

# Upper East Tennessee Science Fair

## Rules and Regulations

### *Who may enter and how they must do it:*

1. Students in grades **four through eight** who live in Upper East Tennessee (primarily Carter, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington counties) and attend public, private, or parochial schools, or are taught by members of a recognized home schooling association or organization based in Upper East Tennessee (each considered as one “school”) are eligible to enter the Upper East Tennessee Science Fair if sponsored by their school.
  2. The number of entries per grade that may be sponsored by each school is limited and depends on enrollment. Schools must submit\* a list of entries for each grade on **School Entry Forms** signed by responsible teachers. Those forms also specify how many entries are permitted in each of two categories: **biological sciences** and **physical sciences**. Unused positions in one category may not be used in the other.
  3. Students sponsored by schools must submit\* **Official Entry Forms** signed by the student, parent/guardian, and teacher. If the research involves **vertebrate** or **human** subjects, **Form V** or **Form H**, signed by an appropriate professional (see below) who advised the student before research was started, must be attached.
  4. Both individual and group entries are accepted; however, each student may be part of only one entry. Groups must designate a “leader” to be interviewed by judges, and to whom prize checks will be written.
- \* **If the number of entries received exceeds 300, entries will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis determined by date of postmark. Late entries may not be accepted or may not be judged, even if displayed, so please adhere to the stated deadlines.**

### *Rules about the exhibit itself:*

5. Exhibits will be allocated adjacent space on table tops; thus they must conform\* to strict size limits – **no more than 32 inches wide and no more than 36 inches deep**. Exhibits should not exceed 48 inches in height above the table surface. They must be freestanding as tables are not located adjacent to any walls.  
(We can accommodate a few exhibits that require extra space if there are good reasons why they won’t fit in the space above and the request is made in the appropriate location on the student entry form.)
6. Exhibits will have access to electrical power **only if** the need for power is indicated in the appropriate space on the second page of the student entry form.

7. Exhibits must comply\* with **safety guidelines**.

\* **Each exhibit will be examined on the day of the fair to insure that it conforms to rules concerning display size, safety, and use of vertebrate or human subjects. Exhibits that do not conform will be disqualified and the exhibit must be removed.**

*On the day of the fair:*

8. Students must register in the Culp Center and set up their exhibits\* **at least one half hour** before the scheduled time for judging. Students must be accompanied by an adult escort present throughout the day of the fair.

9. All exhibits must pass a safety inspection before they will be judged. Safety inspection will begin at 8:15 am. Students do not need to be present for the safety inspection. However, the safety committee has the authority to remove unsafe items or have the student remove or modify exhibit materials if necessary.

10. **Students must be present to talk with judges during the scheduled judging period and adult escorts must stay clear!**

11. Exhibits must be displayed until after the Awards Ceremony is completed. They must be removed immediately after the Awards Ceremony. Clean-up crews will discard exhibits\* remaining after 5:00 pm.

\* **The sponsors, the Upper East Tennessee Science Fair, Inc., members of the Executive Committee, or members of the Board of Directors will not assume responsibility for loss or damage to any part of the exhibits.**