

CSEF Display & Safety Guidelines

Display & Safety Inspectors will be evaluating ALL project materials (digital & physical). Please review this list of restrictions, and plan your exhibit accordingly.

Physical Exhibit Size:

The dimensions of ALL project materials may not exceed 240 cm high, 122 cm wide and 76 cm deep and nothing can be set in front of the table. ***Please note the NEW height limit!!!***

Research Notebook:

Please have all of your ISEF/CSEF forms available for review and signing by the SRC in your research notebook.

Judges may inquire about Form 7 for continuation projects and Form 1C for projects done in a research institution or industrial setting.

Photographs/Images:

These rules apply to BOTH the digital and physical project displays.

1. **ALL graphics that are created by the Finalist MUST BE properly cited individually using statements such as** “Photo taken by Finalist, : Image created by Finalist using . . .”, Graph created by Finalist using . . .”, Chart created by Finalist using . . . “, or Data Table created by Finalist.”
2. ALL graphics not created by the finalist(s) MUST BE properly cited individually (APA format is preferred). If the graphic was obtained via the internet, then a URL must be provided (digital object identifiers are acceptable in place of long URLs). This applies even if the license under which the graphic was obtained does not require credit or citation.
3. Citations must be provided alongside the graphic or in a vertically displayed reference list.
4. Photographs may not be offensive or inappropriate in nature. This includes, but is not limited to, images/photographs showing invertebrates, vertebrates or humans in surgical, necrotizing dissection or distressing situations.

5. Photographs or images of people other than the Finalist need to have a signed photo/video release form from those individuals in a notebook. These signed release forms must be available upon request during the set-up and inspection process, but may not be displayed.

Sample release text: “I consent to the use of visual images (photos, videos, etc.) involving my participation/my child’s participation in this research.”

6. Finalists using any digital display/device outside of a project board must be prepared to show these materials in their entirety. All aforementioned rules regarding photos, images, data tables, graphs and charts apply to these materials. These materials may not be altered in any way after the Display & Safety inspection has been completed. Examples include, but are not limited to, PowerPoint, Prezi, Canva, BioRender, computer code, Keynote, software program/simulation and other image and/or graphics displayed on a screen.

Items NOT Allowed to be Displayed within the Project Material:

These rules apply to BOTH the digital and physical project displays.

1. Any information that are self-promotions or external endorsements are not allowed in the project display, including:
 - a. The use of commercial logos including known brands, institutional crests or trademarks, and flags unless integral or incidental to the project and approved by the CSEF.
 - b. Any reference to an institution or mentor that supported the finalist’s research except as provided in an acknowledgement section of the display.
 - c. Published research papers may only be present in a lab notebook. Lab notebooks must be closed when a finalist is not present at their project.

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- d. Plans for additional/future work that includes any reference to a mentor, institution, conference or pending publication.
 - e. Any reference to patent status of the project.
 - f. Any items intended for distribution such as disks, CDs, flash drives, brochures, booklets, endorsements, give-away items, business cards, printed materials or food items.
2. Postal addresses, World Wide Web, email and/or social media addresses, QR codes, telephone and/or fax numbers of a project or finalist. Note: The only personal information that is permissible to include on the display is student names, school, and city.
 3. Active internet or email connects as part of displaying or operating the project at CSEF – no exceptions.

Items NOT Allowed at the Physical Project Display:

1. **Biological materials** (living, dead or preserved) other than those commercially available. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Living organisms, including plants
 - Taxidermy specimens or parts
 - Preserved vertebrate or invertebrate animals
 - Human or animal food
 - Human/animal parts or body fluids (for example, blood, urine)
2. All **chemicals**, including water. Absolutely no liquids can be utilized in the Project Display.
3. All other **hazardous substances or devices** including but not limited to:
 - Soil, sand, rock, cement and/or waste samples
 - Poisons
 - Drugs
 - Lasers and laser pointers

- Firearms, weapons, ammunition, reloading devices
 - Granules or powders
 - Grease/Oil and sublimating solids such as dry ice
 - Sharp items (for example, syringes, needles, pipettes, knives)
 - Glass
 - Flames and highly flammable materials
 - Batteries with open-top cells or wet cells or battery packs over 100 watt-hour capacity
 - Drones or any flight-capable apparatus unless the propulsion power source is removed
 - Inadequately insulated apparatus capable of producing dangerous temperatures
4. Any apparatus with belts, pulleys, chains, or moving parts with tension or pinch points that are not appropriately shielded
 5. Items that may have contained or been in contact with hazardous substances
 4. Any display items that are deemed distracting including but not limited to:
 - Sounds
 - Lights
 - Odors
 5. Any apparatus or project material deemed unsafe by the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair officials.

CSEF, the Display & Safety Committee, and/or the Scientific Review Committee reserve the right to remove any project for safety reasons or to protect the integrity of the CSEF and its rules and regulations.