

SCIENCE FAIR

Format: In-Person

Early Submission: Abstract must be submitted two weeks early on MyMIST

On-Site:

1. Three (3) copies of the abstract and any physical visual aids must be submitted to judges on-site at the time of the competition.
2. Presentation (Medium of choice)

Registration Guidelines:

1. The Science Fair competition is a team effort. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition.
 - a. One submission per MIST team/school.

Procedure:

1. Competitors must submit an abstract (5 pages or less) of their desired science fair project two (2) weeks prior to the date of the MIST Tournament to myMIST.
 - a. This must include the title page, the abstract itself, bibliography, and citations.
2. The presentation must be a minimum of 5 minutes and not exceed 7 minutes. There will be 3 minutes allocated to Q&A.
3. Science Fair projects may not be used if they were presented at previous MIST tournaments/other competitions.
4. Visual aids are required along with the speech. If computer usage is required, students must bring aid on a USB.
 - a. Visual aids can vary anywhere from a PowerPoint presentation to posters, pictures, props, and video clips.
 - b. You are encouraged to include figures, pictures, tables, and graphs.
5. In order for the Science Fair project to be complete each team must do their own active research.
 - a. The active research should consist of experiments, surveys, questionnaires, etc. and the results must be compiled and analyzed within the research paper.
 - b. If surveys and questionnaires have been conducted, they must be included in the presentation.
 - c. A scientific research question should be presented at the beginning of the abstract. The question should then be answered by the conclusion of the presentation.
6. At least two sources must be cited accurately within the abstract submission and a works cited page must be provided separate from the bibliography page that is required with the speech and visual aids.
 - a. Abstract and all citations must adhere to MLA format.
 - b. The abstract must be a maximum of five (5) pages maximum.
7. This Science Fair project should consist of four components - Each team must prepare the following items:
 - a. Speech
 - b. Visual Aids
 - c. Bibliography as part of your abstract
 - d. Abstract (with active research included)
8. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST Science Fair ballot.

Checklist:

- Three (3) copies of the Written abstract (500 words or less) of the desired science fair topic two (2) weeks prior to the date of the MIST tournament on myMIST.
- Visual aids that will be used for the presentation.
- The submission should be clearly labeled with:
 - MIST IDs (Of every group member)
 - Name of Competition

DETAILED BALLOT: SCIENCE FAIR

Section A: Technical

General Rules

Points: 5

- The competitors submitted three copies of their abstract, a three-paneled display board that can be easily transported and/or any other optional visual aids on time.
- Participants are all present and on time for the competition.
- The submissions include no identifiers aside from MIST ID Numbers.
- If used, the three-paneled display board has minimum dimensions of 36" x 48".
- The presenters appear professionally credible and appropriately dressed for an interview.
- The presentation is 5-7 minutes.
- Q&A is 3 minutes.
- Bonus: Three (3) bonus points can be given if the topic is relevant to the theme.

Abstract Rules

Points: 5

- The abstract is five (5) pages or less in length.
- The font is 12-point Times New Roman.
- The paper is double spaced.
- The margins are 1" on each side.
- The Bibliography includes all works cited in the presentation and at least two sources are cited.
- All citations are made with proper MLA format.

Section B: Presentation Components

Visual Aid

Points: 5

- Did the presenter use visual aids? Was it typed and not written?
- Was the visual presentation neat, uncluttered and clearly comprehensible?
 - Was the display well organized so that the parts of the presentation are logical?
- Did the presenter clearly tie their project with the visual aid used?
- Does the display stand alone?
 - Is it possible to understand the study without the competitor present?

Introduction, Body & Conclusion

Points: 15

- Did the presenter grab your attention with their introduction?
- Was the topic clearly stated in the introduction? Was the introduction brief and concise? Did the presenter preview and give focus to the key ideas?
- Did the presenter make effective use of signposting, internal summaries, and transitions?
 - Was there a logical progression of ideas?
- Was adequate time devoted to each section of the presentation within the 5-7 minute time limit?
- Did the presenter conclusively tie the speech together?
 - Was there a note of finality?

Section C: Technical

Scientific Thought

Points: 25

- Did the competitor ask his/her own original testable question that can be measured quantitatively?
- Was the scientific method followed?

- Does the competitor have his/her own original hypothesis that can be quantitatively measured and answers the question?
- Is that data quantitative and does it answer the question?
- Are all variables original? Are they all considered and identified?
- Were multiple trials performed if needed?
- Was the data clearly interpreted? Were the conclusions accurately based on this data?

Thoroughness

Points: 15

- Was the testable question original and the intellectual property of the competitor?
- Did the competitor individually collect all data available?
- Was the competitor able to explain any problems that arose?
- Did the competitor relate the work to what was reported in the literature?
- Was the study completed or brought to a logical stopping place?

Section D: Analysis and Content

Points: 20

- Did the presenter answer the question clearly?
- Was the content informative? Was the information pertinent to their specific topic? Was the information adequately documented?
- Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, and/or expert opinion? Was scientific literature examined?
- Was the study/research within the scope of the competitors' ability?
- Did the competitor approach the problem in an original manner with an original hypothesis?
- Was the study well thought out and did it show the competitor's initiative in thought and design?

Section E: Abstract

Points: 10

- Is the paper a maximum of 5 pages long?
- Does the abstract have at least 2 cited sources?
- Is there a works cited/reference page at the end of the abstract?
 - Is the formatting according to the MLA style?
- Has active research been conducted by the team and have the results been compiled and analyzed within the submission?
- Is the research question present answered through the paper?

SCIENCE FAIR BALLOT

		Subtotal
Section A	General Rules	_____ / 5 points
Section A	Abstract	_____ / 5 points
Section B	Visual Aid	_____ / 5 points
Section B	Intro, Body and Conclusion	_____ / 15 points
Section C	Scientific Thought	_____ / 25 points
Section C	Thoroughness	_____ / 15 points
Section D	Analysis and Content	_____ / 20 points
Section E	Abstract	_____ / 10 points

Total: _____/100 Points

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback
