

Science Fair Opportunities

Council Rock School District Participation

Are you interested in science, curious about how things work, or motivated toward working as a scientist or engineer someday? Interested in learning real 21st century skills while exploring a topic that YOU are interested in?

Students in grades 7-12 have the opportunity to participate in two science fair competitions: **Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)** and **Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Sciences (PJAS)**.

In order to participate in these fairs, the students:

- **Ask a question.**
- **Do background research.**
- **Construct a hypothesis.**
- **Design and conduct experiments.**
- **Analyze the data and draw a conclusion.**
- **Communicate results.**

The students will have the opportunity to learn more about how science is actually done, learn communication and organization skills, meet students with similar interests, and compete against students from across the region.

For students that qualify, there are opportunities to compete in higher level fairs, as well as earn prizes, scholarships, and other recognition.

One Project, Two Opportunities (ISEF and PJAS)

CR students in grades 7-12 have the opportunity to participate in two science fair competitions: Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) and Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Sciences (PJAS).

These two competitions are similar in that both require a project completed using the scientific method as a guideline. Both fairs require the completion (before beginning a project) of basically the same paperwork. And, since the majority of the effort is in the project itself, most students participate in both competitions.

The competitions differ in both the competition method and the presentation methods.

Comparison of Science

Competition	ISEF	PJAS
Presentation method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information is presented using a tri-fold poster, research paper, laboratory notebook • Students are then interviewed by a series of judges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information is presented (using overheads or Powerpoint) as a 10-minute presentation given to a panel of judges.
Judging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are judged in a “head-to-head” competition with the students in their category. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are judged against a rubric.
Team Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not allowed

Possible Categories

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Sciences • Behavioral & Social Sciences • Biochemistry • Cellular & Molecular Biology • Chemistry • Computer Science • Earth and Planetary Science • Engineering: Elect. & Mech. • Engineering: Materials & Bioengn. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy and Transportation • Environmental Management • Environmental Sciences • Mathematical Sciences • Medicine and Health Science • Microbiology • Physics and Astronomy • Plant Sciences |
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What to do if you are interested

If you are interested, :

- Contact your science teacher who will help you get started/find the advisor
- Start thinking about areas of interest
- Visit the PJAS website: <http://www.pjas.net/>
- Visit the BCSRC website: <https://sites.google.com/site/bcsrhome/home>
- Visit the Intel ISEF website: <http://www.societyforscience.org/isef/>