

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

What If you want to take your ASE project to a Northwest Science Expo System Fair?

The Northwest Science Exposition System (NWSES) is a consortium of student science, math, and engineering project competitions. The NWSES is structured so that several competitions called *regional science expos*, held each year in February or March at sites around Oregon, send their top projects to a state level science competition - the Intel Northwest Science Expo. Both regional fairs and the Intel NWSE send high school winners to Intel ISEF. High school students must qualify for Intel NWSE by placing in the top one-third at their regional fair. At Intel NWSE high school students proceeding from regional fairs will compete for the top state awards. One set of ISEF finalists will be chosen from the physical science categories and another from the life science categories.

The Intel Northwest Science Expo System fairs are a great way for an ASE student to take his/her project forward and learn even more from the experience. At these fairs, students are required to do a formal presentation of their work, including a formal report and present it to a panel of professional judges. In addition to the learning this engenders, students can gain recognition for their work and win scholarships, awards and a trip to the International Science and Engineering Fair.

Key points about turning an ASE project into an NWSE System project

1. NWSES fairs are for focused science or engineering research, not a broader report on the ASE experience. Some ASE projects are better suited to going to an NWSE fair than others.
2. Projects from engineering to computer science to behavioral and social science and from physics to botany qualify.
3. **ALL projects must follow the ISEF rules** (www.nwse.org/tipsforstudents). This includes paperwork that must be completed BEFORE experimentation by the student begins *for all projects*.
4. **All NWSE System projects need an Adult Sponsor.** The adult sponsor takes responsibility for making sure the student is safe, legal and ethical and **has completed all needed paperwork correctly**. The adult sponsor is also the point of contact between the fair and the student. NWSES communicates all requirements about participation in the fair through the adult sponsors. All adult sponsors are required to register online with NWSES. **Given the time involved to serve as an adult sponsor, WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU REFRAIN FROM ASKING YOUR MENTOR TO BE YOUR ADULT SPONSOR.** A teacher or parent is better suited to being an adult sponsor. NWSES has found that the registration process takes more time than most scientists have to give to it.
5. Please remember that ASE mentors have only signed up to serve as ASE mentors, not to supervise NWSE projects. Some mentors may be very interested in helping students turn their ASE projects into NWSE projects, but some may not have the time. If you are interested in turning your ASE Project into a NWSE project, please talk with your mentor before going ahead with any decisions or paperwork. Your mentor just may not have the time to supervise that level of project.
6. You can find complete information on the NWSE website, www.nwse.org, including information about all fairs in Oregon.

Please feel free to contact Stephanie Jones (nwse@pdx.edu, 503-725-8748) with any questions about NWSE.

Please see other side for more information

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Two More Ways to Extend Your ASE Experience

- 1) **The Siemens Competition**, funded by the Siemens Foundation is a national competition for research projects, <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/pay/scholarships-and-aid/45104.html#overview>. The application due date is October 1, 2009. **Social and behavioral science research projects are not eligible for this Competition:** Social science is considered to be the study of society or social behavior; behavioral science would be considered any project that involves the study of the actions and reactions of humans and animals through observation and experimental methods; neuroscience projects—based on the underlying sciences of biology, chemistry, and physics—are allowed. Students who win the regional competition receive between a \$1000 and a \$3000 scholarship. Students who go on to win the National Competition can receive between a \$10,000 and \$100,000 scholarship.
- 2) **Intel Science Talent Search**, funded by Intel and administered by Society for Science, is also a national competition for research projects, www.societyforscience.org/sts. The application due date is TBD but usually falls mid- November (2009). **No projects involving live non-human vertebrate animal experimentation will be eligible (these rules have some caveats, so look on line before deciding if your project is disqualified).** Each spring, 40 finalists are selected from a nationwide pool of thousands to attend the week-long Science Talent Institute in Washington, D.C. There, students have the opportunity to present their research projects to the general public and members of the scientific community at the National Academy of Sciences, meet with distinguished government leaders and participate in a rigorous judging process. Over \$1 million is awarded annually to Intel STS participants and their schools. Awards range from \$5,000 scholarship grants and laptop computers for all finalists to the grand prize of a \$100,000 college scholarship.

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