

Does your science fair project involve animals or human subjects?

Follow these steps to ensure it is eligible to attend the Regional Science Fair in your area

BEFORE YOU START: Visit ethics.youthscience.ca and become familiar with the research ethics policies that apply to *all science fair projects* carried out in Canada



IF YOUR PROJECT FALLS OUTSIDE THE "LOW RISK" CATEGORY OR IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS:
Seek advice from the Ethics Committee of your Fair.
Send your [Request Form](#) to the Chair of your Regional Science Fair. For Greater Vancouver participants send to ethics@gvrsf.ca

Human Participation

Does your project involve a risk of harm to participants that is greater than that encountered in their daily lives, including potential physical and/or emotional discomfort? Note that all survey projects are included in this category.

No

Low Risk Project

Provide a [Letter of Information](#) to all participants

Obtain written [informed consent](#) from all participants (& parent/guardian if under 19)

Conduct project

Obtain approval for your project before the Regional Science Fair by submitting [Form 4.1A](#)

Yes or potentially

High Risk Project

Design your [Research Plan](#) and submit it for approval

Ensure you have a Scientific Supervisor (a professional with training specific to your work, usually with prior approval from an institutional ethics committee)

Provide a [Letter of Information](#) to all participants and obtain written [informed consent](#) as with Low Risk

Conduct project

Obtain approval for your project before the Regional Science Fair by submitting [Form 4.1B](#)

Use of Animals

Does your project involve the use of vertebrate animals or Cephalopods?

No

Lower orders of life - bacteria, fungi, protozoa, insects, plants and invertebrate animals with elementary nervous systems - **can be used** in experimentation as long as it is intended to reveal valuable basic biological information.

Conduct project

ALL PROJECTS:
Review [safety guidelines](#) for project display before the Regional Science Fair

Yes

Design your [Research Plan](#) and submit it for approval

Ensure you have a Scientific Supervisor (a professional with training specific to your work, usually with prior approval from an institutional ethics committee)

Conduct project

Obtain approval for your project before the Regional Science Fair by submitting [Form 4.1C](#)

All forms and questions should be submitted to the Chair of your Regional Science Fair. For Greater Vancouver, submit to ethics@gvrsf.ca