



LOUISVILLE REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIRS, Inc.

Louisville Regional Science Fairs News Update: January 2009

Janine R. Mura, Newsletter Editor

Visit LRSF on the Web at www.LRSF.org

45th Annual Louisville Regional Science Fairs
Saturday, March 14, 2009
University of Louisville Student Activities Center
Project entry deadline: Friday, February 6, 2009 at 6:00 pm

***** IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR 2009 FAIRS *****

5-Minute Presentation Time Limit ~ Mandatory On-Line Registration System
LRSF and duPont Manual Regional Science Fairs: Same Facility, Same Time

Message from the Fair Director

I hope you and your students are moving along with school science projects and fairs. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our fair on March 14. A reminder... Project entry materials are due no later than **February 6, 2009**.

We are excited to share with you three upcoming changes for the 2009 LRSF:

1. The **Presentation Time Limit** will be 5 minutes for each project, to allow judges time to ask questions and judge all their assigned students.
2. A new **On-Line Registration System** will be mandatory for students' entry applications. The system will be accessible from www.LRSF.org beginning about Monday, January 12.

On pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter we describe the entry system output and all the documents required for the project entry package.

3. **Two Regional Science Fairs** – the LRSF and the duPont Manual RSF – will take place in the same facility at the same time.

Please see page 2 for more details. As always, if you have any problems or questions that I can help with, please call me at 502-454-4457.

Joel Gittelson, Fair Director
Louisville Regional Science Fairs, Inc.

Submitting Your Application

Completed Student Entry Forms must be in the hands of Amy Sprinkle, Assistant Fair Director, by February 6, 2009, 6:00 p.m.
No exceptions will be made.

Mail or deliver to:

Amy Sprinkle, Assistant Fair Director
Louisville Regional Science Fairs
1042 Fraelm Road
Louisville, KY 40214-4627

Click [here](#) for Driving Directions.

Find [LRSF Forms](#) online at www.LRSF.org.

Find [ISEF Forms](#) online at www.societyforscience.org/isef/document/index.asp

Find the ISEF "[Rules Wizard](#)" online at www.societyforscience.org/isef/students/wizard/index.asp

Other Upcoming Dates

February – Next newsletter issue outlining LRSF registration, setup, judging procedures, and driving and parking directions.

April 4, 2009 – KY Science & Engineering Fair, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond KY.

May 10-15, 2009 – ISEF, Reno, Nevada.

Changes for 2009 LRSF / Application Info

1) Presentation Time Limit - 5 Minutes

To allow all judges enough time to listen to your students as well as ask questions AND to judge all their assigned students, we will be restricting the time students have to make their oral presentation. Judges may or may not tell each student this as introductions are made.

Please work with your students in advance of the fair so that they are not surprised or offended if judges interrupt them to begin asking questions. If you feel this creates undue hardship or other issues, please contact me.

2) On-Line Entry

We will begin a transition to more computer- and web-based tools and processes this year. The first step will be having students do their entry applications on-line.

Each project MUST be entered On-Line in order for the application to be processed. The output for the student will be a printed page called "Signature Page" which the parent or guardian must sign.

The printed "Signature Page" replaces the one-page LRSF application form used in prior years. Only one Signature Page is required for each team and it will cover all of the members.

The box labeled "Summary" on the "Project Information" page must have at least one character inserted, but the information here will not be used. This information must be contained in the required LRSF Abstract Form.

Each student/team will then need to submit the signed page to her/his teacher along with:

- LRSF Abstract Form (not ISEF form)
- Any Pre-approvals signed by SRC's or IRB's
- ISEF Rules Wizard printout (see page 3)
- All required ISEF forms according to the ISEF Rules (but not the ISEF Abstract Form)
- \$5 entry fee for each student

As in previous years, the lead science teacher at each participating school must put together a package of all their student project packets along with a completed Tally Form and check/s to cover the \$5 entry fee for each student. **Please be sure your student papers are complete.**

We will use the project categories you show on the Tally Form if there is a discrepancy with what the student entered.

We will be opening the on-line entry system for use on about **Monday, January 12**. It will close down late in the evening on **Thursday, February 5**.

To enter on-line, students need to visit our Web site at www.LRSF.org. We will have a link to the "On-Line Entry System" on the Home Page. We have tried to make this system simple to use, with information about how to get help if needed.

Please be advised that certain e-mail servers (e.g. BellSouth, Hotmail) may not accept the automated e-mail messages issued by the on-line entry system. Consider using a different e-mail account. If you don't receive your registration number at the e-mail address you entered within 24 hours, you should contact Mike Bankhead for assistance at the e-mail address or phone number on the screen.

Just one last brief reminder... last year our SRC noted that many of the students needed more help with writing their Research Plan and their Abstract. In many cases it was clear that they did not know the difference between the two documents and their purposes. Please review these carefully and help students as required.

3) Two Regional Fairs / Same Day

In 2009, both the Louisville Regional Science Fairs and the duPont Manual Regional Science Fairs will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2009 in the same room at U of L.

The exhibits will all be set up for competitive judging in the Mendelsohn Gym that has been used for several years. The arrangement will be done to allow easy differentiation between the exhibit areas.

We will use the same processes as last year. Students will register/sign-in. Next is either check-in with SRC or set-up at assigned exhibit station (as appropriate).

In general, there will be totally separate judges covering each group. There may be some overlap for a very few of the special awards.

An effort will be made to spread out student releases for lunch so as to minimize the food service facility loading. Announcements will be made when students can leave for lunch.

Our Awards Ceremony will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room, as it has in the past.

We are excited about these changes. As always, if you have any problems or questions that I can help with, please call me at 502-454-4457.

Joel Gittelson, Fair Director

To assure that students and teachers understand which **ISEF Forms** are necessary, and to facilitate more efficient review and feedback from LRSF officials about problems, **every student packet MUST be accompanied by a printout of the final page of the Science Service Rules Wizard** available at www.sciserv.org/isef/students/wizard/index.asp.

Attach it with **each LRSF project's** On-Line Signature Page and LRSF Abstract Form for entry along with the required ISEF forms. (Tip: You may copy and paste the text into a Word document or text file for ease of printing and to save electronically – do not modify any of the text.) Thanks for your help and continued support.

ISEF Rules Wizard – Sample Output for Project Involving Survey with Human Subjects

SAMPLE ONLY! DO NOT SUBMIT!

The forms used for the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair are in Adobe® Acrobat.PDF file format. In order to fill in and print these forms, you need the [Adobe® Acrobat Reader](#). The answers you gave to questions on the previous pages of the Rules Wizard indicate that you need to download the following forms in order to enter your project in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair:

- [Forms required for ALL participants \(101kb\)](#) --Three forms are required for ALL participants: the
 - [Checklist for Adult Sponsor \(1\)](#)
 - [Student Checklist \(1A\) and Research Plan](#)
 - [Approval Form \(1B\)](#)
- [Official Abstract Form \(89 kb\)](#) -- Some fairs may require the use of the Intel ISEF Official Abstract Form; others may have their own required format. Please contact your regional fair for more information. **Note:** Intel ISEF finalists do NOT fill out this abstract form - they have to fill out their abstract on-line. Please read the instructions for completion thoroughly.
- [Human Subjects and Informed Consent Form \(4\) \(25 kb\)](#) -- IRB Form for approval before experimentation. Required for all research involving humans.
- **Informed Consent**--Required for all subjects under 18 years of age (see exceptions); required for all projects involving risk; and recommended for all projects involving human subjects. From the responses pertaining to the use of human subjects, it appears that informed consent will be required from your participants. Please complete the Human Subjects Form (4) and have an IRB review and make a final determination regarding this requirement.
- You indicated you will be using a **survey** as part of your experiment. Please provide a **copy of the survey**.
- [Qualified Scientist Form \(2\) \(32 kb\)](#) --Required for research involving DEA-controlled substances and potentially; hazardous biological agents; may be required for vertebrate animals, rDNA, tissues, and humans. Must be signed prior to the start of student experimentation.

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Items of Interest from the University of Louisville

2009 Engineering Expo (EEXPO)

EEXPO 2009 will be held on March 7 at Speed School and other locations around the U of L Belknap campus. This is an all day event celebrating engineering - complete with college research exhibits, open labs/tours, a keynote speaker and other engineering related activities. There will be activities and competitions geared to middle and high school students.

For more information, visit www.engineering-expo.com.

U of L Admission Application and LRSF Scholarship Opportunity

High school seniors who will be competing for Best-in-Fair awards, including U of L scholarships, are reminded that the university admission application deadline is February 15, 2009 for the Fall semester.

If you should win the scholarship opportunity at LRSF but not have an admissions application on file, there may not be any financial aid funds available for you.