



# 2020 Mississippi Science and Engineering Fair

## Upper Fair Abstract Form

*This form must be completed and attached to each registration.  
Failure to attach the abstract form will result in disqualification*

Individual Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Research Category

*(check one only)*

- 0100 Behavioral & Social Sciences
- 0200 Biochemistry
- 0300 Inorganic Chemistry
- 0400 Organic Chemistry
- 0500 Earth & Environmental Sciences
- 0600 Animal Sciences
- 0700 Biomedical & Health Sciences
- 0800 Microbiology
- 0900 Physics & Astronomy
- 1000 Engineering Mechanics
- 1100 Mathematics & System Software
- 1200 Robotics & Intelligent Machines
- 1300 Plant Sciences

### Competition Category

*(check one only)*

- Class 3 (7th & 8th Grades)
- Class 4 (9th & 10th Grades)
- Class 5 (11th & 12th Grades)

### 1. Complete the abstract for your project.

a. Abstract should meet the following qualifications:

- 25 to 250 words long
- typed on separate page
- single spaced, 12 point Time New Roman Font

b. The abstract should include the following:

- purpose of the experiment
- procedure
- data
- conclusions
- possible research applications (if applicable)

c. An Abstract MUST NOT include the following:

- acknowledgments (including naming the research institution and/or mentor with which you are working), or self promotions and external endorsements
- work or procedures done by the mentor

### 2. As part of this research project, the student directly handled, manipulated, or interacted with *(check ALL that apply)*:

- human subjects
- potentially hazardous biological agents
- vertebrate animals
- microorganisms
- rDNA
- tissue

3. This abstract describes only procedures performed by me/us reflects my/our own independent research, and represents one year's work only.  Yes  No

4. I/We worked or used equipment in a regulated research institution or industrial setting:  Yes  No

5. This project is a continuation of previous research:  Yes  No

6. My display board includes non-published photographs/visual depictions of humans (other than myself):  Yes  No

7. I/We hereby certify that the abstract and responses to the above statements are correct and properly reflect my/own own work:  Yes  No

**Abstract must be typed on separate page and attached to forms. Application will not be accepted if missing.**

### **Completing the Abstract**

Abstracts are limited to a maximum 250 words. Please be sure to consult the information from your affiliate fair for the proper formatting of the header information as fairs differ from what is required (or not allowed).

The abstract should include the following:

- a) purpose of the experiment
- b) procedure
- c) data
- d) conclusions

It may also include any possible applications. Only minimal reference to previous work may be included.

An abstract must not include the following:

- a) acknowledgements (including naming the research institution and/or mentor with which you were working), or self-promotions and external endorsements.
- b) work or procedures done by the mentor

### **Completing the Certification**

At the bottom of the Abstract form there are six questions. Read each carefully and answer appropriately.

The affiliated fair SRC will review and approve the abstract and answer to the questions listed.

### **Tips on Writing a Project Abstract**

A project abstract is a brief paragraph or two (limited to 250 words or 1,800 characters) highlighting and/or summarizing the major points or most important ideas about your project. An abstract allows judges to quickly determine the nature and scope of a project.

- Emphasize these aspects: purpose (hypothesis), methods (procedures used), data summary or analysis, and conclusions.
- Focus only on the current year's research
- Omit details and discussions
- Use the past tense when describing what was done. However, where appropriate use active verbs rather than passive verbs.
- Use short sentences, but vary sentence structure.
- Use complete sentences. Don't abbreviate by omitting articles or other small words in order to save space.
- Avoid jargon and use appropriate scientific language.
- Use concise syntax, correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation

### **Avoid a Rewrite**

- Focus on what you did, not on the work of your mentor or of the laboratory which you did your work
- Do NOT include acknowledgements, self promotion or external endorsements. Don't name the research institution and/or mentor with which you were working and avoid mentioning awards or honors (including achieving a patent) in the body of the abstract.
- Be sure to emphasize the current year's research. A continuation project should only make a brief mention of previous years' research (no more than a sentence or two).