General Information

The 2020 North Carolina Region 4 Science and Engineering Fair will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2020 in the Jones Health and Physical Education Center (Auxiliary Gym) on the campus of UNC Pembroke. For on-campus directions, please use the following link: http://www.uncp.edu/campus-map.

Students can check-in and begin setting up their displays at 7:30 am. The awards ceremony will conclude at 2:45 pm. For a complete schedule of events see the itinerary posted on the fair website at: https://www.uncp.edu/departments/chemistry-physics/north-carolina-region-4-science-engineering-fair

Deadline for application materials is Monday February 11, 2019.

The North Carolina State Science and Engineering Fair is affiliated with the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) for grades 9-12. Projects that are winners in their categories will be sent from the state level competition to participate in the 2019 ISEF in Phoenix, AZ. In order for our students to be more competitive at the state science fair we will follow the rules set by ISEF.

Important items of interest for the 2019-2020 fair season:

• **NO FEE FOR THIS YEAR’S REGIONAL FAIR.** The Region 4 Fair Fee of $4.00 has been waived, due the generosity of Duke Energy. Thank you, Duke Energy!

• **REGION 4 WILL BE PAYING THE STATE LEVEL FAIR FEE.** Once again, due to the generosity of Duke Energy, the Region 4 Fair will be paying the entrance fee for all those participants who are selected to advance to the state level fair.

• **ALL** grade levels are to use the official ISEF forms (see links and discussion below). The use of the one page Elementary and Middle School Research Plan and Approval Form was discontinued several years ago.

• **NO Elementary Projects involving the culturing of Microorganisms are allowed.** Due to the risks and safety rules associated with culturing microorganisms, the NCSEF has decided to restrict these projects to the JUNIOR AND SENIOR LEVELS ONLY. Microorganisms include, but are not limited to: bacteria, fungi (including molds), viruses, viroids, prions, rickettsia, and parasites. ALL junior and senior level projects involving microorganisms must follow the ISEF Rules regarding culturing, handling and disposal. **Students at all levels may NOT grow microorganisms at home.** This also applies to
any projects in which microorganisms are grown unintentionally for instance on rotting food or biological material.

- The Region 4 Fair will be utilizing the same on-line application software as the NC Science and Engineering Fair. This is the “STEM Wizard” software is NEW this year. We strongly encourage you to view the “Step by-step Guide to Registering” presentation on our website (see links list on last page).

- This year there will be seven categories at the Jr/Sr levels. They are: Biology A, Biology B, Chemistry, Earth/Environmental Science, Physics & Mathematics, Technology, and Engineering. A description of these categories can be found on the NC Science and Engineering Fair website: [http://ncsef.org/index.php/rules/categories](http://ncsef.org/index.php/rules/categories) Teachers please ensure your students choose the proper category!

**Application Information**

(Note: Registration will open on January 1, 2020 and must be completed on-line by February 11, 2020)

Again this year the Region 4 fair will be using the “STEM Wizard” software which is new this year. It is the same software that is used to register for the state level fair. Please read and follow the “Step-by-step Guide to Registering” on the fair webpage! If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

Teachers please note, the students must register individually. Teachers cannot, and do not need to, register their school. Also, each student will need a valid, unique email address. The email address is how the software tracks the participant. This means teachers cannot use their email address for multiple students and any email address can only be used once.

In addition to the on-line application students must complete the required ISEF paper forms as outlined below. The forms must be uploaded through STEM Wizard before the registration is complete! Details to follow. Do NOT mail in the ISEF forms. Failure to bring completed forms on the day of the fair will prevent the student from advancing to the state level.

- For ALL divisions, at a minimum all students are required to use the official ISEF form 1, form 1A, form 1B and the abstract. For the abstract please utilize the ISEF abstract form. Depending on the topic of the student’s project, additional forms may be required. The best way to determine what ISEF forms are required is to use the “Rules Wizard”: [https://ruleswizard.societyforscience.org/](https://ruleswizard.societyforscience.org/) For a link to all forms and detailed instructions, please see the state level fair website at: [http://ncsef.org/index.php/rules/forms](http://ncsef.org/index.php/rules/forms)
The information below may change depending how the new software works. Details to follow.

As part of the on-line application each entry will be required to submit a signature form that has been postmarked by **February 11, 2020 and received by February 14, 2020.** This is one of the requirements listed on the “Participant Home” page found in the Science Fair in a Box registration software online. Please scan and email **signature forms only (NOT any other entry forms)** to quinton.rice@uncp.edu or mail to: Dr. Quinton, Region 4 Science Fair - Accounting, Department of Chemistry & Physics, UNC Pembroke, P.O. Box 1510, Pembroke, NC 28372. **There is NO entry fee for the 2019 Region 4 Science & Engineering Fair.**

**General Rules & Regulations**

1. In ALL categories (Elementary, Junior, and Senior), no more than three students may enter a project together.

   - **Elementary:** The elementary division includes grades 3-5. In this division the projects are not divided into categories. Each elementary school may submit 3 projects in this division to the Region 4 Fair. These may include all from one grade, or any combination for a total of 3 projects. Eight projects from the elementary category will be chosen to move on from the regional fair to the state level competition. **Because of the risks and safety rules associated with culturing bacteria, these projects are restricted to junior and senior divisions ONLY.**

   - **Junior:** The junior division includes grades 6-8. In the junior division the categories include Biology A, Biology B, Chemistry, Earth/Environmental Science, Physics & Mathematics, Technology, and Engineering. The first place winners in each division from local school fairs can be sent to the Region 4 Fair. The first and second place projects from each junior division will be chosen to move on from the regional fair to the state level competition.

   - **Senior:** The senior division includes grades 9-12. In the senior division the categories include Biology A, Biology B, Chemistry, Earth/Environmental Science, Physics & Mathematics, Technology, and Engineering. The first place winners in each division from local school fairs can be sent to the Region 4 Fair. The first and second place projects from each senior division will be chosen to move on from the regional fair to the state level competition.

   - **Maximum number of entries per school:**
     - Elementary school: 3 entries
Middle school: 7 entries
High school: 7 entries

**County Science Fairs:** *If the county has a county science fair*, the first, second, and third place winner from each category described above may be submitted for a total of 60 projects (18 from grades 3-5, 21 from grades 6-8, 21 from grades 9-12).

2. **Permissible items for display in the participant’s booth, in addition to the presentation board, are very limited.** A complete list of what can and cannot be displayed can be found in the Rules & Guidelines document: [https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/international-rules/rules-for-all-projects/](https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/international-rules/rules-for-all-projects/)

Please make sure to consult this document in order that you are NOT disqualified from participating. No gas or running water can be supplied. Dangerous chemicals, open flame, and explosives will not be accepted in exhibits. Students are reminded to NOT bring their experiments with them to the fair. They will not be permitted to display them.

3. Experimental procedures with animals, which involve discomfort, pain or death, or diets deficient in essential nutrients, will be disqualified. No live animals should be brought to the fair.

4. Your project must be within the following limits when set up for evaluation and students must provide their own display board for presentation.

   - 30 in. (76 cm) deep, front to back
   - 48 in. (122 cm) wide, side to side
   - 108 in. (274 cm) high, floor to top including the table -- table height is ~30”

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**Check List**

**All Divisions:**

- [ ] ISEF Checklist for Adult Sponsor (1)
- [ ] ISEF Student Checklist (1A)
- [ ] ISEF Approval Form (1B)
- [ ] Official Abstract
- [ ] Research Plan
and any other required forms (use Rules Wizard link)

Complete the online registration process

Mail in signature form from online registration process along with registration fee (one form for both)

All paper ISEF forms are to be completed and brought to fair with participant

HELPFUL WEB SITES: (All links verified and updated October 2018)

Categories: http://ncsef.org/index.php/rules/categories
NC Region 4 Science Fair (UNCP): https://www.uncp.edu/departments/chemistry-physics/north-carolina-region-4-science-engineering-fair
NC Region 4 Science Fair online registration: https://ncsefreg4.stemwizard.com/
Rules Wizard: https://ruleswizard.societyforscience.org/
Science Buddies: http://www.sciencebuddies.com/
Science Fair Central: https://www.sciencefaircentral.com/