

Northwest Science Expo System (NWSES) Information for high school students

NWSES is a connected system of science fairs in Oregon that qualify students for the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) held in May each year. All high school students must attend a regional science fair in the NWSES and finish in the top third to qualify for the state fair known as the Intel Northwest Science Expo. The Intel NWSE is held at Portland State University, usually the first weekend in April. Both regional fairs and the state fair send best of fair winners to the Intel ISEF. This trip is completely paid for by the science expo.

Getting Started

The first step is to review the Intel ISEF rule booklet. Certain types of projects require pre-approval from a school based review board or, if the research is conducted at a research institution, that institution's internal review committee. Using the template on page 31 of the ISEF rule book write your Research Plan. Once the research plan is written, select an Adult Sponsor. The Adult Sponsor can be a parent, teacher, or mentor. The Adult Sponsor is responsible for helping complete required forms, registering the project online, mailing the paperwork to the appropriate regional science expo, and distributing fair communications to the student. The Adult Sponsor should be someone who checks their email frequently.

Online Registration

The first job of the Adult Sponsor is to register him or herself, select the student's organization and select the regional science expo the student will attend by following the registration links at www.nwse.org. After the Adult Sponsor adds a project, the system assigns it an Exhibit Number. The Adult Sponsor must give this number and a password to the student for the student to complete their registration. The student can then use the Exhibit Number and password to complete the required forms for the project. Only the Adult Sponsor can complete Form 1 online; the student is responsible for completing the other forms. After a form is completed online print it out, as most forms require signatures. All projects need to have Forms 1 and 1B signed before the student starts the actual experimentation.

Once the project is finished, the Adult Sponsor confirms the project will actually attend the fair by clicking the confirm project button by the project online. **Copies** of all ISEF forms used, the Research Plan and Abstract are then mailed along with a check for any applicable registration fees to the regional science expo. The mailing address will be on the School/Organization form printed by the Adult Sponsor. While we prefer receiving all projects from a school in a single packet, as long as each Adult Sponsor sends all his projects together that is fine. Be sure all paperwork and fees arrive by the fair's deadline.

Handy Links

ISEF rules: http://www.societyforscience.org/isef/about/rules_regulations.asp

NWSE rules: <http://www.nwse.org/rulebook>

Online Registration for Adult Sponsors:

http://affiliatedfairs.org/fair_apps/login/user_login_form.php

Online Registration for Students: http://affiliatedfairs.org/fair_apps/login/project_login_form.php

Determine your Regional Science Expo: <http://www.nwse.org/nwsesmap>