

DEADLINES: <https://www.trine.edu/science-fair/>

Registrations and entry updates – entry at Regional Fair closes Monday, **February 23, 2026 at 4:00 pm.**

TEACHERS: *Now through February 23, 2026 – see other deadlines below.*

Teachers should Register at <http://www.sefi.org/register/>

Teachers can enter student names as soon as their fair ends. Students-complete entries by February 23rd.

STUDENTS and TEACHERS: *January 16, 2026 - <https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/overview-of-forms-and-dates/> Use this link to guide the Adult Sponsor to review what information and forms must be provided (before the experiment begins.)*

Deadline for Scientific Review Committee (SRC)/Institutional Review Board (IRB).

- Pre-Experimentation Review opens. Scientific Review Committee (SRC)
- ISEF rules for all students <https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/international-rules/>
 - Some of the policies the regional fairs need to enforce include ensuring prior approvals for projects involving vertebrate animals, potentially hazardous biological agents, hazardous chemicals, and human subjects. Requiring students to gather all appropriate signatures on their forms. An **Institutional Review Board (IRB)** is a committee that, according to federal regulations (45-CFR-46), must evaluate the potential physical and/or psychological risk of research involving humans. All proposed human research must be reviewed and approved by an IRB **before experimentation begins**. This includes review of any surveys or questionnaires to be used in a project. We have added members to our Scientific Review Committee and created an Institutional Review Board for the regional fair- **names at the bottom of page.**

STUDENT: *February 23, 2026 - Deadline for [completed SEFI.org](http://www.sefi.org) registration and SRC Review/Approvals. Contact your Science Fair Teacher when entry is completed. Teacher must verify completed registrations for each student and will move the student to Regional Fair. SRC review notifications – approved or rejected. Rejected entries must be updated and resubmitted by the teacher. Notify teacher when you are ready to resubmit.*

TEACHERS: Student SRC verification updates completed – **February 27, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.** Contact Regional Fair contacts to verify updates reviewed.

This includes **resubmission** of student(s) if needed forms **notifications** sent by SRC to the student via SEFI.org.

STUDENT & TEACHERS: **BEFORE** student moved to regional status:

- ***Teachers need to check registrations and verify each project content is complete (list below).***

All Divisions: On the SEFI web site, <http://www.sefi.org/register/>, registrations **must include:**

1. Address, phone, grade, date of birth, project title, and category. Project Title must be same as on project board.
2. Research plan and brief abstract **must** be included in online entry.
3. Student/Parent Email required. **Do not use a student school email. Teacher email may be used only IF no other email is available.**
4. Check the box to indicate if your display needs electricity.
5. Gender and ethnicity is requested, option available if you decline to answer.
6. Human Consent Form 4 – if human subjects are part of the project this form must be completed and uploaded in Sefi.org with project.
7. Additional for: **Grades 4th-12th:** Additional appropriate 2026 ISEF forms and uploaded components.
<https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/international-rules/>

Entries promoted to State Fair: **STUDENTS Grades 4-12:** *March 28, 2026, IU, Indianapolis. STATE FAIR has announced that projects will **NOT** require TheCN.COM this year. Virtual components – Sefi.org provides the ability to upload and share abstracts, YouTube videos and pdf files or reports, etc.*

Contact us for help. glowinskia@trine.edu, millerr@trine.edu, drerups@trine.edu or chancellor@trine.edu

Scientific Review Committee (SRC)

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The Institutional Review Board (IRB)

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Before entry to regional fair – by January 16, 2026	Pre-registration authorizations – forms completed by student and teacher/parent/sponsor	https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/overview-of-forms-and-dates/ Use this link to guide the Adult Sponsor to review what information and forms must be provided (before the experiment begins)
Before February 23, 2026	Teachers Register	SEFI.org
Before February 23, 2026	Teachers and students – in SEFI.org	1 st Teacher creates student entry; 2 nd Student completes all fields in entry and uploads forms; 3 rd Teacher moves entry to regional fair status
February 23, 2026	Registration closes– additional entries cannot be made after 4:00 pm	SEFI.org – Fair coordinators at schools must have moved their entries to regional fair status – AFTER review of all fields and forms/SRC rejections.
Before February 27, 2026	Students should have notations on what forms or fields are not done.	Regional Fair makes one last review of entries and check for Missing forms and valid non-school email – at this point a student may not be able to attend regional fair. Notes to update/upload missing forms should be posted on the student entry and should be done before February 27 th .
February 27, 2026 – March 14, 2026	Regional fair closed	Regional Fair - issue letters of project assignment and locations to the school coordinator. Coordinators deliver to students before fair date. Contact Emily Chancellor at Trine University if missing or incorrect information provided in letters – chancellor@trine.edu .
March 14, 2026	Regional Fair	
Week after Regional	Awards boxed and ready	Pick-up or provide date/time for delivery to schools.