



# DRSEF Guide for Students

Fair Day February 19-21, 2021

Sciencenter entry deadline February 5, 2021

## Preparing for the Fair

The first step towards advancing to the Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair is to enter the science fair at your local school as either an individual or as a team of 2 or 3 students. Top projects from school fairs advance to district fairs then top projects from district fairs advance to the regional fair. If you are homeschooled, email us at [DRSEF@SMU.edu](mailto:DRSEF@SMU.edu).

You can begin your background research at any time, but **before you begin your experiment** you need to set up a student account in Sciencenter (an online project management system used by science fairs in Texas). Your science teacher will provide you a link to Sciencenter. The [Sciencenter Student Guide](#) explains this process.

Based on the information you enter in Sciencenter, you will be guided to the forms you need to have approved **before you begin your experiment**. Sciencenter uses the information you provide to complete forms for your school fair as well as the regional, state and international science fairs. Important forms that must be completed and approved before experimentation begins include:

- 1) Scientific Review Committee (SRC) for projects with vertebrate animals or biological agents
- 2) Institutional Review Board (IRB) for projects with human participants such as surveys

## Fair Day

### Student check-in and Round 1 judging with student interviews

Students will check in at their scheduled time and provide day-of-fair phone number upon entering Zoom. Students project boards that were submitted online will have already been viewed for Display & Safety inspection. Please note that all project items are prohibited during your virtual interview.

All projects will be interviewed by 2 to 4 Category judges for ~10-minute interviews.

All team members must be present for interview or points will be lost. Interviews will be scheduled by the DRSEF team. No request will be accepted.

### Round 2 judging for larger categories, no student interviews

### Grand Prize qualifiers notified and return to Zoom

One project from each Category qualifies for the Grand Prize round. Qualifiers will be notified by phone with more information.

## Grand Prize judging with student interviews

A new set of judges will interview students for the Grand Prize round with winners determined in Life Science and Physical Science.

**TBA - Grand Prize Awards presented**

## Additional Information

**Results:** Results are posted online in the Dallas Morning News on Sunday and at [www.drsef.org](http://www.drsef.org).

**Awards:** Projects placing 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> in Category Judging receive the following cash prizes.

### Junior Division

1<sup>st</sup> \$175

2<sup>nd</sup> \$125

3<sup>rd</sup> \$75

4<sup>th</sup> \$50

### Senior Division

1<sup>st</sup> \$300

2<sup>nd</sup> \$200

3<sup>rd</sup> \$100

4<sup>th</sup> \$75

**Banquets: TBA**

**Advancing:** First and second place in Senior Division and first place in Junior Division from Category judging advance to the [Texas Science and Engineering Fair](#). Some students qualify to enter [Broadcom MASTERS](#) and to attend [Intel International Science and Engineering Fair](#).