CONNECTICUT SCIENCE FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC
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Joe Vogel, *Fair Director*
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Fall, 2026

The **Connecticut Science and Engineering Fair** is the oldest and most prestigious STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) event in the State. It is my pleasure to invite your school to participate in the **2027 79th Fair**, with virtual preliminary judging **March 11-12** and in-person finalist judging on **March 17** at Quinnipiac University. Celebrating our 79th year, the Fair's mission is to interest students in science and engineering careers. Fair projects typically examine problems and provide solutions to current environmental, medical, biological, chemical, engineering, and societal issues – no TV-personified, old-school volcanoes here! Previous top-performing Fair projects have caught the attention of major national research laboratories, garnered patents, resulted in start-up companies, and have been published in scientific, peer-reviewed journals.

The Fair and its organizational committee is here to support experienced schools as well as those who might be "first timers": we provide workshops for teachers and students, technical support online and by phone, and access to a network of practicing scientists and engineers.

2027 Highlights and Changes

- **PROJECT QUOTAS FOR SCHOOLS** – 10 Middle School and 15 High School
- **PROJECT REGISTRATION FEE** – $**50** per project
- **PRELIMINARY VIRTUAL JUDGING FOR ALL PROJECTS** – We plan to once again provide virtual judging for all students in a preliminary round on March 5 and 6. Please note these dates are at the end of the week with a quick turnaround for finalist judging
- **FINALIST IN-PERSON JUDGING** – The top 20% of projects will be invited to Quinnipiac University on Wednesday, March 11 for in person finalist judging.
- **ELEVEN SPECIAL CATEGORIES** – Biotechnology, Alternative/Renewable Energy, Applied Technology, Bioinformatics/Computational Sciences, Computer Science, Engineering, Environmental Science, Mathematics, Future Sustainability, Technical High Schools, Women In Science & Engineering.
- **OVER $500,000 IN AWARDS** – We expect more than 400 awards will be presented at the Fair by its Category and Special Award Sponsors.
- **INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS** – Top winning high school projects, either individual or team, will compete in the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) scheduled for Los Angeles in May. High school finalists and one eighth grade project will be awarded the opportunity to compete at the GENIUS Olympiad in Rochester, NY.
- **THERMO FISHER SCIENTIFIC NATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOLS STEM COMPETITION** – Top winning middle school students in specific categories will be given invitations to compete.
- **AI DISCLOSURES** – The Connecticut Science and Engineering Fair is proactively addressing the use of AI and requiring proper disclosure of its use. Please refer to the Student Guide and 1-pager for additional information and requirements.
- **COMMUNICATIONS** – As a program that promotes the independent, self-development of students, only students or teachers will be permitted to communicate with Fair personnel regarding projects. Students may submit parent or guardian email addresses during registration for the purpose of them receiving information only. Students participating as independents, unaffiliated with a school, may contact me regarding alternative needs.

Register online at **http://www.ctsciencefair.org**. Regional Fair allocations are handled on a case-by-case basis. Deadline for school registration is October 31. There is a $50 per project non-refundable registration fee due at the time of registration. Your school need not have a science fair to send students to the CSEF.

Refer registration questions to:
School and Project/Student Registration
Mrs. Evelyn Brown, Project Registration Chair
registrationhs@ctsciencefair.org

Fair information is updated frequently on our website at **www.ctsciencefair.org**. A wealth of information and resources can be found there.
We look forward to seeing you and your students at the Fair.

For the Fair Committee,

Joe Vogel
Fair Director