



SDIRC Homeschool Forum



September 9, 2021

Office of Strategic Planning & Support Services

Department of Assessment &
Virtual Education

Agenda

- Welcome
- Introductions
- Schedule
- How to Access Science Fair Forms
- SSEF Information
- Special Considerations for SSEF
- Questions



Introductions

- Heather Holden
Coordinator of Assessment & Virtual Education
- Pat Hiser
Elementary Science Fair Coordinator
- Lisa Presti
Secondary Science Fair Coordinator





The Education Foundation and the Homeschool Office are looking for a Homeschool Volunteer Science Fair Coordinator

If you are interested, please contact Pat Hiser at

Patrick.Hiser@indianriverschools.org



Schedule of Events

December 10, 2021

Last day to have local fair

December 15, 2021

Electronic forms & project folders submitted

January 11, 2022

Coordinators Meeting

January 28, 2022

Fair Set-up for projects at Vero Beach H.S.

Elementary – Cafeteria

Secondary - Small Gym

January 29, 2022

Science Fair Judging at Vero Beach H.S.

February 1, 2022

Elementary Science Fair Awards at

Sebastian River H.S. at 6pm

February 3, 2022

Secondary Science Fair Awards at

Sebastian River H.S. at 6PM



Science Fair Forms

EdFoundationirc.org

Click: Our Programs/Science Fair/Science Fair Forms and Information



Science Fair Projects

Elementary can have individual projects, team projects (2 Partners) group projects or a class projects (Group and Class are represented by 2 students at the fair)

Secondary can have individual projects or team projects of 2-3





Questions?



Secondary Science Fair Projects

Information for the remainder of the slides is for secondary level projects only



SSEF

State Science & Engineering Fair

- Tuesday, March 29th through Thursday, March 31st, Lakeland Florida
- Some rules are more relaxed, but more specific.
- Remind students and all involved adults that proper ethics are expected.
- Plagiarism is unacceptable.
- Cite sources!



Special Considerations from SSEF

Research Plans:

- Step-by-step
- As specific as possible
- Metric units
- Include safety considerations (repeated on Form 3)
- Outline, in detail, aseptic and disposal techniques when applicable
- Any step performed by a supervising adult must be clearly identified
- Project summaries required only if the student makes a change from the original Research Plan

***Please make sure students who will be participating in the IRRSEF have submitted a current, accurate research plan. Changes are often made and not noted, which causes projects to be rejected by SSEF.



Special Considerations from SSEF

Human Participation Projects:

- If test subjects are minors, check “greater than minimal risk.”
- When submitting paperwork for IRRSEF, include a Verification of Informed Consent (VICF) and redacted Consent Form.
- Media, scripts, surveys, songs, lyrics etc. must be submitted with the project paperwork for prior-approval.
- Students are not permitted to provide medical diagnoses.
- Include Covid-19 safety precautions in both Research Plan and Form 3.



Special Considerations from SSEF

Non-Human Vertebrates:

- Students must provide an explanation of what will happen to the animals after the experiment is over (become pets, etc.)
- “If a member of any experimental group or subgroup dies during experimentation a degreed professional with experience in necropsy must document cause of death and absence of connection to experimentation.” Since finding such a professional is unlikely, any vertebrate deaths during experimentation will result in FTQ (Failure to Qualify).
- Use invertebrates whenever possible.
- Experimentation should never aim to cause pain or harm.
- Captured invasive species cannot be returned to the environment or euthanized by student researchers.



Special Considerations from SSEF

PHBA's:

- Research involving Corona-virus particles is prohibited.
- Junior division researchers are **NOT permitted** to open a culture or sub-culture. All samples must remain sealed until disposed of by DS.
- Senior division students may conduct research on some viruses, but only in a Registered Research Institute (additional requirements apply).
- The only acceptable methods of disposal are those outlined in ISEF rules or approved use of the institution's biohazard disposal procedure with detailed documentation.
- PHBA studies not conducted in RRI's must include a BSL1 or BSL2 checklist with paperwork for prior-approval.



Special Considerations from SSEF

Environmental Water Sample Collections:

- Under NO circumstances can any student make collections or samplings during an active cyanobacteria or red tide bloom.
- Documentation must be provided that confirms that samples were collected during non-bloom periods.
 - South Florida Water Management District report showing date and identification of agency showing no active blooms in the sample area.
- No cyanobacteria or red tide for Junior Division students.
- Senior Division students can study CB and RT only in a RRI.
- Include safety considerations (gloves, goggles, life jacket, parent permission, etc.) in both Research Plan and Form 3.



Special Considerations from SSEF

Collection of Organisms or Artifacts:

- Lots of things need permits!
- Refer to SSEF Rules Supplement for ALL details and Contact Resources.





Questions?



Thank you!

