

# YORK COUNTY SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

## RULES FOR THE YCSEF

### WHO MAY PARTICIPATE:

- Projects may be entered by any student in grade 7 through 12 in any school in York County.
- Full-time students attending school on a full-time basis are eligible to compete.
- Part-time or postgraduate students are ineligible.

### CLASSIFICATION:

Projects entered in the YCSEF junior and senior divisions will compete in one of the following categories as determined by the YCSEF Committee.

Animal Sciences	Energy & Transportation
Behavior & Social Sciences	Environmental Management
Biochemistry	Environmental Sciences
Cellular & Molecular Biology	Mathematical Sciences
Chemistry	Medicine & Health Sciences
Computer Science	Microbiology
Earth & Planetary Science	Physics & Astronomy
Engineering: Electrical & Mechanical	Plant Sciences
Engineering: Materials & Bioengineering	

### PROJECTS:

Current projects only are eligible to be entered in the YCSEF. Projects previously entered in a fair cannot be shown in the current fair unless there has been considerable expansion or development. Such expansion or development must be detailed in writing and attached to the project. This rule is to be interpreted to mean that a student is barred from entering a project similar to any shown previously by another student.

All forms must be filled out completely and returned on time in order for the project to be considered for the YCSEF.

Certain projects, such as those dealing with vertebrate animals, human subjects, or recombinant DNA, must complete additional forms other than those required for the standard project. These additional forms must be completed and turned in to the YCSEF committee before any research can begin on the project. A copy of all required forms can be found at the project wizard at the ISEF website below. Please refer to the schedule of meetings paper for these dates.

WEBSITE FOR RULES: <http://www.societyforscience.org/isef/rulesandguidelines>

## **PROJECT GUIDELINES:**

- Senior division projects must be confined to a space not exceeding 48 inches wide. Junior division projects must be confined to a space not exceeding 36 inches wide. Both Senior and Junior division projects cannot exceed a height of 9 feet (from floor to top) nor a depth of 30 inches (from front to back).
- No free-standing projects will be allowed. All projects will be placed on the tables supplied by the YCSEF.
- All projects must be self-supporting. Any moving parts must be firmly attached and protected.
- All projects must be accompanied by a YCSEF Project Certification Form. All students must remain by their project until their project is checked in and signed by a YCSEF official.
- All projects must be accompanied by descriptive, self-explanatory forms and necessary charts. Labels should be brief and neat.
- All research and experimentation must follow existing local, state and federal laws, especially in the areas of controlled substances, lasers, human subjects, tissue research, and recombinant DNA. Exhibits of human parts are prohibited except in the case of properly obtained teeth, hair, tissue sections, and liquid tissue slides. No live animals, preserved vertebrate animals or parts, including embryos, may be exhibited at YCSEF. Research involving the use of animals may display drawings, charts, or graphs to illustrate the conditions, developments, and results of the investigation. Sealed insect collections will be permitted on display.
- Photographs and other visual presentations of surgical techniques, dissection, autopsies and/or other laboratory techniques depicting vertebrate animals in other than normal conditions may not be displayed on the student's exhibit. These may be displayed in an accompanying notebook to be shown during judging only. Photographs of human subjects require signed consent forms (as per federal regulations).
- No liquid or soils can be included. You may not have plants with your projects. Use photographs instead.

## **SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:**

- The YCSEF can and will reject any project which it deems is a safety hazard to the public.
- Dangerous chemicals in open or sealed containers, harmful gasses, open flames, explosives, and starvation experimentation on animals will be strictly prohibited.
- Bacteria must be in a sealed container and removed immediately after judging.

## **ELECTRICITY:**

- Standard on/off switches that have been approved for 120 volt usage may be used as long as all electrical parts are in good working condition and approved by the YCSEF committee.
- All electrical circuits and equipment must be properly insulated and protected from contact by the public.

## **EXHIBITION:**

- While reasonable effort will be made to protect all projects against loss or damage, all projects are entered at the YCSEF at the risk of the exhibitor.
- The YCSEF, schools, PSY and the associated committees do not assume responsibility for any exhibit or part thereof.
- Students must not place their name or school on any part of the project, including notebooks, backdrops, etc. This will allow the judges to remain impartial in their judging.