Required Materials: Exhibit & Summary Video

The virtual Exhibit and Summary Video replace the physical poster display used during in-person fairs. The Exhibit may be in the format of the Digital Board or the Presentation Document. The Exhibit and Summary Video must adhere to the Regulations listed here and meet all GSEF Virtual Project Guidelines.

Abstracts

The term “abstract” should NOT be used as a title or reference for any information in the Exhibit or any other project materials other than the Official Abstract Form, which is submitted separately from the Exhibit. It is recommended that the form not be incorporated into the Exhibit. GSEF will provide the submitted Official Abstract Form to the judges.

Continuations (see ISEF rules p. 4)

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 conclusionary data from prior years.

Human Informed Consent/Assent Forms

Informed consent/assent forms that identify the actual participants of a study are NOT to be submitted to GSEF or shared at any point. A sample (incomplete) form may be included as part of the research paper, but under NO CIRCUMSTANCE should the informed consent/assent forms be submitted or shared. Note, this does not apply to completed Form 4 signed by IRB, which must be submitted to GSEF.

Displayed Graphs, Images, & Photos

Credits: You must cite the origin 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 John Kim,” or “Image from www.wherever.com.” Credit lines may be placed next to each item or elsewhere in the Exhibit. If all graphs/images were created by the exhibitor or are from the same source, one clearly visible credit line is sufficient. All credits must be within the Exhibit size/page limitations per the GSEF Virtual Project Guidelines.

Content: Photos or images on board must not be deemed insensitively offensive or inappropriate (e.g., no surgery, necrosis or dissection) by any member of the GSEF review team.

Photograph/Video of Individual Other than Exhibitor

Photo/video of people other than the exhibitor are not allowed as any part of project materials. Photos or videos that show an individual other than the student exhibitor must have the individual’s identifying features redacted or sufficiently blurred so as to conceal the individual’s identity. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis with justification and photograph release; to be considered, email the justification for requesting an exception to GSEF@georgiacenter.uga.edu.

Mentor’s Work / Acknowledgements

The mentor’s name and institution may NOT appear anywhere on the Exhibit but may be mentioned in the optional research paper. 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.

Audio-Visual or Multi-Media

Electronic displays, e.g., PowerPoints or videos (other than Summary Video), 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 60 seconds, with 15-30 seconds preferred.

NOT ALLOWED in any project materials or during interview:

- Any items that are acknowledgments, self-promotions, or external endorsements. (Mentor or research institution may be mentioned in optional research paper but MAY NOT be in the Exhibit.)
- Awards, medals, flags, logos (including school and university logos)
- Postal addresses, URLs (other than those used solely to cite sources), email addresses, social media handles, QR codes, phone/fax numbers of any exhibitor or their school or research institution.
- Active hyperlinks. No live links may be included in any part of the project materials. This includes internet, file, and internal document hyperlinks. All links must be deactivated prior to submission.
- Active internet/email connections.
- Reference to past work on the display board must be limited to summative past conclusionary data and its comparison to the current year data set. No raw data from previous years may be displayed; however, it may be included in a log book excerpt if clearly labeled, e.g. “Year 1.”

NOT ALLOWED in Summary Video or during interview:

- Living or dead organisms, incl. fungi, animals, plants, microorganisms
- Taxidermy specimens, parts, pelts
- Preserved vertebrate or invertebrate animals or animal parts or 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, etc. (Exception: manufactured construction materials)
- Soil, sand, rock, cement, or waste samples, even if encased in acrylic
- All chemicals, including water
- All liquids, gels, powders, and creams (e.g., shampoo, 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 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 GSEF

The GSEF review team reserves the right to redact/remove any section of a project at its discretion for concerns related to individual privacy, sensitive content, and/or Display & Safety violations. The exhibitor will be informed of any non-trivial change made to project prior to judging.