

Email Update: Jan. 27, 2015

Hello Regional Fair 2014 & 2015 Registered Teachers;

In this important message: REMINDERS

REMEMBER THE REGIONAL FAIR IS EARLIER THIS YEAR: MARCH 7, 2015

- 1) **Regional Fair PRE-REVIEW AND REGISTRATION deadlines (earlier also);** Explanations about online registration, what information is needed, when it is needed, cost to attend the fair
- 2) **Reminder of Changes for the 2015 Regional Fair** regarding the number of students you can advance from your school
- 3) Don't forget to have projects **follow Display Rules** if they plan to attend the Regional Fair

All of this information is posted on the NE Indiana Regional Science & Engineering Fair website:
www.ipfw.edu/scifair

1) Regional Fair Deadlines: What is needed this week at the high school level

Wednesday, January 28, 2015: Deadline for Senior Division students to submit paperwork or online projects that require Pre-Experiment Review (see info. Below)

Senior Division ONLY (grades 9th-12th): Deadline to enter projects for online SRC Pre-Experimentation Review if your projects involves the items below:

SENIOR HIGH PROJECTS THAT NEED PRE-EXPERIMENT REVIEW: If you have senior high students who are doing projects that involve vertebrate animals, human participants, and/or many projects involving potentially hazardous biological agents (i.e. bacteria, viruses, viroids, prions, rickettsia, fungi, and parasites, recombinant DNA, blood, body fluids, and animal or human fresh/frozen tissue); these students must place their research plan on the SEFI website and all appropriate ISEF (International Science & Engineering Fair) forms must be submitted to IPFW for review prior to the students doing these projects. This is done to ensure the use of proper protocol for safety, privacy, and other general ethical/safety considerations. **Please contact either the NEIRSEF Program Assistant, Caryl Spira at spirac@ipfw.edu or the fair director for questions and concerns about this step, the deadline, or for encountering any problems with the SEFI website.** Here is where your students will go to register these types of projects, submit the information needed, answer some initial questions which will link the student to the forms needed: www.sefireg.org

Important news: Junior Division Middle School Projects no longer require a formal pre-experiment review by IPFW of projects involving animals and human participants; however, the fair is relying on teachers to review closely these projects themselves or have appropriate staff review these projects within their own school/school system to make certain they follow correct experiment protocol. Projects that do not follow correct procedures run the risk of not being eligible to win Regional Fair awards or advance to state. **See below a link to a new, very simple guide on the regional fair website to help you do this review task.****

Friday, February 20, 2015 by 5 p.m.

FAIR REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR ALL GRADES 4-12 (the Regional Fair WILL NOT have grades K-3 this year)

Online Fair Registration for grade 4-12 through the SEFI site: www.sefireq.org

Junior Division: Elementary students (gr. 4-5)

Junior division-Middle School students (gr. 6-8) and

Senior Division-High School students (gr. 9-12)

Junior Division: Elementary students do not need to submit any printed forms for the regional fair. However, all elementary projects with students from 4th and 5th grade who are attending the regional fair must have project information entered online at the SEFI website when the students are registered by the February 20th deadline so that the fair staff can plan accordingly for the type of projects and judges needed at the fair.

Junior Division: Middle School students also do not need to submit any printed forms for the regional fair. However, all middle school projects with students in 6th-8th grade who are attending the regional fair must complete Project Information online at the SEFI registration site so that the IPFW Regional Fair Review Committee can review all projects. One thing the SRC will be looking for is to make certain students attending at the middle school level have followed appropriate guidelines if they involved animals and humans. The SRC will also check to make certain that there are no projects that are prohibited by the Science Education Foundation of Indiana (SEFI) which is the organization that oversees all fairs.

WARNING: Prohibited projects at the Junior Division Middle School level for the regional fair include: radioactive substances, hazardous chemicals including prescription drugs, firearms, explosives, tobacco, alcohol, DEA controlled substances, and biological agents, and projects that involve the study of microorganisms including bacteria, viruses, prions, fungi, and parasites. Very few bacterial studies might be allowed if done at a school under the supervision of a properly trained teacher in the appropriate environment (lab) at school. These labs are typically not found in elementary schools and are not in most middle schools. Contact us for questions.

NEW RESOURCE! Middle School Teachers and students may access a new resource to make certain their projects are eligible for awards at the regional fair and eligible to advance to the state fair by going to the following link on the Regional Fair website:

<http://sites.ipfw.edu/scifair/EmailNewsUpdates.htm> See the new Student Guide and Procedures for Teachers on this page.**

Senior Division Project Paperwork: All senior division students will also need to submit before the fair and by the registration deadline online project information as indicated on the SEFI website and will also need to submit to IPFW ALL of their research projects ISEF forms that require signatures. The ISEF rules, information, and forms can be found at: <https://student.societyforscience.org/international-rules-pre-college-science-research> When senior division students answer questions at the SEFI site, they will see the forms listed that are required on their student page.

Wednesday, March 4, 2015 : Deadline to pay project entry fee

\$10 per project (a team project=1 project)

Check or money order payable to IPFW

Mail to:

IPFW

Science Fair Program Asst. - ET 243

2101 E. Coliseum Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Saturday, March 7, 2015

60th Northeast Indiana Regional Science & Engineering Fair

Conducted at IPFW in Walb Student Union Classic Ballroom and International Ballroom.

Information will be posted and sent to teachers regarding fair details.

2) How many students advance from your school to the regional fair? Changes this year: please note the changes to this "formula" below of how many students you can advance (this information can be found at the Regional Fair website under registration: <http://sites.ipfw.edu/scifair/Registration.htm>)

New Junior Division (grades 4-8) We encourage schools to send one student from each allowable grade however if you feel your best projects are from the same grade, you may send two from a grade as long as you don't exceed the total allowable entries from your type of school.

Elementary schools with **grades K-5: 2 entries MAXIMUM**; one project from each grade: 4th, 5th

Elementary schools with **grades K-6: 3 entries MAXIMUM**; one project from each grade: 4th, 5th, & 6th

Middle schools with **grades 6-8: 3 entries MAXIMUM**; one project from each grade: 6th, 7th, & 8th

Jr/Senior High Schools with **grades 7-12: 2 entries MAXIMUM**; one project from each grade : 7th & 8th

High schools with **grades 9-12: 5 senior division entries MAXIMUM**

**Team projects (2- 3 members) are counted as one entry*

3) Display Guidelines for the Regional Fair: As always, the Regional Fair expects all project displays to adhere to the rules established by the International Fair and including some additional guidelines required by IPFW. These can be found at: <http://sites.ipfw.edu/scifair/DisplayRules.htm>

Please contact us with any concerns you may have regarding the Regional Fair.

Carol Dostal, NEIRSEF Director

Caryl Spira, NEIRSEF Program Assistant