

Display & Safety Regulations



The following is a summary of common display and safety issues. For any situation not addressed here, exhibitors must follow the Official ISEF Rules and Regulations:

<https://student.societyforscience.org/international-rules-pre-college-science-research>

DISPLAY REGULATIONS



Maximum Size of Project

| | | |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|
| Depth | (front to back) | 30 inches |
| Width | (side to side) | 48 inches |
| Height | (tabletop to top) | 72 inches |

GSEF projects *must* be exhibited on the tabletop. No floor exhibits. No part of a GSEF exhibit may be placed on the floor or under the table. All project materials, supports, equipment, and demonstrations must be contained on the tabletop. Displays do not have to be trifold boards; pull-ups and pop-ups are allowed if within allowed dimensions.

Official Abstract

The complete, unaltered 8.5x11 Official GSEF Abstract Form (*preferred*) or the complete, unaltered 8.5x11 Official 2019 ISEF Abstract Form are the only abstracts that may be exhibited. It must be displayed vertically, preferably by taping it to hang from the front edge of the table. It is acceptable, but not preferred, to incorporate the form on the display board or to stand it in a document frame (no glass). Abstract Forms do not need to be stamped or embossed. **You *may not* have a section titled "Abstract" on your board unless the section contains only an Official Abstract Form** (not just the abstract text).

Other Forms to Tape to Table

If your research required the following forms, they must be taped to the front of your table/displayed vertically:

- Form (1C) Regulated Research Institutional/Industrial Setting
- Form (7) Continuation Project

Binder & Required Forms

Arrange **photocopies** (*not* originals - keep those at home in a safe place!) of all other required forms in numeric order in a **three-ring binder** placed on the table. Required forms include, but are not limited to:

- Form (1): Checklist for Adult Sponsor
- Form (1A): Student Checklist
- Research Plan/Project Summary
- Form (1B): Approval Form
- Forms (1C) through (7) as required for your project

Optional items such as research paper may also be included.

Log Book & Other Items on Tabletop

Although ISEF regulations no longer require a bound logbook, judges like to see this item and it is highly recommended. Your logbook should be on your table.

Other items on tabletop may include a photo album of the work, previous logbooks for Continuation projects, and items that are necessary to demonstrate the science if the board and binder are not sufficient, provided these items do not violate any other Display & Safety Regulations.

Continuations

A project that is a continuation of a previous year's work must be about the student's new work for this year, with minimal reference to the previous research. It is preferred for the project title or subtitle to mention which year the project is; e.g., "Year 2." Longitudinal studies may present only conclusive data from prior years. Continuation projects must have Form (7) taped to front of table.

Human Subject Consent Forms

When human participants are involved in a project, their signed consents should be obtained but not displayed or kept in display binder, as they are confidential. Place a note in your binder stating where these forms are being kept.

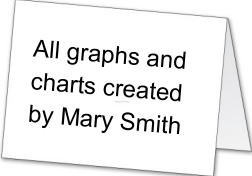
Allowable Handouts

The only handout allowed is an UNALTERED photocopy of the complete 8.5x11 Official Abstract Form. You are permitted (but not required) to bring up to 20 unaltered photocopies of your Official Abstract form to GSEF to distribute to judges. GSEF will *not* make these copies for you. You may not distribute any other items or forms of information.

SAFETY REGULATIONS

Displayed Graphs, Images, & Photos

Credits: You must cite the source of every photo, graph, table, chart or other images, including those made by the student and those taken from the internet, journals and books. The citation must state who created the graph/chart/table, who took the photograph, or where a photo or image came from. For example: "All photographs by Jon Kim," or "Image from www.wherever.com." Credit lines may be placed next to each item or elsewhere on the front of the board. If all graphs/images were created by the exhibitor or are from the same source, one clearly visible credit line or on a "tent" on the table is sufficient.



All graphs and charts created by Mary Smith

Content: Photos or images on board must not be deemed insensitive, offensive or inappropriate (e.g., no surgery, necrosis or dissection) by any member of the SRC, the Display & Safety Committee or GSEF staff. The decision made by any one of these groups is final.

Photograph Release

Photos/videos of people other than the finalist are not allowed unless a signed photograph release is available at the project. If the person is under 18, parent or guardian signature is required. Sample text: "I consent to the use of this visual image involving my participation/my child's participation in this research." Keep these releases in your binder. There is no specific official form for this purpose.

Mentor's Work / Acknowledgements

The mentor's name and institution must not appear anywhere on the display but may be mentioned in the optional research paper in the binder. A mentor's research is **not** a part of the student research project and must **not** be included in the display. Very minimal reference to work done by a mentor or others may be included *only* as background to clarify what the student's own research did and did not cover and must clearly indicate that it was not part of the student's work.

Replacement of Disqualified Items

If any GSEF representative requests that an object or item be removed from a display and that item is returned to the exhibit without specific permission from the GSEF Director, the project may be disqualified.

Audio-Visual or Multi-Media

At GSEF, electronic displays, e.g., PowerPoints or videos, for non-computer science projects are discouraged unless they are *necessary* to demonstrate the science. Judges are not required to view them. Displays must be under 30 seconds, with 15 seconds preferred. GSEF will discourage but ultimately is not responsible for equipment theft.

Electricity at Project

If you want electricity at your table, you must submit the Electricity Request Form and fee with your registration. Electricity will be approved only for projects that require it to demonstrate the research (e.g., some computer science and engineering projects). If electricity is approved, an outlet will be provided within nine feet of the exhibit. The exhibitor must bring an approved extension cord.

Lighting

Lighting will not be approved for decorative purposes but may be approved if necessary to demonstrate the science. The electricity fee (\$100) must be submitted with registration.

All other Official ISEF Rules and Regulations regarding electricity must be followed. If you are using electricity, please be sure to read the complete rules thoroughly and follow them precisely:
<https://student.societyforscience.org/intel-isef-display-and-safety-regulations>

Bulb and fixture must not pose risk of injury if touched. Cool LED light is preferred. Incandescent, halogen and other warm light sources must be caged, encased, or otherwise protected so that 1) it is not possible to burn any person or item with any part of the apparatus, bulb, fixture, or casing, and 2) no glass can escape if the bulb is accidentally broken.

Lasers

Lasers may be used only when they follow the Official ISEF Rules and Regulations. Display & Safety Inspectors may revoke the privilege and require lasers to be removed if any careless or indiscriminate use is observed. Offenses may result in revoking the right to participate.

Stability

All parts of the exhibit must be stable. Particular care must be taken with tall or heavy displays to ensure that they cannot tip over onto participants, judges, or guests.

Other Safety Policies

GSEF staff and/or the Display & Safety Committee reserve the right to remove any item or entire project at their discretion for safety reasons or to protect the integrity of the GSEF and its rules and regulations.

Laptops/Tablets

If you are bringing a laptop or other valuable electronic device, consider investing in a security device such as a locking cable system to secure your item at the exhibit. GSEF will take measures to discourage theft/damage to exhibits or parts of exhibits, including electronics, but is ultimately not responsible should theft or damage occur.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT PROJECTS

Not Allowed Per Safety Regulations:

- **Living or dead organisms**, including fungi, animals, plants and microorganisms
- **Taxidermy specimens, parts, pelts**
- **Preserved vertebrate or invertebrate animals** or animal parts, including cells
- Human or animal **food** of any kind
- Human or animal **parts or body fluids** (e.g., bones, urine, blood)
- **Plant materials** including potpourri, grain, birdseed, spices, leaves, flowers, logs, branches, etc. Plastic or other inorganic replicas or photographs should be used instead. (Exception: manufactured construction materials used in building the project or display)
- **Soil, sand, rock, cement, or waste** samples, even if permanently encased in acrylic
- **All chemicals**, including water.
- **All liquids, gels, powders, and creams** (e.g., shampoo, sunscreen, salt, soap, agar, etc.)
- **Dry ice** or other sublimating solids
- **Hazardous substances or devices** (e.g. poisons, drugs, firearms, weapons, ammunition, reloading devices, grease/oil and sublimating solids such as dry ice, etc.)
- **Sharp items** (e.g. syringes, needles, pipettes, knives)
- **Flames or highly flammable materials**
- **Glass** or glass objects unless deemed by the Display & Safety Committee to be an integral and necessary part of the project (e.g., glass that is an integral part of a computer screen)
- **Any apparatus with belts, pulleys, chains, or moving parts** with tension or pinch points that are not fully immobilized or shielded
- **Batteries** with open-top cells or wet cells
- **Drones or any flight-capable apparatus** unless propulsion power source is removed
- **3D printers** unless power source is removed
- Any apparatus or item deemed unsafe by any member of the SRC, the Display & Safety Committee, judges, or the GSEF staff (e.g., vacuum tubes or dangerous ray-generating devices, pressurized or empty tanks that previously contained combustibles, etc.)

Not Allowed Per Display Regulations:

- Any items that are **acknowledgments, self-promotions, or external endorsements** (such as naming the research institution or mentor, or patent pending statements)
- **Awards**, medals, flags, logos (including school and university logos)
- **Give-away items** such as flyers, pens, postcards, CDs, business cards, etc. (Exception: Exhibitors may give out up to 20 unaltered copies of the Official Abstract Form)
- **Postal addresses, URLs** (other than those used solely to cite the sources of photos), **email addresses, social media handles, QR codes, phone/fax numbers** of any exhibitor or his/her school or research institution
- **Active Internet** or email connections
- For Continuation projects, no prior years' written material or visual depictions on the display board. However, previous years' logbooks and binders may be on the table if desired and if clearly marked, e.g. "Year 1."



No changes, modifications, or additions to projects may be made after approval by the Display & Safety Committee.

Exhibitors who do not adhere to this regulation will fail to qualify for competition.