

FAQ's Science Expo

Q: Are there guidelines or restrictions on what is allowed on student display?

A: Yes. Please refer to the Student Information Handout: <https://www.aacps.org/Page/1428>. Restricted items are not allowed and will be removed from the board and the display.

Q: Does my final project display have to be a tri-fold board?

A: No, you may use an electronic format such as a PowerPoint. Do not assume you will have Internet connection. You must provide your own electronic device.

Q: How will I know if my project has been selected for Regional Science Expo?

A: There are limited number of spots per school. The schools make the final selections and notify students. Do not assume that first place winners are automatically entered in the Regional Science Expo. If you have questions, please contact your school's Science Department Chairperson.

Q: What forms do I need to submit for my project?

A: All projects require the following forms:

- Checklist of Adult Sponsor (1)
- Student Checklist (1A)
- Research plan – This is your experimental design (question, hypothesis, materials list, procedure, data)
- Approval Form (1B)
- Risk Assessment Form (3) – not one of the required forms, but usually needed

These forms are on our main page; <https://www.aacps.org/Page/1428>. Some projects may require additional forms. There are videos on the website that explain how to complete the forms. Your science teacher and school's Science Department Chair can help you.

Q: What happens if there is a mistake on my forms?

A: Your forms will be reviewed as quickly as possible. Violation notices will be sent to the school's Science Department Chairperson. If you have provided an email address, you will receive an email notification as well. February 19 is the last day to clear violations. **Projects not cleared of violations by February 19 will be unable to compete and will be withdrawn.**

Q: Do I have to be present during judging?

A: Yes. Projects will not be judged if the student researcher is not present.

Q: Does each member of the team have to be present during judging?

A: No. As long as one team member is present, the project will be judged.

Q: Should I stay the entire judging period?

A: Yes. Projects are judged the entire time. There are two rounds of judging. If you leave early, you will miss the special awards and top prize awards.

Q: How are projects scored by the judges?

A: The Regional Science and Engineering Expo is affiliate with the International Science and Engineering Fair. We use their Science or Engineering rubrics to judge the projects. These rubrics are located on the main AACPS Science Expo page <https://www.aacps.org/Page/1428> under: "Judges Criteria." Each project is judged by at least two judges.

Q: What do parents do during judging?

A: Once the judging period starts, only judges are permitted in the project area. Parents may enter the project area at the end of judging.

Q: Will students be notified ahead of time if they won an award?

A: Student researchers will find out at the Awards Ceremony. We ask all student researchers to make every effort to attend the ceremony. Unclaimed awards will be sent to the student researcher's school.