

Official 2026 GSEF Abstract Form

Required for all projects. Must be displayed vertically at project booth. See GSEF Display & Safety Regulations.

Project Title:

Student Name(s):

School Name & City:

TYPE ABSTRACT ↓ Abstracts must be at least 10 point font and no more than 250 words / 1,800 characters.

SELECT CATEGORY ↓

Please be consistent across all forms and materials.

Animal Sciences ☐

Behavioral & Social Sciences ☐

Biochemistry ☐

Biomedical & Health Sciences ☐

Biomedical Engineering ☐

Cellular & Molecular Biology ☐

Chemistry ☐

Computational Biology & Bioinformatics ☐

Earth & Environmental Sciences ☐

Embedded Systems ☐

Energy: Sustainable Materials & Design ☐

Engineering Mechanics ☐

Environmental Engineering ☐

Materials Science ☐

Mathematics ☐

Microbiology ☐

Physics & Astronomy ☐

Plant Sciences ☐

Robotics & Intelligent Machines ☐

Systems Software ☐

Translational Medical Sciences ☐

ANSWER PROMPTS ↓

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



Abstract Guidelines:

Abstracts are limited to a maximum of 250 words or 1,800 characters (including spaces) and must fit within the predefined area with a font size no smaller than 10 point.

The abstract **should include the following:**

- A) Purpose of the experiment
- B) Procedure/methodology used
- C) Most important/significant results you found
- D) Conclusions/research applications

It may also include any possible research applications. Only minimal reference to previous work may be included. An abstract **should 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, including spaces) 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.
- 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).