, oil-eating bacteria and algae-eating bacteria introduced into their natural environment. (Not exempt if cultured in a petri dish environment.)
- Studies involving water or soil not concentrated in media conducive to their growth.
- Studies of mold growth on food items if the experiment is terminated at the first evidence of mold.
- Studies of mushrooms and slime molds.
- Studies involving *E. coli* k-12 which are done at school and are not recombinant DNA studies.

The following types of studies are exempt from prior review but require a Risk Assessment Form (3):

- Studies involving protists, archaea, and similar microorganisms
- Research using manure for composting, fuel production, or other non-culturing experiments.
- Commercially-available color change coliform water test kits. These kits must remain sealed and must be properly disposed.
- Studies involving decomposition of vertebrate organisms (such as in forensic projects).
- Studies with microbial fuel cells.

The use of potentially hazardous microorganisms is allowable as follows:

- The Science Expo approves the research plan before experimentation begins. The initial risk assessment determined by the student researcher and adults supervising the project must be confirmed by the Expo.
- Experimentation involving the culturing of potentially hazardous biological agents, even Bio-Safety Level 1 organisms is prohibited in a home environment. However, specimens may be collected at home as long as they are immediately transported, and before incubation is allowed, to a laboratory with BSL 1 containment.
- Research in a BSL-1 laboratory must be supervised by a trained Designated Supervisor or a Qualified Scientist. The student must be properly trained in standard microbiological practices.
- Naturally occurring plant pathogens may be studied (not cultured) at home but may not be introduced into a home/garden environment.
- The culturing of human or animal waste, including sewage sludge, is considered a BSL-2 study.
- All potentially hazardous biological agents must be properly disposed at the end of experimentation with their bio-safety level. **A facility capable of such disposal must be identified prior to work beginning on the project.** For BSL-1 or BSL-2 organisms: autoclave at 121 degrees Celsius for 20 minutes, use of a 10% bleach solution (1:10 dilution of domestic bleach), incineration, alkaline hydrolysis, bio-safety pickup and other manufacturer recommendations are acceptable.



**BSL-1 risk group** contains biological agents that pose low risk to people or the environment. These agents are highly unlikely to cause disease in health people, animals or plants. These agents require Bio-safety Level 1 containment. Examples of BSL-1 organisms are:

*Escherichia coli* (E coli) strain K12 – is the common laboratory strain of this bacterium commonly found in the lower intestine of warm-blooded organisms.

*Agrobacterium tumefaciens* - a soil bacterium that is a cause of crown gall in plants

*Micrococcus leuteus* - a bacterium found in the soil, air and water and is part of the normal flora on mammalian skin

*Neurospora crassa* - a type of red bread mold

*Bacillus subtilis* - also known as hay bacillus or grass bacillus. Commonly found in the human gut and in soil.

**BSL-1 containment** is normally found in water-testing laboratories, in high schools and colleges teaching introductory microbiology classes. Work is done on an open bench or in a fume hood. Standard microbiological practices are used. Decontamination can be achieved by treating with chemical disinfectants or by steam autoclaving. Lab coats are required and gloves recommended. The laboratory work is supervised by an individual with general training in microbiology or a related science.

**BSL-2 risk group** contains biological agents that pose moderate risk to people and the environment. If exposure occurs, the risk of spread is limited and it rarely would cause infection that would lead to serious disease. Effective treatment and preventative measures are available in the event of infection. The agents that require BSL-2 containment are, for example: *Mycobacterium* – the genus includes pathogens known to cause serious disease in mammals including tuberculosis and leprocy

*Streptococcus pneumonia* – causes many types of disease including acute sinusitis, otitis media and meningitis. It is the most common cause of bacterial meningitis in adults in the US.

*Salmonella choleraesuis* – now known as *S. enterica* – causes food poisoning. Raw chicken or goose eggs may harbor it while proper cooking will kill it.

**BSL-2 containment** is designed to maximize safety when working with agents of moderate risk to humans and the environment. Access to the laboratory is restricted. Biological safety cabinets must be available. An autoclave should be readily available for decontaminating waste materials. Lab coats, gloves and face protection are required. A scientist who understands the risks associated with the agents must supervise the lab work

## A. Additional Rules for Projects Involving Unknown Microorganisms

Studies involving unknown microorganisms present a challenge because the presence, concentration and pathogenicity of possible agents are unknown. In science fair projects, these studies typically involve the collection and culturing of microorganisms from the environment (e.g. soil, household surfaces, skin.)

1) Research with unknown microorganisms can be treated as a BSL-1 study under the following conditions:

- a. Organism is cultured in a plastic petri dish (or other standard non-breakable container) and sealed. Other acceptable containment includes two heavy-duty (2-ply) sealed bags.
- b. Experiment involves only procedures in which the Petri dish remains sealed throughout the experiment (e.g., counting presence of organisms or colonies).
- c. The sealed Petri dish is disposed of via autoclaving or disinfection under the supervision of the Designated Supervisor.

2) If a culture container with unknown microorganisms is opened for any purpose, (except for disinfection for disposal), it must be treated as a BSL-2 study and involve BSL-2 laboratory procedures.

## **B. Additional Rules for Projects Involving Recombinant DNA (rDNA) Technologies**

Studies involving potentially bioactive macromolecules (ie DNA, protein especially CRISPR/cas9) in which microorganisms have been genetically modified require close review to assess the risk level assignment. Some potentially bioactive macromolecules studies can be safely conducted in a BSL-1 high school laboratory with prior review by a knowledgeable SRC:

- 1) All potentially bioactive macromolecules technology studies involving BSL-1 organisms and BSL-1 host vector systems must be conducted in a BSL-1 laboratory under the supervision of a Qualified Scientist or Designated Supervisor and must be approved by the SRC prior to experimentation. Examples include cloning of DNA in *E. coli* K12, *S. cerevisiae*, and *B. subtilis* host-vector systems.
- 2) Commercially available rDNA kits using BSL-1 organisms may be conducted in a BSL-1 laboratory under the supervision of a Qualified Scientist or trained Designated Supervisor and must be approved by the SRC prior to experimentation.
- 3) Any potentially bioactive macromolecules technology study using BSL-1 agents that may convert to BSL-2 agents during the course of experimentation must be conducted entirely in a BSL-2 facility.
- 4) All potentially bioactive macromolecules technology studies involving BSL-2 organisms and/or BSL-2 host vector systems must be conducted in a Regulated Research Institution and approved by the IBC prior to experimentation.
- 5) Propagation of recombinants containing DNA coding for oncogenes or other human, plant or animal toxins (including viruses) is prohibited.

## **C. Additional Rules for Projects with Tissues and Body Fluids, including Blood and Blood Products**

Studies involving fresh/frozen tissue, blood or body fluids obtained from humans and/or vertebrates may contain microorganisms and have the potential of causing disease. Therefore, a proper risk assessment is required.

- 1) *The following types of tissue do not need to be treated as potentially hazardous biological agents:*
  - a. Plant tissue
  - b. Plant and non-primate established cell lines and tissue culture collections (e.g., obtained from the American Type Culture Collection). The source and/or catalog number of the cultures must be identified in the Research Plan.
  - c. Fresh or frozen meat, meat by-products, pasteurized milk or eggs obtained from food stores, restaurants, or packing houses.
  - d. Hair, hooves, nails and feathers.
  - e. Teeth that have been sterilized to kill any blood-borne pathogen that may be present. Chemical disinfection or autoclaving at 121 degrees Celsius for 20 minutes is recommended.
  - f. Fossilized tissue or archeological specimens.
  - g. Prepared fixed tissue

## **Hazardous Chemicals, Activities or Devices:**

(includes DEA-controlled substances, prescription drugs, alcohol & tobacco, firearms, and explosives, radiation, lasers, etc.)

The following rules apply to research using hazardous chemicals, devices and activities that are most often restricted of their use by minors. Hazardous activities are those that involve a level of risk above and beyond that encountered in the student's everyday life.

These rules are intended to protect the student researcher by ensuring proper supervision and the consideration of all potential risks so that appropriate safety precautions are taken.

Rules for ALL projects involving Hazardous Chemicals, Activities and Devices:

- The use of hazardous chemicals and devices and involvement in hazardous activities require direct supervision by a Designated Supervisor capable of assessing such risks, except those involving DEA-controlled substances, which require supervision by a Qualified Scientist.
- A risk assessment must be conducted by the student and Designated Supervisor prior to experimentation and documented on the Risk Assessment Form (3).
- The student researcher must minimize the impact of the experiment on the environment.

For the complete Rules for Specific Regulated Substances:

DEA-controlled Substances

Prescription Drugs

Alcohol and Tobacco

Firearms and Explosives

Refer to the appropriate section in the **Intel ISEF 2019 Rules** found on the High School Registration page.

However,

- Production of ethyl alcohol (wine or beer) is allowable in the home under parental supervision and must meet the TTB (Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau) home production regulations.
- Fermentation studies in which minute quantities of ethyl alcohol are produced are permitted.
- Students are allowed to distill alcohol for fuel or other non-consumable products. The work must be conducted at school and a TTB permit must be obtained by school authorities.
  
- Projects involving firearms and explosives are allowable when conducted with the direct supervision of a Designated Supervisor and when in compliance with all federal, state and local laws.
- A fully assembled rocket motor, reload kit or propellant modules containing more than 62.5 grams of propellant are subject to the permitting, storage and other requirements of federal explosive laws and regulations.
- Potato guns and paintball guns are to be treated as firearms. **They must be treated as hazardous devices**

### **A. Hazardous Chemicals:**

A proper risk assessment of chemicals must include review of the following factors:

**Toxicity** – the tendency of a chemical to be hazardous to health when inhaled, swallowed, injected or in contact with the skin.

**Reactivity** — the tendency of a chemical to undergo chemical change.

**Flammability** — the tendency of a chemical to give off vapors which readily ignite when used under normal working conditions.

**Corrosiveness** — the tendency of a chemical, upon physical contact, to harm or destroy living tissues or physical equipment.

When assessing risk, the type and amount of exposure to a chemical must be considered. For example, an individual's allergic and genetic disposition may have an influence on the overall effect of the chemical. The student researcher must refer to Material Safety Data Sheets provided by the vendor (MSDS) to ensure that proper safety precautions are taken. Some MSDS sheets (e.g., Flinn) rank the degree of hazard associated with a chemical. This rating may assist students and adult sponsors in determining risk associated with the use of a chemical.

A risk assessment must include proper disposal methods for the chemicals used in an experiment. The Flinn Catalog (referenced in the Sources of Information section found in the High School Handbook) provides information for the proper disposal of chemicals. If applicable, the student researcher must incorporate in the research plan disposal procedure required by federal and state guidelines.

## **B. Hazardous Devices**

The documentation of Risk Assessment (Form 3) is required when a student researcher works with potentially hazardous/dangerous equipment and/or other devices, in or outside a laboratory setting that require a moderate to high level of expertise to ensure their safe usage. Some commonly used devices (Bunsen burners, hot plates, saws, drills, etc.) may not require a documented risk assessment, assuming that the student researcher has experience working with the device. Use of other potentially dangerous devices such as high vacuum equipment, heated oil baths, NMR equipment, and high temperature ovens must have documentation of a risk assessment.

It is recommended that all student designed inventions also have documentation of a risk assessment.

## **C. Radiation**

A risk assessment must be conducted when a student uses non-ionizing radiation beyond that normally encountered in everyday life. Non-ionizing radiation includes the spectrum of ultraviolet (UV), visible light, infrared (IR), microwave (MW), radiofrequency (RF) and extremely low frequency (ELF).

Lasers usually emit visible, ultraviolet or infrared radiation. Lasers are classified into four classes based upon their safety. Manufacturers are required to label Classes II – IV lasers.

**Class I lasers** – those found in CD players, laser printers, geological survey equipment and some laboratory equipment. There are no known risks associated with using a Class I laser.

**Class II lasers** – found in laser pointers, aiming and range-finding devices. These pose a risk if the beam is viewed directly over a long period of time.

**Class III lasers** – found in higher-powered laser pointers, printers and spectrometers. They are hazardous devices which can cause eye damage when the beam is viewed directly even for a short period of time.

**Class IV lasers** – high powered lasers used in surgery, research, and industry. They are extremely hazardous and can cause eye and skin damage from both direct and indirect exposure. The beam is also a fire hazard.

Projects involving radionuclides (radioisotopes) and X-rays must involve a careful examination of the risks associated with the study. Depending upon the level of exposure, radiation released from these sources can be a health hazard. Most research institutions have a Radiation Safety Office which oversees the use of ionizing radiation and ensures compliance with state and federal regulations.

For the complete set of rules, go to the Intel ISEF 2019 Rules on the High School Registration page..

## **Display & Safety Regulations:**

The Science Expo Display and Safety Committee is the final authority on display and safety issues for projects approved by the Science Expo Coordinator to compete. The Science Expo Display and Safety Committee's point of reference will be the latest edition of the Intel ISEF Display and Safety Regulations. Occasionally, the committee will require students to make revisions in their display to conform to the regulations.

### **Maximum Size of Exhibit:**

- Depth: 30 inches or 76 centimeters
- Width: 48 inches or 122 centimeters
- Height (floor to top): 108 inches or 274 centimeters. Fair-provided tables will not exceed a height of 30 inches or 76 centimeters.

Maximum exhibit sizes include all project materials and supports. If a table is used, it becomes part of the exhibit and must not itself exceed the allowed dimensions nor may the table plus any part of the exhibit exceed the allowed dimensions.

Any project with a component that will be demonstrated must be demonstrated only within the confines of the booth. When not being demonstrated, the component plus project must not exceed the allowed dimensions.

### **Handouts:**

Handouts to judges must be limited to the photocopies of the abstract. A project book and research papers are not required to be at the booth for review by the judges but are highly recommended.

### **Not Allowed at Exhibit or in Booth:**

1. Living organisms, including plants
2. Soil, sand, rock, cement and/or waste samples, **even if permanently encased in a slab of acrylic.**
3. Taxidermy specimens or parts
4. Preserved vertebrate or invertebrate animals
5. Human or animal food
6. Human/animal parts or body fluids (for example, blood, urine)
7. Plant materials (living, dead, or preserved) that are in their raw, unprocessed, or non-manufactured state  
(Exception: manufactured construction materials used in building the project or display)
8. All chemicals including water (Projects may not use water in any form in a demonstration.)
9. All hazardous substances or devices (for example, poisons, drugs, firearms, weapons, ammunition, reloading devices, and lasers).
10. Items that may have contained or been in contact with hazardous chemicals (Exception: Item may be permitted if professionally cleaned and document for such cleaning is available).
11. 3-D printers
12. Dry ice or other sublimating solids
13. Sharp objects (for example, syringes, needles, pipettes, knives)
14. Flames or highly flammable materials
15. Batteries with open-top cells or wet cells.
16. Glass or glass objects unless deemed an integral and necessary part of the project (for example, glass that is an integral part of a commercial product such as a computer screen).
17. Any apparatus deemed unsafe by the Display and Safety Committee. (Example: large vacuum tubes or dangerous ray-generating devices, empty tanks that contained combustible liquids or gases, pressurized tanks, 3-D printers, etc.)

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18. **Awards, medals, business cards, flags, logos, endorsements, and/or acknowledgments** (graphic or written) unless the item(s) are an integral part of the project. (Exceptions: Flash Drives, CD's, DVD's that are an integral part of the project and used for judging only with prior approval given during inspection.)
19. Photographs or other visual presentations depicting invertebrate or vertebrate animals in surgical techniques, dissections or necropsies.
20. Active Internet or e-mail connections as part of displaying or operating the project.
21. Prior years' written material or visual depictions on the vertical display board. [Exception: the project title displayed in the Entrant's booth may mention years or which year the project is (for example, "Year Two of an Ongoing Study")]. Continuation projects must have the **Continuation Project Form (7)** vertically displayed.

**Photograph/Image Display Requirements:**

Any photograph/visual image/chart/table or graph is allowed if:

a. it is not deemed offensive or inappropriate by the Scientific Review Committee and the Display and Safety Committee. This includes, but is not limited to, visually offensive photographs or visual depictions of invertebrate or vertebrate animals, including humans. The decision by any one of the groups mentioned above is final.

b. it has a credit line of origin ("Photograph taken by..." or "Image taken from..."). (If all photographs being displayed were taken by the Entrant or are from the same source, one credit line prominently and vertically displayed is sufficient.)

c. it is from the Internet, magazines, newspapers, journals, etc., and credit lines are attached. (If all photographs/images are from the same source, one credit prominently and vertically displayed is sufficient.)

d. it is a photograph or visual depiction of the Entrant.

e. it is a photograph or visual depiction of a human subject for which a signed consent form is at the project or in the booth. (Photograph release signed by the human subject must be included in the paperwork.)

**Laser Requirements:**

Lasers may be used in a display under the following guidelines.

Class 1 and Class 2 lasers are allowed provided the student avoids indiscriminate exposure to others (except if passed through magnifying optics such as microscopes and telescopes, in which case they may not be used). No other lasers may be used or displayed.

**Other Safety Regulations:**

1. Any inadequately insulated apparatus producing extreme temperatures that may cause physical burns is not allowed.
2. Any apparatus with unshielded belts, pulleys, chains or moving parts with tension or pinch points must be for display purposes only.
3. The Display and Safety Committee reserves the right to remove any project for safety reasons.
4. Project sounds, lights, odors or any other display items must not be distracting. Exceptions to this rule may be permitted for judging demonstrations. Approval must be given prior to judging.

**Electrical Regulations:**

1. Cord-connected electrical appliances shall be UL/CSA approved. Cord components should be listed with UL or CSA.
2. Electrical devices must be protectively enclosed. Any enclosure must be non-combustible. All external non-current carrying metal parts must be grounded using the above listed UL/CSA connection and materials.
3. Entrants requiring 120 or 220 Volt A.C. electrical circuits must provide a **UL-listed 3-wire extension cord** which is appropriate for the load and equipment and is in good repair.
4. Electrical power supplied to projects and, therefore, the maximums allowed for projects is **120 or 220 Volt, A.C., single phase, 60 cycle**. No multi-phase will be available or shall be used. For all electrical regulations, "**120 Volt A.C.**" or "**220 Volt A.C.**" is intended to encompass the

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corresponding range of voltage as supplied by the facility in which the Science Expo is being held.

5. All electrical connectors, wiring, switches, extension cords, fuses, etc. must be **UL-listed** and must be appropriate for the load and equipment. Connections must be soldered or made with **UL-listed** connectors. Wiring, switches, and metal parts must have adequate insulation and over-current safety devices (such as fuses) and must be inaccessible to anyone other than the entrant. Exposed electrical equipment or metal that possibly may be energized must be shielded with a non-conducting material or with a grounded metal box to prevent accidental contact.
6. All lighting used for decoration or illumination must be UL/CSA approved. Lamp wattage must not exceed ratings. Lighting must not pose risk of injury if touched. As low a voltage as possible must be used.
7. At the end of the viewing period, all electrical exhibits must be disconnected and power bars must be switched off.
8. Where practical and necessary, it is recommended that indicator lights be used to indicate that the voltage is on.
9. An insulating grommet is required at the point where the wire or cable enters any enclosure.
10. No exposed live parts over 36 volts are allowed.
11. There must be an accessible, clearly visible on/off switch or other means of quickly disconnecting from the **120 or 220 Volt** power source.
12. Wet cells shall not be used because of the hazardous chemicals involved.

**Other Information and Requirements:**

1. It is desirable that *entrants be present at their projects for the Display and Safety inspection.*
2. No changes, modifications, or additions to projects may be made after approval by the Display and Safety Committee.
3. The Display and Safety Committee reserves the right to remove any project for safety reasons or to protect the integrity of the Science Expo and its rules and regulations.
4. Entrants using audio-visual or multi-media presentations (for example, tablets, smart phones, flat monitors, powerpoint, images, graphics, animations, etc., displayed on computer monitors; or other non-print presentation methods) must be prepared to show the entire presentation to the Display and Safety inspectors before the project is approved.
5. If a project fails to qualify and is not removed by the Entrant, the Display & Safety Committee will remove the project in the safest manner possible but is not responsible for damage to the project.
6. Any disks, CDs, printed materials, etc. (other than the abstract) designed to be distributed to judges or the public will be confiscated by the Display and Safety Committee and will be discarded immediately.
7. Project sounds, lights, odors, or any other display items must not be distracting.
8. No food or drinks, except small containers of bottled water for personal consumption, are allowed in the Exhibit Hall.

## **The Judging Process:**

On **Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>**, starting at **6:30 pm** and ending at around 9 pm, your science fair project will be judged by at least 3 Science Expo judges. All of our judges are volunteers from our community who love science and math and wish to promote its appreciation among our local elementary, middle and high school students.

Each judge will come individually to interview you for about 10 – 15 minutes. You will be asked questions about your research and your project will be judged for both your oral presentation as well as the quality of your exhibit.

You must have three **regular Science Expo judges** sign your sheet before you can consider judging to be complete. However, during this time, another group of judges wearing red **“Special Award”** badges may want to interview you as well. They will be judging for all of the Special Awards that are listed in the Awards section of this booklet.

You will be awarded points based on your knowledge of your project, your creativity and your use of the scientific method or engineering design process. You may provide a one-page written summary of your project to each judge. The judging worksheet that our judges will be using is provided for your information on the next page. You can use it as a guide for designing your experiment.

Since each one of our regular Science Expo judges will have to interview from 8 to 10 students, it may take up to two hours before the mandatory 3 regular judges have interviewed you and signed your judging sheet. Only then can you leave. However, if you leave, you may miss an interview with a “Special Award” judge. Therefore, it is recommended that you plan to remain with your exhibit until the end of judging at 9 p.m.

All awards will be presented at the **Awards Ceremony** starting at **3 p.m. on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>** in the Petro Theater.

You've entered the Science Expo 2019. Congratulations and the best of luck!!



**SCIENCE EXPO JUDGING WORKSHEET**

	<b>POINTS: <u>Possible</u></b>	<b><u>Awarded</u></b>
<b>I. SCIENTIFIC MERIT &amp; CREATIVITY (60 Points)</b>		
<b>A. Problem</b> .....	<b>5</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
1) Is the problem or scientific question clearly stated?		
2) Was creativity/originality/independence shown in formulating the problem?		
<b>B. Hypothesis</b> .....	<b>5</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
1) Is the hypothesis based on sufficient background information gained from a literature review and observation of similar phenomena?		
2) Does the hypothesis show originality in thought and logic?		
<b>C. Procedure</b> .....	<b>10</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
1) Were procedures outlined in a step-by-step fashion?		
2) Does the experimental design show creativity/originality?		
<b>D. Variables</b> .....	<b>10</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
1) Were the variables clearly defined? Were the variables identified that were going to be changed? Were the variables defined that were going to be measured?		
<b>E. Data Collection</b> .....	<b>10</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
1) Was the data collected several times? Was the data summarized logically?		
2) Is creativity/originality shown in the presentation of the data?		
<b>F. Results</b> .....	<b>10</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
1) Are results organized and presented clearly? Are notebook records available?		
<b>G. Conclusions</b> .....	<b>10</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
1) Are conclusions properly justified and properly drawn from the hypothesis? Was the hypothesis correct? (No deduction if it wasn't)		
<b>SCIENTIFIC MERIT &amp; CREATIVITY</b> .....	<b>TOTAL (Maximum 60 Points)</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px; border: 2px solid gray;" type="text"/>
→		
<b>II. DISPLAY AESTHETICS/VISUAL PRESENTATION</b> .....	<b>10</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px; border: 2px solid gray;" type="text"/>
A. Is the display interesting and does it have eye appeal?		
B. Does the display show good logic, good workmanship, and good spelling?		
<b>III. COMMUNICATION SKILLS/ORAL PRESENTATION</b> .....	<b>15</b>	→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px; border: 2px solid gray;" type="text"/>
A. Can the student(s) express their knowledge of the project's purpose, procedure and conclusions?		
B. Is the student engaging, enthusiastic and interactive with you?		
<b>IV. LEVEL OF EFFORT</b>		→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px; border: 2px solid gray;" type="text"/>
A. How much effort did the student expend on the project? .....		
		→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<b>GRAND TOTAL (Maximum 100 Points)</b>		→ <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>

## **Tips for a Successful Science Fair Project:**

1. **Observe** the world around you.
  - Don't confuse observation with interpretation.
  - What interests you? What do you find fascinating?
2. **Focus** your topic.
  - Don't make your topic too broad.
  - Do enough background research to narrow your topic successfully.
  - Does your topic still give you room for exploration?
3. **Hypothesis** is an educated guess about your observations of the world around you.
  - Is your hypothesis testable?
  - Will you have the resources to test hypothesis or are resources available?
  - Your hypothesis should be simple and precise.
  - Don't form conclusions until after you have collected all the data.
4. **Follow Science Fair Rules.**
  - For rules and regulations at the Science Expo, see previous sections: "Rules and other Useful Information" and "Display and Safety Regulations".
5. **Add your own touch** to a science experiment
  - If you are doing an experiment that is "old hat," can you push the hypothesis further by adding a different variable?
  - Repeating a project off the internet is NOT science! It's cooking!
6. Make a **plan** with timetables.
  - Are you going to have enough time to complete the experiment?
  - Don't rush yourself this leads to sloppy workmanship and ISN'T an award-winning science fair project.
7. Have a **well-defined purpose.**
  - A defined purpose will help you narrow the scope of your experiment.
  - Use scientific references to base your experiment on.
8. Have a **control group** and **limit variables.**
  - For example, if you were doing an experiment to see what the affect of the soil conditions were on a certain plant, you need to keep the light and water conditions the same.
  - Limit the number of variables that you test.
9. **Use scientific measures.**
  - Scientists record measurements using the metric system and scientific units like the gram for weight, meters for length, and liters for volume.
10. Keep a scientific **logbook.**
  - You need to record your procedure, observations, and data diligently into a logbook. If you don't know what a logbook looks like visit [www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org) to help you organize your log book. Just search Logbook.
11. Ask questions and be resourceful.
  - **Get help** from teachers, parents, mentors, or websites. [www.ipl.org](http://www.ipl.org) has lots of resources.
12. **Put it all together.**
  - Put just enough information on the poster to clearly state your case.
  - Check for spelling and grammar.

You can also check out [www.accessexcellence.org/LC/TL/scifair/sfscimethod.php](http://www.accessexcellence.org/LC/TL/scifair/sfscimethod.php)

**Awards List:** Available for Grades 1-8

**(This list is from the previous years and is subject to change)**

**General Awards :**

The top 10 scoring projects in each Elementary and Middle School grade were presented with Certificates of Achievement and monetary awards:

Grades 1 – 6	1st:	\$75
	2 <sup>nd</sup> :	\$50
	3 <sup>rd</sup> :	\$25
	4 <sup>th</sup> :	\$15
	5 <sup>th</sup> :	\$10
5 Honorable Mentions:		\$ 5 each
Grades 7 – 8	1st:	\$100
	2 <sup>nd</sup> :	\$ 75
	3 <sup>rd</sup> :	\$ 50
	4 <sup>th</sup> :	\$ 25
	5 <sup>th</sup> :	\$ 10
5 Honorable Mentions:		\$ 5 each

**Special Awards:**

**Future Scientist Award:** Sponsored by **the Billings Clinic**

- Grades 1-3: \$25 & certificate
- Grades 4-6: \$50 & certificate
- Grades 7-8: \$75 & certificate

*The project that demonstrates the most scientific rigor with the best use of the scientific method and a quality oral presentation*

**Craftsmanship Award:** Sponsored by **the Billings Clinic:**

- Grades 1-3: \$25 & certificate
- Grades 4-6: \$50 & certificate
- Grades 7-8: \$75 & certificate

*The project that displays special technical skill and craftsmanship*

**Creativity Award:** Sponsored by **the Billings Clinic**

- Grades 1-3: \$25 & certificate
- Grades 4-6: \$50 & certificate
- Grades 7-8: \$75 & certificate

*The project that shows originality in planning and in the way it expresses scientific ideas*

**Artistic Award:** Sponsored by the **Billings Clinic**

- Grades 1-3: \$25 & certificate
- Grades 4-6: \$50 & certificate
- Grades 7-8: \$75 & certificate

*The project that presents its concepts in a visually arresting way that enhances the science*

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**National Special Industry Awards:**

***(Please note that all awards may be subject to change)***

The Awarding Agency, the eligible grades, the judging criteria and the prize are listed.

American Meteorological Association <i>Outstanding research in meteorology</i>	- Grades 1-12	Certificate
American Psychological Association <i>Outstanding research in psychology under the category of behavioral &amp; social sciences</i>	- Grades 1-12	Certificate
ASM Material Education Foundation <i>Best materials engineering project (structure-processing-properties-performance relationships)</i>	- Grades 1-12	Certificate & Medallion
Association of Women Geoscientists <i>Innovation &amp; scientific excellence in Geoscience</i>	- Grades 7-12/female	Certificate
Society for Science & the Public Broadcom MASTERS Competition <i>Knowledge of science &amp; the ability to communicate effectively about Science</i>	- Grades 6-8	Certificate The top 10% of grade 6-8 will be nominated to compete nationally
National Society of Professional Engineers <i>Outstanding engineering project</i>	- Grades 7-12	Certificate & lapel pin
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration <i>Research emphasizes the understanding &amp; prediction of changes in earth's environment in order to conserve and manage resources</i>	- Grades 7-12	Certificate & Medallion
National Aeronautics & Space Administration Earth Science Award <i>The project that offers the greatest insight into Earth's interconnected systems</i>	- Grades 1-12	Certificate
Ricoh Corporation <i>Outstanding efforts in addressing issues of environmental responsibility &amp; sustainable development</i>	- Grades 1-12	Certificate
US Air Force <i>Studies in math, science &amp; engineering</i>	- Grades 1-3	Certificate & gift
US Air Force <i>Studies in math, science &amp; engineering</i>	- Grades 4-6	Certificate & gift
US Air Force <i>Studies in math, science &amp; engineering</i>	- Grades 7-8	Certificate & gift
US Air Force <i>Studies in math, science &amp; engineering</i>	- Grades 7-8	Certificate & gift
US Metric Association	- Grades 1-12	Certificate

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*Best use of SI units*

US Navy/Office of Naval Research <i>Excellence in science &amp; engineering</i>	- Grades 6-8	Certificate & Medallion
US Navy/Office of Naval Research <i>Excellence in science &amp; engineering</i>	- Grades 6-8	Certificate & Medallion
US Navy/Office of Naval Research <i>Excellence in science &amp; engineering</i>	- Grades 6-8	Certificate & Medallion

**Local Special Industry Awards: Please Note All Awards Are Subject to Change**

Best Friends Animal Hospital <i>Best project involving eggs</i>	- Grades 1-3	\$25 & Certificate
Best Western Clocktower Inn <i>Best soil chemistry project</i>	- Grades 1-6	\$25 & Certificate
Billings Animal Family Hospital <i>Best Animal Sciences Project with Vet Focus</i>	- Grades 7-8	\$50 & Certificate
Billings Engineers Club <i>Best engineering project as determined by NSPE</i>	- Grades 7-12	\$50 & Certificate
Billings Jaycees <i>Best health related project</i>	- Grades 7-12	\$50 & Certificate
Billings Jaycees <i>Best project for bettering the environment</i>	- Grades 7-12	\$50 & Certificate
Clark Marten Photography <i>Best use of photography</i>	- Grades 1-6	\$25 & Certificate
Cudd Services <i>Best use of the Scientific Method</i>	- Grade 5	\$25 & Certificate
Cudd Services <i>Best use of the Scientific Method</i>	- Grade 6	\$25 & Certificate
Cudd Services <i>Best use of the Scientific Method</i>	- Grade 7	\$50 & Certificate
Cudd Services <i>Best Civil Engineering Project</i>	- Grade 8	\$50 & Certificate
Cudd Services <i>Best Soil Chemistry Project</i>	- Grades 7-12	\$50 & Certificate
Great Northern Drilling Company <i>Best alternative energy project</i>	- Grades 1-6	\$25 & Certificate
Great Northern Drilling Company <i>Best alternative energy project</i>	- Grades 7-12	\$75 & Certificate
Hohn Engineering <i>Best Engineering Design Project</i>	- Grades 1-5	\$50 & Certificate
Hohn Engineering	- Grades 6-8	

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<i>Best Engineering Design Project</i>		\$50 & Certificate
Holl, Dr. Patricia <i>Best Naturopathic Project</i>	- Grades 1-12	Gift Basket & Certificate
Hydrosolutions Inc. <i>Best Application of Science or Engineering to a Current Water Resource or Environmental Issue</i>	- Grades 7-8	\$100 & Certificate
IEEE <i>Best use of electronics/electrical engineering</i>	- Grades 6-8	\$50 & Certificate
Inflatable Packers International <i>Best use of metric/SI units</i>	- Grades 7-8	\$25 & Certificate
Marchant, Dr. Scott & Robyn <i>Most Unusual/Thought Provoking Project</i>	- Grades 4-6	\$25 & Certificate
Montana Audubon Society <i>Best local ecology/history/geology project</i>	- Grades 6-8	Gift Items & Certificate
Montana Geological Society <i>Best Project involving Earth Sciences</i>	- Grades 1-3	\$25 & Certificate
Montana Geological Society <i>Best Project involving Earth Sciences</i>	- Grades 4-6	\$50 & Certificate
Montana Geological Society <i>Best Project involving Earth Sciences</i>	- Grades 7-9	\$75 & Certificate
Montana Learning Center <i>Best Aquatics Biosystems project</i>	- Grades 1-12	Camp Scholarship & Certificate
MSU-Billings Health & Human Performance Department <i>Best Health Related Project</i>	- Grades 1-8	\$25 & Certificate
Nance Resources <i>Best project involving the natural world</i>	- Grades 1-3	\$50 & Certificate
Nance Resources <i>Best use of math in a project</i>	- Grades 5-6	\$50 & Certificate
Phillips 66 <i>Most creative project</i>	- Grade 3-6	\$50 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best presentation</i>	- Grade 1	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best presentation</i>	- Grade 2	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best presentation</i>	- Grade 3	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best presentation</i>	- Grade 4	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best presentation</i>	- Grade 5	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best presentation</i>	- Grade 6	\$25 & Certificate

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Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best presentation</i>	- Grade 7	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best presentation</i>	- Grade 8	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best use of the scientific method</i>	- Grade 1	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best use of the scientific method</i>	- Grade 2	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best use of the scientific method</i>	- Grade 3	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best use of the scientific method</i>	- Grade 4	\$25 & Certificate
Rimrock Plumbing <i>Best Earth Science Award</i>	- Grades 1-6	\$25 & Certificate
Society of Petroleum Engineers <i>Best Energy related Project</i>	- Grades 6-8	\$100 & Certificate
Joy Stevens, PLLC <i>Best Interpretation of the year's Science Expo theme</i>	- Grades 1-6	\$25 & Certificate
Joy Stevens, PLLC <i>Best Application to Naturopathic Medicine</i>	- Grades 1-12	\$25 & Certificate
TK Production Company <i>Judge's Choice</i>	- Grade 1	\$25 & Certificate
TK Production Company <i>Judge's Choice</i>	- Grade 2	\$25 & Certificate
TK Production Company <i>Judge's Choice</i>	- Grade 3	\$25 & Certificate
TK Production Company <i>Judge's Choice</i>	- Grade 4	\$25 & Certificate
TK Production Company <i>Judge's Choice</i>	- Grade 5	\$25 & Certificate
TK Production Company <i>Judge's Choice</i>	- Grade 6	\$25 & Certificate
TK Production Company <i>Judge's Choice</i>	- Grade 7	\$50 & Certificate
TK Production Company <i>Judge's Choice</i>	- Grade 8	\$50 & Certificate
Turley Dental Care <i>Future Dentist Award</i>	- Grades 1-6	\$50 & Certificate
Ed & Karla Ulledalen <i>Best use of math in a project</i>	- Grade 7 Female	Book & Certificate
Ed & Karla Ulledalen <i>Best use of math in a project</i>	- Grade 8 Female	Book & Certificate
Walker's Grill <i>Best project involving food</i>	- Grades 1-6	\$75 GC & Certificate
Welter Consulting Inc. <i>Best Use of Math</i>	- Grade 1	\$50 & Certificate
Welter Consulting Inc. <i>Best Use of Math</i>	- Grade 2	\$50 & Certificate

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Welter Consulting Inc. <i>Best Use of Math</i>	- Grade 3	\$50 & Certificate
Welter Consulting Inc. <i>Best Use of Math</i>	- Grade 4	\$50 & Certificate
ZooMontana <i>Best Project – Animal Sciences</i>	- Grades 1-3	Family Membership & Certificate
ZooMontana <i>Best Project – Animal Sciences</i>	- Grades 4-6	Family Membership & Certificate
ZooMontana <i>Best Project – Plant Sciences</i>	- Grades 1-6	Family Membership & Certificate



## **Science Fair Project Categories:**

*Once you have selected the problem you would like to investigate, find the Science Fair Category under which it best fits. There is a checklist on the Application Form to mark off. It will allow us to better match the expertise of our judges to your project.*

### **Animal Sciences (Zoology)**

Includes Animal Husbandry

### **Behavioral & Social Sciences**

Projects which observe human behavior.

### **Biochemistry**

The chemistry of living things

### **Chemistry**

The science of chemical reactions in other than living organisms.

### **Computer Science**

Includes Artificial Intelligence, Databases, Operating Systems, Programming Languages, Networking & Data Communications, etc.

### **Earth & Planetary Science**

Includes Weather, Geology, Paleontology, Tectonics, etc.

### **Energy & Transportation**

Includes Aerodynamics, Alternative Fuels, Fossil Fuel Energy, Vehicle Development, etc.

### **Engineering: Bioengineering, Electrical, Materials & Mechanical**

Includes Civil Engineering, Construction Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Thermodynamics, Solar, etc.

### **Environmental Sciences**

Includes Ecosystem Management, Land Resource Management, Forestry, Recycling, Waste Management, etc.

### **Mathematical Sciences**

Involves any theory or principal of Mathematics, Geometry, Statistics, Probability, etc.

### **Medicine & Health Science**

Involves Human Health, Diseases, Medication, Epidemiology, etc.

### **Microbiology**

Includes Antibiotics, Bacteriology, Virology, etc.

### **Physics & Astronomy**

Involves Atoms, Molecules, Solids, Astronomy, Instrumentation & Electronics, Magnets, Optics & Lasers, etc.

### **Plant Sciences**

Includes Agriculture, Plant Development, Plant Pathology, Plant Physiology, Plant Evolution, etc.

### **Robotics**

Includes Biomechanics, Machine Learning, Robot Kinetics, etc.

*This list is a simplification of the Intel ISEF Categories and Subcategories List. For a full description and definition of these categories, visit the website: [www.sciserv.org/isef/students/research\\_categories.asp](http://www.sciserv.org/isef/students/research_categories.asp).*