United Counties Science Fair

Grades 6 to 12 · 2027

Teacher information package

All registration forms must be received by: Monday, March 8, 2027 at 10:00 p.m.
Safety check during set-up: Friday, April 2 (Friday 16:30–20:30)
Fair day: Saturday, April 3, 2027

Information package

Entry deadline

All registration forms must be received by **Monday, March 8, 2027 at 10:00 p.m.**. The project must be submitted, and approved by the teacher, by then.

Registration is completed online at ucsfair.org, where the project report and other information is uploaded. Students and teachers can sign up at any time. Contact info-test@ucsfair.org if you need assistance.

If the French and English versions of this package disagree, the English version applies.

Important rules

- No more than **two** students may work on a project.
- If students from two grades work on one project, it is judged at the higher grade.
- Both students must be in Grade 6 or higher.
- Students in **Grades 6 to 12** may enter the fair. Grade 6 students (Atom Division) are not eligible to win a trip to the Canada-Wide Science Fair.
- Each school selects its own entries, using the quota below.
- Use the eligibility rules in this package before a project begins.

Project quota by grade

Grade population	Number of entries
1 to 100	4
101 to 150	5
151 and more	6

Categories

- Life Sciences
- Physical Sciences
- Engineering
- Computers

On the registration form, students choose up to 5 **subject areas** in these groups and one Youth Science Canada **challenge**. The lists are on Choose your project.

Divisions

Division	Grades
Atom	Grade 6
Junior	Grades 7 and 8
Intermediate	Grades 9 and 10
Senior	Grades 11 and 12

Types of projects

Experiment: Predict the results of a test you can perform. Carry out the test, collect the results, make sense of the results, and draw conclusions.

Study: Collect information by observing the world around you. Consult books, magazines, experts, the internet and so on. Sort it out and summarize the important and interesting points. It may be difficult or impossible to control the variables.

Note regarding experiments

The project experiment is not to be conducted on the exhibit floor. Participants are encouraged to have props and pictures that show the stages of the experiment. Under certain conditions, demonstrating parts of an experiment that meet the safety check may be allowed. Anything that does not meet the safety check is not permitted on the exhibit floor.

Note regarding language

Students choose the language in which their project is judged. The report, display board and any other information must be in that language.

Projects with people or animals

Projects involving testing on animals or humans require special arrangements. Contact the chair **before beginning** the project. If the project involves people, also complete the human informed consent forms before starting.

Jason Marshall, UCSF Chair: chair-test@ucsfair.org, 343-370-7469

Human participants

You must contact the chair, outlining the proposed use of human research participants, **before** beginning the project, and complete the human informed consent forms. Those forms must be submitted **before** the project starts.

Using yourself as a participant counts as human participation, and the same forms must be submitted to the chair before starting.

Projects involving ingestion (anything people eat or drink) are not permitted.

Any project without the requested forms will **not** be considered for the Canada-Wide Science Fair.

The steps, and the consent package, are on Is my project allowed?. When the project is registered, the "Before you start" questions open a Human participants form on the project page. The ethics committee reviews the Letter of Information before any data is collected.

Animals

Projects involving animals are eligible only under rigid conditions. You can **observe** animals with a backbone (vertebrates, such as fish, birds, dogs, cats, lizards, hamsters and mice) in their natural habitat. You cannot use animals with a backbone in any active investigation. You cannot display animals at the fair. Fertilized eggs must not be part of any investigation.

Contact the fair before beginning any experiment involving animals, to confirm it meets the ethical standards agreed upon by the scientific community.

Other eligibility

Firearms or explosives: the project is not eligible for the fair.

Micro-organisms or moulds: some are prohibited by law. Contact the chair, outlining the proposed use, before beginning the project.

Plants or soil: allowed at our fair.

DNA or animal viruses: contact the chair before beginning, and have a certified scientific advisor and supervisor.

Lasers or high-energy radiation: the work must be directed by a certified supervisor. Contact the fair before starting. All lasers are prohibited from being displayed at the fair, including laser pointers.

Backboard

Usually, students use a 3-sided display. Pre-made cardboard display boards can be purchased from Dollarama, Staples or Michaels (prices vary by store). Dimensions vary by product.

Any backboard material the school approves may be used. Students may construct their own display board.

Display rules

- All cloth, paper and similar materials must be fastened securely to the backboard.
- Only single sheets may be attached to the backboard.

- Nothing may hang from the table.
- No wall may be used to support or display any part of the project.

Size

Every project is allocated the same space and cannot go beyond it. The project and everything that goes with it must fit in about **130 cm wide by 70 cm deep** (54 by 28 inches). Tall parts, on the table or standing on the floor, can go up to **3.5 m from the floor**. The display must stand firmly by itself.

Safety on the display

More detail is at youthscience.ca.

Health regulations do not allow samples of food or drink to be handed out. Nothing on the display may harm students or the public. Use photos or empty containers instead of the real thing.

- Open liquids, chemicals, drugs, pills, medicines, alcohol, fertilizer, herbicide, pesticide, gasoline, oil, household cleaners, pool chemicals, aerosol cans, crystals, mercury thermometers and other poisonous items
- Flames and hot substances (plugged-in heaters, kettles, and light bulbs without a protective guard)
- Exposed or dangerous electrical wiring, or anything over 36 V
- Firearms, explosives and lasers (including laser pointers)
- Unprotected sharp or moving objects
- Flammable materials, including the products used to set up the display

The project experiment is not conducted on the exhibit floor. Parts of an experiment that pass the safety check may sometimes be demonstrated. Anything that does not pass is not allowed on the exhibit floor.

Safety check

All projects must pass a safety check while displays are set up on **Friday, April 2** evening (Friday 16:30–20:30), and must stay safe for the whole fair. Any problem must be fixed, or the project is disqualified.

The fair is on **Saturday, April 3, 2027** at St. Lawrence Secondary School, 1450 Second St E, Cornwall, ON.

For more information, visit ucsfair.org or contact the chair: Jason Marshall, chair-test@ucsfair.org, 343-370-7469.