



Eastern Panhandle Science and Engineering Fair Elementary and Middle School Divisions Bulletin for County Science Fair Coordinators

January 8, 2024

New for '24:

1. Elementary categories have expanded to include Materials Science and Medical Science, which were previously limited to the middle school division.
2. As an affiliate of the Society for Science, EPSEF is being asked to provide demographic data for students participating in our fair. This information is not mandatory. The fair application now includes a section for students to optionally provide demographic data.

EPSEF '24 - Elementary and Middle School Divisions

Fair Date: Friday, February 2, 2024

Snow Date: Friday, February 9, 2024

Time: Helpers may arrive as early as 7:00 AM
Doors open for students at 9:30 AM See www.epsef.org for detailed agenda.
Presentation of Awards is scheduled for 3 pm and should conclude by 3:30 pm

Location: Ranson Civic Center, 431 West 2nd Avenue, Ranson, WV 25438

Eligibility: Eligible participants include students in grades 3 through 8 from Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan, and Pendleton counties, and the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, and who earned 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place in any category at their county science fair.

Registration: Choose only ONE of the following methods to register your students for EPSEF.

1. Register several projects at once: Coordinators from each county science fair please register groups of students by emailing a spreadsheet (template attached) with participant info to d.price@k12.wv.us.
2. Register projects one at a time: Use the [online application form](#).

3. Paper registration: Please scan completed student paper applications and email to d.price@k12.wv.us.

Registration reminders:

1. Please double-check the spelling of student names and project titles.
2. It is not necessary to submit additional application paperwork (WVSEF Form 1, 1A, etc.) for EPSEF. However, educators are encouraged to have all participants complete the paperwork as part of the science fair experience.
3. Registration on the WVSEF online system is NOT necessary for students to compete in EPSEF '24. Students advancing from EPSEF to WVSEF will have the opportunity to register AFTER EPSEF '24. (You may ignore emails from WVDE that relate to the Eastern Panhandle regional fairs.)

Deadline: Please submit your final list of participants by Friday, January 19, 2024.

Science Fair Rules and Policy:

To qualify for participation in the regional fair, projects must comply with the WVSEF Rules and the [Regeneron ISEF International Rules and Guidelines](#) as applicable to elementary and middle school fairs.

Banned materials (biological materials, chemicals, food, hazardous or dangerous objects, etc.) will be removed from project displays prior to judging. Empty food containers are generally OK. Students should be encouraged to display photographs of anything they want to display that would otherwise be banned.

Blatantly plagiarized projects will be disqualified.

Project Category Placement:

The regional fair will use the WVSEF categories. Please use only these categories when registering your county's participating projects. If your county fair has more or different categories and you have more than 3 winning projects for a category, please contact the EPSEF Fair Director.

Projects may be assigned to a different category at the discretion of the Director. Day of fair requests for category changes will *not* be honored.

Paperwork: To ensure students and parents understand the rules, they **MUST** complete and sign the attached Application for Entry **OR** complete the online application. You do **not** need to submit paperwork to EPSEF if you register using the spreadsheet.

Transportation and Parking:

Each county is responsible for transporting your students to and from the Ranson Civic Center. School buses and private vehicles may drop off students at the door and then park on-site or in an adjacent parking lot.

Adult Supervision Required:

Each county must provide adequate adult supervision of your students while at the fair. In addition to at least one chaperone for every 10 students, each county must designate at least one on-site “adult in charge” to respond to any issues involving student behavior, security, health, or other concerns. All adult chaperones, supervisors, and other school employees are asked to sign in at the registration desk upon arrival at the fair.

Lunch: For proper nutrition, it is recommended that students pack their lunches. The concession stand will be open, serving snacks, drinks, and pizza slices. Numerous restaurants are a short drive from the Ranson Civic Center, but none are within walking distance, and none accommodate buses.

How you can support EPSEF:

With nearly 300 students to organize, judge, entertain, and supervise, the fair can always use extra help. Volunteers can sign up online. See the fair web page for the link.

EPSEF is actively seeking sponsors for prizes, special awards, and general expenses. If you know of anyone who might be interested in sponsoring the fair, please contact Shane Price.

For more information, please visit www.epsef.org or contact:

Shane Price, Fair Director
Email: d.price@k12.wv.us
Cell/Text: 304-270-7769 after 3 PM