# Official 2021 GSEF Abstract Form

This form is the *preferred* Official Abstract Form for the 2021 Georgia Science & Engineering Fair; however, the "OFFICIAL ABSTRACT and CERTIFICATION" form obtainable from the ISEF website will also be accepted at GSEF as meeting the Official Abstract Form requirement, as long as the form is properly completed (but does not have to be embossed).

Project Title:

Student Name(s):

School Name & City:

Type abstract below. Abstracts must be a MAXIMUM of 250 words. See next page for more details.

**CATEGORY**
**Pick one only —**
**mark box at right**

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

1. As part of this research project, the student directly handled, manipulated, or interacted with (check ALL that apply):

   ☐ human participants   ☐ potentially hazardous biological agents
   ☐ vertebrate animals   ☐ microorganisms   ☐ rDNA   ☐ tissue

2. I/we worked or used equipment in a regulated research institution or industrial setting:   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

3. This project is a continuation of previous research.   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

4. My display board includes non-published photographs/ visual depictions of humans (other than myself):   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

5. This abstract describes only procedures performed by me/us, reflects my/our own independent research, and represents one year's work only.   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

6. I/we hereby certify that the abstract and responses to the above statements are correct and properly reflect my/our own work.   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

# Completing the Abstract:

Abstracts are limited to a maximum of 250 words and must fit within the predefined area. Please be sure to consult the information from your local or regional fair for the proper formatting of the header information as fairs differ in what is required (or not allowed).

The abstract **should include the following:**
A) *Purpose of the experiment*
B) *Procedure*
C) *Data*
D) *Conclusions*

It may also include any possible research applications. Only minimal reference to previous work may be included.
An abstract **must not include the following:**
A) *Acknowledgements (including naming the research institution and/or mentor with which you were working), or self-promotions and external endorsements*
B) *Work or procedures done by the mentor*

# Tips for Writing an Abstract:

A project abstract is a brief paragraph or two (limited to 250 words or 1,800 characters) highlighting and/or summarizing the major points or most important ideas about your project. An abstract allows judges to quickly determine the nature and scope of a project.

- Emphasize these aspects: purpose (hypothesis), methods (procedures used), data summary or analysis, and conclusions.

- Focus only on the current year's research.

- Omit details and discussions.

- Use the past tense when describing what was done. However, where appropriate use active verbs rather than passive verbs.

- Use short sentences. Don't abbreviate by limiting articles or other small words in order to save space.

- Avoid jargon and use appropriate scientific language.

- Use concise syntax, correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

# Avoid a Rewrite:

- Focus on what you did, not on the work of your mentor or of the laboratory in which you did your work.

- Do NOT include acknowledgements, self-promotion, or external endorsements. Don't name the research institution and/or mentor with which you were working, and avoid mentioning awards or honors (including achieving a patent) in the body of the abstract.

- Be sure to emphasize the current years' research. A continuation project should only make a brief mention of previous years' research (no more than a sentence or two).