



Judge Volunteer Form

The Georgia Science & Engineering Fair (GSEF) is Georgia's premier forum for students to showcase their original research, compete for awards, and interact with top scientists from around the state. Every year GSEF depends on the help of about 300 volunteer judges to interview the students about their research and select award winners. We hope you will join our team!

WHEN: Friday, March 31, 2017

WHERE: The Classic Center, 300 N Thomas St, downtown Athens, GA

APPLY BY: Return this form at your earliest convenience. We will gladly accept applications through February and March, but it is critical that we have a good count early as early as possible.

~~Return form by February 10, 2017:~~
We're still accepting forms!

EMAIL: gsef@georgiacenter.uga.edu
 FAX: 706-542-7537
 MAIL: GSEF, 1197 S Lumpkin St, Ste 198, Athens, GA 30602

1. First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

2. Institution/Company: _____

Major/Department: _____

Area(s) of Expertise: _____

3. Residence City/State: _____ 4. Cell Phone #: _____

We will only use your cell # to locate you during judging in the exhibit hall or if we have questions about your feedback day-of.

5. Other phone: _____

6. Primary email: _____
(please print clearly)

7. Backup email: _____
(please print clearly)

8. I have judged at previous GSEFs: **10+ years** **4-10 years** **1-3 years** **I'm new at this**

9. Education: **Doctorate** **Doctoral student** **MA/MS** **MA/MS student** **Bachelor's** **Undergrad student** **Other**

10. Please select the Division/Tier(s) for which you are best qualified and interested in judging (*see qualifications on following page*):

AND, in addition to my regular (Junior/Senior Div) judging duties, I can also serve as a:

- Junior Division**
- Senior Division Tier I** (Category Judge)
- Senior Division Tier II** (Category Chair)
- Senior Division Tier III** (Grand Awards)

- Junior Division Category Leader**
- Special Award Judge** (in the event an organization that has sponsored a special award cannot provide their own judges to determine their winners)

11. Rank three (3) or more Categories that you can judge by marking them 1, 2, 3, etc. We will try to assign you to one of your choices depending on project distribution. Starred * categories are where we *really* need more judges. See pg. 3 for more info.

12. List any **student(s)** and his/her current grade who might advance to GSEF and whom you have mentored, taught, or are related to:

Animal Sciences	Energy: Physical *
Behavioral & Social Sciences	Engineering Mechanics *
Biochemistry	Environmental Engineering *
Biomedical & Health Sciences	Materials Science *
Cellular & Molecular Biology	Mathematics
Chemistry	Microbiology
Computational Biology & Bioinformatics	Physics & Astronomy *
Earth & Environmental Science	Plant Sciences
Embedded Systems	Robotics & Intelligent Machines
Energy: Chemical *	Systems Software

Student Name:	Grade:

Judge Volunteer Details



Judge Qualifications

Senior Division Tier I, II, III Judges (Grades 9-12)

- doctorate or other terminal degree (PhD, MD, DDS, DVM, etc.), or
- substantial research experience in a PhD program in a scientific discipline, or
- bachelor's or master's degree and a minimum of six years of professional experience in a relevant discipline

Junior Division Judges (Grades 6-8)

- any of the Senior Division Tier Judge qualifications, or
- research experience in a relevant professional or industrial setting, or
- graduate standing in a discipline related to one of the project categories or in a relevant education program, or
- significant progress toward, or completion of, an undergraduate degree in a scientific discipline (additional info may be requested)

Thank you for serving as a GSEF judge! We absolutely could not provide this opportunity to our young researchers without your generous dedication of time, energy, and expertise. Each year it seems we see higher and higher quality of projects advancing to GSEF. It can be very difficult to determine which projects will win certain awards. In the interest of our student participants and the integrity of the awards process, we request that judges **commit to not speak to students about how they expect their project will place, even casually or encouragingly.** Thank you for your help in making GSEF a positive experience for all!

What will my experience be like?

Tier I: 9:15 AM – 3:30 PM

Needed: 175

Tier I judges range from first-timers to those with over twenty years of judging experience. They judge Senior Division, grades 9-12, during Round 1. After checking in, you will have training and orientation. You will be assigned a list of specific projects to judge, usually all in one category. You will be introduced to the Tier II judge to whom you will report. Then you will have 90 minutes to preview your assigned category while the students are away and to make notes for your interviews. While previewing your projects, you will also be alert for Special Award candidates. After your lunch (provided), the students arrive for Round 1. Interview a student, record a score, and fill in a Comments Sheet. When you have interviewed all your students, meet with your Tier II. Give him/her all your papers: Score Sheet, Comments Sheets, Top Four list, and Special Award recommendation slips. Only your Tier II may dismiss you. Please keep your cell phone on until at least 6:00 PM, in case we need to clarify anything.

Tier II: 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Needed: 15-20

Tier II judges have judged at least 3 years. Tier II and III judges meet together at 9:00 AM, then they join the Tier I judges for additional instruction. You will be assigned a group of Tier I judges (you will be responsible for collecting all their paperwork after judging). Then you will have 90 minutes to preview all the exhibits in your category. While previewing, you will also be alert for Special Award candidates. Tier II judges have a variety of different tasks during the Round 1 interview period – some also perform Tier I student interviews. After Round 1, you will meet with your Tier I judges to discuss their Top Four choices. Collect all their papers: Score Sheet, Comment Sheets, Top Four list, and Special Award recommendation slips, before you dismiss them. During Round 2, you will interview the Top Four and pare the list down to your own Top Three. After Round 2, discuss this list and your Best in Category choice(s) with your Tier III. Turn in any remaining score or comment sheets. Your Tier III will dismiss you. Please keep your cell phone on until at least 9:00 PM, in case we need to clarify anything.

Tier III: 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM

Needed: 10

Tier III judges have at least 4 years of Tier II experience. Tier II and III judges meet together at 9:00 AM, then they join the Tier I judges for additional instruction. After orientation, you will preview all exhibits in the Senior Division, looking for exhibits that fit the criteria of Special Awards. During judging, you will be discreetly talking with students, including those you suspect might end up on the Top Three lists, and you will conduct interviews for some Special Awards. You may be asked to assist or fill in for a Tier I or II judge during Round 1 or 2 or be assigned other responsibilities. You are responsible for checking that your Tier IIs have turned in all scores and comment sheets before you dismiss them. In the evening, you will discuss the Top Three and Best in Category suggestions and select winners.

Junior Division Judge: 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Needed: 125

Junior Division judges include many first-timers along with many experienced judges. You are welcome to arrive an hour early if you wish to preview exhibits before your 10:30 AM training and orientation. After training you will have a quick lunch (provided) and head for the exhibits. Junior judges are given a category in which to start but are not assigned specific exhibits. You may also judge outside your area. You select an exhibit, interview the student for 7-10 minutes, record a score, and fill in a comments sheet. While conducting interviews, you will also be alert for Special Award candidates. Everyone works until each student has been interviewed at least three times. You will be finished at the end of Round 1. Before leaving, be sure you have turned in all score sheets, comment sheets, and Special Award recommendation slips.

Junior Category Leader: 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM (in addition to your Tier I or Junior Division judging time)

Needed: 17

These are Tier or Junior Division judges who are also responsible for helping select Best in Category for a Junior Division category.

Special Awards Judge: 11:30 AM – varies, most done before 3:00 PM

Needed: 20

Special Award Judges judge a specific award for a particular sponsor. Qualifications and processes are different for every award. Some SPAWD Judges also serve as Tier or Junior Division judges, and some judge for more than one SPAWD. Most begin with orientation at 11:30 AM, during which you will receive an information packet and instructions for the specific award(s) you will be judging, as well as any Special Award Recommendation Slips filled out by other judges during previews. You are welcome to arrive an hour early to preview projects before the students arrive. Beginning at 11:45 AM you will interview the students you have selected as being contenders for your award. Once you have selected your winner(s), bring your SPAWD Selection Form to the GSEF Office before leaving. Please keep your cell phone on until at least 6:00 PM, in case we need to clarify anything.

Project Categories



ANIMAL SCIENCES

Animal Behavior
Cellular Studies
Development
Ecology
Genetics
Nutrition & Growth
Physiology
Systematics & Evolution

BEHAVIORAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Clinical & Developmental Psychology
Cognitive Psychology
Physiological Psychology
Sociology & Social Psychology

BIOCHEMISTRY

Analytical Biochemistry
General Biochemistry
Medicinal Biochemistry
Structural Biochemistry

BIOMEDICAL & HEALTH SCIENCES

Disease Diagnosis
Disease Treatment
Drug Development & Testing
Epidemiology
Nutrition
Physiology & Pathology

CELLULAR & MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Cell Physiology
Genetics
Immunology
Molecular Biology
Neurobiology

CHEMISTRY

Analytical Chemistry
Computational Chemistry
Environmental Chemistry
Inorganic Chemistry
Materials Chemistry
Organic Chemistry
Physical Chemistry

COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY & BIOINFORMATICS

Biomedical Engineering
Computational Pharmacology
Computational Biomodeling
Computational Evolutionary Biology
Computational Neuroscience
Genomics

EARTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Atmospheric Science
Climate Science
Environmental Effects on Ecosystems
Geosciences
Water Science

EMBEDDED SYSTEMS

Circuits
Internet of Things
Microcontrollers
Networking & Data Communications
Optics
Sensors
Signal Processing

ENERGY: CHEMICAL

Alternative Fuels
Computational Energy Science
Fossil Fuel Energy
Fuel Cells & Battery Development
Microbial Fuel Cells
Solar Materials

ENERGY: PHYSICAL

Hydro Power
Nuclear Power
Solar
Sustainable Design
Thermal Power
Wind

ENGINEERING MECHANICS

Aerospace & Aeronautical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Computational Mechanics
Control Theory
Ground Vehicle Systems
Industrial Engineering-Processing
Mechanical Engineering
Naval Systems

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Bioremediation
Land Reclamation
Pollution Control
Recycling & Waste Management
Water Resources Management

MATERIALS SCIENCE

Biomaterials
Ceramic & Glasses
Composite Materials
Computation & Theory
Electronic, Optical & Magnetic Materials
Nanomaterials
Polymers

MATHEMATICS

Algebra
Analysis
Combinatorics, Graph Theory, & Game Theory
Geometry & Topology
Number Theory
Probability & Statistics

MICROBIOLOGY

Antimicrobials & Antibiotics
Applied Microbiology
Bacteriology
Environmental Microbiology
Microbial Genetics
Virology

PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

Astronomy & Cosmology
Atomic, Molecular, & Optical Physics
Biological Physics
Computational Physics & Astrophysics
Condensed Matter & Materials Instrumentation
Magnetics, Electromagnetics & Plasmas
Mechanics
Nuclear & Particle Physics
Optics, Lasers, Masers
Quantum Computation
Theoretical Physics

PLANT SCIENCES

Agronomy
Ecology
Genetics/Breeding
Growth & Development
Pathology
Physiology
Systematics & Evolution

ROBOTICS & INTELLIGENT MACHINES

Biomechanics
Cognitive Systems
Control Theory
Machine Learning
Robot Kinematics

SYSTEMS SOFTWARE

Algorithms
Cybersecurity
Databases
Operating Systems
Programming Languages