

**(March 14-17, 2011 Albright College Bollman Gym)
Fair Website - www.rbsef.org**

To: Teachers (Gr.6-12) (science, math, computer, ag sci, technology/engineering, health)

From: Michael Gerhart, Fair Director Tel./Fax 610-693-5321 Cell: 610-413-4588
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This is information for teachers and students (grades 6-12) to enter the 2011, 59th Reading Berks Science and Engineering Fair. Students can enter the fair online at **www.rbsef.org**.

The fair website has all the entry information and forms online. The forms can be filled out online then printed out for the required signatures or downloaded and filled in by hand. **Note:** When a student completes and submits the entry form online, the student is not registered until the completed entry form and other required forms are printed from the website and given to the teacher with the required signatures. The teacher will then send the forms to the address below. Note: no group projects allowed in fair

Deadline Due Dates for Entry Forms and Fees:

Feb. 14, 2011 – registration and signed required forms and fees

Send Required Entry Forms and Entry Fees to:

**Robert Novak, Asst. Fair Director
Carpenter Technology
PO Box 14662, Bldg. 54
Reading, PA 19612-4662**

Checks Payable To: Reading Berks Science and Engineering Fair Inc.

Teachers – Please **COLLECT** the required forms and **CHECK** the following items below before sending signed forms and student entry fees to the fair.

- A. **FORMS SIGNED** and all required forms complete
- B. **CORRECT GRADE** and **CATEGORY** selected
- C. Alert student if **additional forms may be required**. Projects dealing with vertebrate animals, some human experiments, fungi, microbes, some chemicals and tissue cultures may require additional forms. The **“Checklist For Adult Sponsor Form 1”** will indicate if more than the required forms may be required, (see fair website prompt **”RBSEF Forms”** then prompt **“Wizard”** for required forms help.)
- E. Make sure students are not displaying **PROHIBITED ITEMS** in the fair. On the website (prompt **“Regulations”** then prompt **“Display and Safety”** and **“Complete Rules”** for a list of prohibited items)

Fair Location: Albright College Bollman Gym
13th and Bern St., Reading, PA

Fair Event Schedule: Mon. March 14 - Thur. March 17, 2011

Mon. March 14 - 6PM-8PM.- **PROJECT SETUP** , Albright College Bollman Gym

Tue. March 15 - 1PM-3PM- **INTERVIEW DAY**, All students must attend the **interview session** in the Albright College Bollman Gym. School to provide chaperone(s).

Wed. March 16 - 9AM-7PM – Public and School **project viewing**, Albright Bollman Gym
7:30PM- 9:30PM- **AWARD CEREMONY**, Albright College Chapel

Thur. March 17 - 9AM-3PM - Public and School **project viewing**, Albright Bollman Gym
5pm – 7:30pm – all students must remove projects from gym
(Projects discarded after 8pm, 3/17/2011)

Online Registration Directions – go to fair website (www.rbsef.org) prompt “Registration” and have students follow directions to register their project in the science/engineering fair

Required Forms Location - on fair website prompt “RBSEF Forms” then prompt “Required Forms” or search “Intel ISEF Document Library” and use as needed.

2011 Rule booklet - prompt “RBSEF Forms” then prompt “Document Library” or search “Intel ISEF Document Library” then prompt “2011 Rules and Guidelines”

Local Fair Rules - on fair website prompt “Regulations” then prompt the following as needed:

“**Complete Rules**”– Student information page for dates, categories, project sizes, prohibited items

“**Exhibit Rules**” – Project size limits, suggestions for what to include in a project

“**Eligibility**” – project classifications and fair divisions, who is eligible to compete

“**Safety and Display**” – **all should read this!** - lists prohibited items not allowed in the fair,

For Additional Help or Advice:

Mike Gerhart, Fair Director- general info, ph/fax **610-693-5321** or cell **610-413-4588**
or e-mail mpgerhart@comcast.net

Dr, Mike Barnett, SRC- Prior approvals for some animal, tissue, dangerous substances exp.
Ph. **610-779-9414** e-mail mike.Barnett@vcamail.com

Bob Novak, Asst. Fair Dir. – entry forms info, website - Ph. **610-208-3541**
e-mail rnovak@cartech.com

Fair Dates: Mon. March 14 through Thur. March 17, 2011. (NOTE: Students are required to attend Albright College for Judging Day, Tue. March 15, 2011, 1pm-3pm)

Fair Location: Albright College Bollman Gym
13th and Bern St.
Reading, PA

Required entry forms for most students: (Forms found on the Reading Berks Science and Engineering website (www.rbsef.org) prompt "Registration")

1. **Student Registration Form**
2. **Checklist For Adult Sponsor (Form 1)**
3. **Student Checklist (1A) (abstract optional)**
4. **Approval Form (1B)**

Fair Website – www.rbsef.org Reading Berks Science and Engineering Fair information with links for student entry forms, fair registration, safety and entry rules, forms wizard etc.

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per student (payment not needed until February due dates)
Checks Payable to: Reading Berks Science and Engineering Fair Inc. (no group projects)

Registration and required forms - online at www.rbsef.org

Entry Deadline – February 14, 2011 – fair to receive Registration forms and fees

Send all signed entry forms and entry fees to:

Robert Novak, Asst. Fair Director
Carpenter Technology
PO Box 14662, Bldg. 54
Reading, PA 19612-4662

Science Fair Divisions:

Junior Division – grades 6-8 (Natural and Physical science)

Senior Division – grades 9-12 (botany, chemistry, earth/space, engineering,
math/computers, medicine/health, physics, zoology)

Over \$8000 in awards presented to students in grades 6 to 12 entered in the science fair!

Answers to Common Science&Engineering Fair Questions

1. 2011 Science Fair location, entry form location, due date, and daily schedule

Fair location - Albright College Bollman Gym, 13th and Bern St., Reading, PA

Registration and Forms are online at www.rbsef.org prompt "Registration"

Entry Deadline date: - Feb 14, 2011 for registration and all forms and fees

2011 Fair Daily Schedule: (March 14 through March 17, 2011)

Mon. March 14 - 6pm To 8pm - **PROJECT SETUP** in Albright College Bollman Gym

Tue. March 15 -1pm- 3pm -All students report to Albright Bollman Gym for **INTERVIEWS**

Wed. March 16 - 9am-7pm - Fair open for public viewing and school tours in Bollman Gym

7:30pm - 9:30pm - **AWARDS CEREMONY**, Albright College Chapel

Thur. March 17 - 9am-3pm - Fair open for public viewing and school tours in Bollman Gym

5pm- 7:30pm - **Students Must Remove Projects from BollmanGym**

2. What **required forms** does a student need to enter the science fair?

ANSWER: Gr. 9-12 (Senior Division) students use the **fair website (www.rbsef.org)** to register online and get the required forms for completion and required signatures. **(See number 3 below for the forms and fair rules) Students must print out all forms before leaving the website!**

- A. **Student Registration Form** (found on the fair website prompt "Registration" then "Register Here")
- B. **Checklist For Adult Sponsor (1)** - on fair website prompt "Required Forms" **Form 1**
- C. **Student Checklist (1A)** and **Research Plan Attachment-** on fair website prompt "Required Forms" **Form 1A (Note: abstract is optional)**
- D. **Approval Form (1B)** -on fair website prompt "Required Forms" **Form 1B**
- E. To determine if other forms may be required - on website prompt "Wizard"

Gr. 6 - 8 (Junior Division) students must complete online at the **fair website (www.rbsef.org)** and have the sponsoring adult and parent/guardian sign the following required forms. **(See number 3 below for the forms and fair rules) Reminder, print out all forms for the required signatures before leaving the website!**

- A. **Student Registration Form** (found on the fair website prompt "Registration" then "Register Here")
- B. **Checklist for Adult Sponsor Form (1)** - on fair website prompt "Required Forms" **Form 1**
- C. **Special Note only for grade 6-8: If numbered items # 4 and #6 on Form (1) do not need to be checked off for the project topic you are finished with the paperwork for the fair. However, if number items 4 and 6 need to be checked off in Form (1) then follow directions for Gr. 9-12 (Senior Division) forms found above.**

3. Where do I find the required entry forms and rules for the science fair?

ANSWER: Go to fair website at www.rbsef.org

- A. For "Student Registration Form" - on the fair site prompt "Registration" then prompt "Register Here" Complete form online, **submit and print out for required signatures.**
- B. Other required forms- on fair site prompt "RBSEF Forms" then prompt "Required Forms" or " Document Library" for Forms 1, 1A, 1B.. Forms can filled out online and then printed out or printed blank to fill in by hand. 2011 Rules Booklet - on fair website prompt "RBSEF Forms" then Document Library" then "2011 Rules and Regulations" or search " Intel Document Library"

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4. How do I know if a student needs more than the required forms?

ANSWER: Completing the required form “**Checklist For Adult Sponsor / Safety Assessment Form 1**” will alert the sponsoring adult (parent/teacher/advisor) to the possible need to complete other forms than the ones required for the fair. Most experiments involving NON-HUMAN VERTEBRATE LIFE, ANY BACTERIA, FUNGI, RECOMBINANT DNA, DANGEROUS CHEMICALS AND SOME HUMAN PROJECTS will possibly require more forms. Use the forms ” Wizard” (on fair website prompt “RBSEF Forms” then prompt “Wizard” or search “ISEF Rules Wizard”) for a listing of additional required forms for the projects mentioned above.

5. What projects may need PRIOR APPROVAL by the SRC committee before a student can start experimentation? (SRC- means -Scientific Review Committee)

ANSWER: Some experiments on VERTEBRATE ANIMALS , any BACTERIA/FUNGI, CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, RECOMBINANT DNA , HUMAN OR ANIMAL TISSUE, HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS-DEVICES

NOTE: Some projects involving HUMAN SUBJECTS may need prior approval. Search ”Intel ISEF Document Library”, Human Subjects Risk Assessment Guide pp. 1-12 for a Risk Assessment by a school’s **IRB** committee. (**IRB** – Institutional Review Board). This risk assessment will indicate if there is a need for SRC approval by the fair. See question 6

6. What is an IRB?

ANSWER: IRB stands for **INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD**. It is composed of 3 members of the school building or a district group that must include a science teacher, an administrator, and one of the following (medical doctor, psychologist, psychiatrist, registered nurse, or doctor asst.). The IRB committee can determine if any questionable projects may need prior approval by the science fair’s SRC (Scientific Review Committee). To avoid problems it is best to have ALL projects involving humans, animals, bacteria, fungi and dangerous substance be reviewed by the IRB before allowing students to start or enter that project in the fair. On website prompt “Document Library” then “Complete INTEL ISEF 2011 Rules and Guidelines” Most projects can be cleared by the local IRB.

7. I have a student that needs prior approval by the SRC. Now what!

ANSWER: Using the forms “Wizard” (on the fair website prompt “RBSEF Forms”, then prompt “Wizard”) or search “ISEF Rules Wizard”. This program will list all the required additional forms for that project. After the forms are completed and signed, the student or adult sponsor must contact the SRC chairperson before the experiment is started. Note: not getting prior approval may result in not being allowed in the fair. The SRC (Scientific Review Committee) to contact is chairperson:

Dr. Michael Barnett
E-mail - mike.barnett@vcamail.com
Phone - 610-779-9414

8. Does every student entering a science project need prior approval by the SRC committee?

ANSWER: NO, only some of the projects involving items in question 5 may need prior approval. A local school's IRB Board can determine if there is a need for prior SRC approval. Most projects can be approved by the school's IRB. (see question 6)

9. What are the science fair divisions in the fair?

ANSWER: Junior Division (gr. 6-8), Natural Science or Physical Science Division Senior Division (gr. 9-12), Botany, Chemistry, Earth and Space, Engineering, Math and Computer, Medicine and Health, Physics, Zoology

10. What is the entry fee for the fair? Note: no group projects

ANSWER: \$10 per student, Payable to "Reading-Berks Science Fair Inc".

11. What is the deadline due date to send entry forms and fees to the science fair?

ANSWER: Feb. 14, 2011 - due date "Student Registration Form", fees and other required forms

12. Where do I send the required signed entry forms and entrance fees?

ANSWER: Send all signed entry forms and student fees (\$10 per student) to:

**Robert Novak, Asst. Fair Director
Carpenter Technology
PO Box 14662, Bldg. 54
Reading, PA 19612-4662**

13. What items are not allowed to be displayed at the science fair?

ANSWER: On fair website prompt "**Regulations**" then "**Safety and Display**" then "**Complete Rules**" for list of items not allowed in the fair.

14. Project Sizes? Junior Division (gr.6-8)- no larger than 36"wide x 72" high x 24" deep

Senior Division (gr.9-12)- no larger than 48"wide x 72" high x 30" deep

Unanswered questions! Go to pg 2 "For Additional Help or Advice"

2011 READING BERKS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE **PROHIBITED AND UNACCEPTABLE FOR DISPLAY** AND CANNOT BE ALLOWED IN THE FAIR: PLEASE DO NOT BRING THEM TO THE FAIR!

1. **Living Organisms** - e.g. live plants, animals, microbes (bacteria), fungi (mushrooms)
Suggestion: use photographs or drawings
2. **DRIED PLANT MATERIALS**
3. **TAXIDERMY SPECIMENS OR PARTS**
4. **PRESERVED VERTEBRATES OR INVERTEBRATE ANIMALS INCLUDING EMBRYOS**
5. **HUMAN OR ANIMAL FOOD** (suggestion: use empty container of product or picture)
6. **HUMAN/ANIMAL PARTS** (Exceptions: teeth, hair, nails, dried animal bones, histological dry mount sections, wet mount tissue slides)
7. **SOIL OR WASTE SAMPLES** (suggestion: use art materials to simulate sample)
8. **ALL CHEMICALS, INCLUDING WATER, SOAPS, PAINTS, MAKE UP, SHAMPOO ETC.**
(suggestion: use the empty container or art supplies to simulate the product)
9. **POISONS, DRUGS, CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES OR DEVICES SUCH AS FIREARMS, WEAPONS, AMMUNITION, RELOADING DEVICES**
Suggestion: use pictures
10. **DRY ICE OR OTHER SUBLIMATING SOLIDS** (solids which vaporize directly into a gas)
11. **SHARP OBJECTS** (syringes, needles, pipettes, any sharp pointed objects on a display)
12. **FLAMES OR HIGHLY FLAMMABLE DISPLAY MATERIALS**
13. **EMPTY TANKS OR CONTAINERS THAT CONTAINED COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS OR GASES**, unless purged with carbon dioxide
14. **BATTERIES WITH OPEN TOP CELLS** (ok to use 1.5 v flashlight battery)
15. **AWARDS, MEDALS, BUSINESS CARDS, FLAGS, CORPORATE, INSTITUTION LOGOS ETC.**
16. **PHOTOGRAPHS OR OTHER VISUAL PRESENTATIONS DEPICTING VERTEBRATE ANIMALS IN OTHER THAN NORMAL CONDITIONS** (ie. Surgical techniques, dissections, necropsies or other lab techniques done on animals)

UNACCEPTABLE FOR DISPLAY: (CANNOT BE OPERATED)

1. PROJECTS WITH unshielded belts, pulleys, chains and moving parts with tension or pinch points
2. Class III and IV Lasers
3. Any device requiring over 110 volts

THE READING-BERKS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR INC. WILL REJECT ANY EXHIBIT WHICH, IN ITS OPINION, IS NOT SAFE OR WHICH CONSTITUTES A HAZARD IN A PUBLIC EXHIBITION OR TO THE BUILDING.