





How to Science Fair

Check out our website for access to all the resources and project steps listed here!

clas.ucdenver.edu/denversciencefair /how-science-fair

1. Planning & Preparing

- Check out our video on Getting Started.
- Decide if you will be working by yourself or as a team (3 people max). Begin to identify your teachers, mentors, parents, and other adults that will be involved.
- Begin narrowing down your interests for a science fair project and start learning more about your topic and field of study.
 - o There are resources on the *Students Page* for selecting a topic.
 - Check out the 2021 DMRSEF Showcase or the ISEF Project Database for inspiration.
- Familiarize yourself with the *ISEF Rule Book* before deciding on a project.
- Talk to subject matter experts. Reach out to the DMRSEF team if you need help locating an expert or mentor.
- Apply for a science fair mini grant to fund your science on the Student Grants tab
 of our website.

2. Getting Involved

- Join our Monthly Newsletter for updates from the DMRSEF team.
- Attend a Season Kickoff event.
- Register yourself for the fair, you do not need a completed project to register!
- Sign up to participate in pre-season events for help along the way.
 - Attend Speak with a Scientist programs to meet cool mentors and get project inspiration.
 - Join us for Science Fair Q&A programs with any questions or ideas you might have. DMRSEF staff can help you with paperwork, project plans, resources, and more!

3. Designing Your Project

- Make sure you have a testable question or design goal.
- Check out our video guides on formulating Your Research Question and Your Hypothesis.
- Plan your experimental procedures.
- Make sure any forms that require signatures before the start of experimentation are ready to go. See our *Forms & Rules Page* to learn more.
- Check your project plan against All DMRSEF and ISEF Rules. Reach out to the DMRSEF team if you have questions!
- If you are working with a team, have a clear plan for collaboration and division of work.
- Work with your adults to ensure your project plan and materials are ready to go before beginning your experiments.
 - Check out our video on Methods and Materials.
- Obtain any necessary pre-preapprovals from review boards (IRB/SRC/IACUC).
 - Learn more about Regulatory Bodies in this video.
 - Check out the helpful SRC Preapproval Flowchart from CSEF.
 - o Reach out to the DMRSEF team if you need assistance with a preapproval.

4. Start Experimenting

- Complete your paperwork (Some forms must be completed prior to the start of experimentation)!
 - o All forms can be found on the Forms and Rules page of our website.
 - o Use the *ISEF Rules Wizard* to determine which forms your project requires.
 - The Denver Science Fair's Guide to ISEF Forms video playlist walks you through how to complete your paperwork in short videos.
- Gather your materials.
- Conduct your experiment.
 - Check out our video on Your Experiment.
- Take good notes as you go, including pictures and videos of your experiment and procedures.

6. Get Fair Ready

- Familiarize yourself with virtual and in-person display and safety regulations.
- Begin creating virtual AND physical display materials.

ONLINE MATERIAL SUBMISSION OPENS: FEBRUARY 1, 2022 ALL MATERIALS MUST BE UPLOADED BY: FEBRUARY 11, 2022

- o Check out our video on *Preparing Your Poster*.
- Our 2021 Competition Ready Series video playlist on YouTube includes recordings of last year's virtual help sessions.
- Attend DMRSEF Competition Ready Series SciComm events and workshops to help prepare your materials.
- Practice presenting and answering questions to stay familiar with your project.
- Work with the SRC to correct any errors in your project/paperwork submission.
 FINAL CORRECTIONS DUE BY: FEBRUARY 11, 2022
- Keep an eye on your inbox for Display and Safety approval or corrections needed on your virtual display materials.

FINAL CORRECTIONS DUE BY: FEBRUARY 21, 2022

5. Complete Your Project

- Analyze your findings.
 - Check out our video on Conclusions.
- Be sure to complete and double-check your paperwork.
 - Keep an eye out for pre-season events designed to help with this process!
- Determine the proper category for your project.
 - Check out our Complete Category Guide.
 - Our regional SRC will verify this is the right selection when reviewing your project submission.
- Submit your project details and paperwork to DMRSEF.
 PROJECT SUBMISSION OPENS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2021
 FINAL PROJECT SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2022

7. Celebrate Your Science

59th Annual DMRSEF

Friday, February 25, 2022 & Saturday, February 26, 2022

- Make sure you have everything you need ready ahead of time (poster, paperwork, lab notebooks, etc).
- Communicate with your teachers, chaperones, and parents for drop-off and pickup schedules.
- Dress professionally and wear comfortable shoes!
- Be prepared for a weekend of science celebrations!