



# Western Manitoba Science Fair Official Rules and Regulations

## I. General

1. Outstanding projects in any division, at Division or School Science Fairs will be allowed to enter the Western Manitoba Science Fair. Students in schools without Science Fairs may enter projects to a maximum of one per division.
2. A student may enter or participate in only one project in the Western Manitoba Science Fair.
3. Types of Projects
  - (a) Individual - a project done by one (1) student.
  - (b) Group - a project done by two (2) students.
  - (c) Class - a project done by a minimum of five (5) to a maximum of fifteen (15) students of the same class. Any exception to the number of students must be requested from the Western Manitoba Science Fair Committee in writing. Their decision will be final. A class may consist of up to two (2) grades in the same classroom.

## II. Project Restrictions

The types of projects in the Western Manitoba Science Fair are limited to the divisions indicated in the following tables. (IEP) indicates students on an individualized education plan and (Mod) indicates students taking modified credit courses.

<b>LEVEL</b>		<b>PROJECT TYPE</b>	<b>DIVISION</b>
1-2		Individual	Earth and Environmental Sciences
3-4	(IEP)		Health Sciences
5-6			Biotechnology
7-8		Group	Life Sciences
S1-S2	(Modified)		Engineering and Computing Sciences
S3-S4		Class (1-2 only)	Physical and Mathematical Sciences

## III. Definition of Divisions

The responsibility for the correct classification of a project rests with the exhibitor and the sponsoring teacher. However, the Western Manitoba Science Fair Committee reserves the right to suggest a reclassification of projects. Samples of criteria for classification are available.

IV. All applicants in the 7-8, S1-S2 and S3-S4 levels must submit a one page printed abstract summarizing the project. The abstract will be given a value of ten marks and must be submitted with the entry form. The abstract should consist of the following:

- The project name and name(s) of students
- A statement of the basic problem or question.
- A brief summary of observations and/or data.
- A summation or generalization of the conclusions drawn as a result of the investigation.

V. Exhibits

1. Maximum dimensions for projects, including backboards, are 0.8 metres from front to back, 1.2 metres from side to side, 2.0 metres high. No oversized projects will be accepted for entry unless it has been given approval in advance by the Western Manitoba Science Fair Service Committee. An approved oversized project is to have a backboard that does not exceed regulation size.
2. Exhibits should be durable, with moving parts securely fastened and safe. Self-supporting backboards and extension cords are to be furnished by the exhibitors.
3. Local fire regulations must be followed. No flammable liquids, compressed gas cylinders or open flames may be used.
4. Dangerous chemicals may not be exhibited. Simulations may be used for display purposes.
5. All extension cords and 110 volt alternating current apparatus must be CSA –approved. No exposed live parts over 36 volts are allowed. Current (amperage) must be low so as not to cause any discomfort or danger if touched. Wet cells are not allowed because of the hazardous chemicals involved.
6. No firearms or ammunition are allowed at the fair. Experiments using firearms must be carried out in accordance with federal and provincial legislation.
7. Lasers, radioisotopes and x-ray or radiation producing apparatus may not be displayed. High voltage apparatus capable of generating in excess of 10kV is considered an x-ray hazard.
8. Biological hazards, including live cultured bacteria, cells and tissues, or any material which may decompose are suitable for research under controlled laboratory conditions, but may not be displayed at the fair. Simulations or pictures may be displayed. Live plants should be not be brought to the fair.

9. Living vertebrate animals are not to be used in experiments for the Western Manitoba Science Fair with the following exceptions: observations of normal living patterns of wild animals in the free living state or in zoological parks, gardens or aquaria, and observation of pets, fish or domestic animals. No live animals, mounted specimens or animal parts may be displayed at the fair.

#### VI. During the Fair

1. Exhibitors will be responsible for the supervision and demonstration of their projects during public viewing.
2. Exhibitors are required to remain with their projects during judging.
3. The Western Manitoba Science Fair is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged articles. Exhibitors are advised that projects may not be removed before the time indicated on the Schedule of Events. The Western Manitoba Science Fair Committee will dispose of unclaimed projects in any way they see fit after the designated time.

#### VII. Judging Standards

Judging will be based on standards and official forms set by the Western Manitoba Science Fair Committee. Samples of the judging forms are available to schools.

(Last modification, November 30, 2004)