



Fort Atkinson Regional Science Fair

ESSAY CONTEST SUBMISSION CRITERIA

To view the actual sheets used to evaluate each essay, please go to our website at www.fasciencefair.org

All essays must be typed using 12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced. Hard copies ONLY will be accepted. NO fax or e-mail copies.

Each essay must propose a thesis, provide discussion of research done to support the thesis, and come to a conclusion. First, develop your thesis. A thesis statement is the statement that begins a formal essay. It describes the central argument of your essay, i.e., smoking is bad for your health. Second, do your research. Books, magazine articles, and Internet sources are all acceptable. You MUST cite the sources you used to defend your thesis. And third, write your essay. In your conclusion, explain how the research did or did not support your thesis.

Division 3-5: Write a minimum of 150 words on any science related topic, following the criteria described in the paragraph above. Include a bibliography of sources utilized including the author, title, and publication date. If using an online source, cite the URL and date accessed.

Divisions 6-8 and 9-12: Write a minimum of 500 words on any science related topic following the criteria described in the paragraph above. Cite sources within the body of the essay using the APA citation style. Include a bibliography of sources consulted using the APA style.

Each essay must include the following information on the **back** of the essay:

- Name
- Address with city and zip code
- Home telephone number
- Grade level
- School

Each essay must have attached the **Essay Verification Form** signed by a parent or teacher including an accurate word count.

Any entry that does not conform to the above criteria will not be judged.

ESSAY VERIFICATION FORM

This form MUST be submitted WITH the essay. (Photocopies of this form are allowed.)

I, _____
(Parent/Guardian/Teacher Signature)

verify that the essay submitted to the Fort Atkinson Science Fair is the product of original work done by

(Entrant's Name)

and any assistance rendered was not of a significant nature.

Essay Title: _____

Grade Division: _____

Word Count: _____

Entry Number: _____ (To be filled in by FASF Essay Committee)