**Guide for the Secondary (Junior Senior Divisions–grades 6-12)**

**Coastal Bend Regional Science Fair**

Dear CBRSF Participants, Teachers, and Participants,

You are receiving this message because your student is registered for the Junior or Senior Division Coastal Bend Regional Science Fair being held on Friday, February 9, 2024, on the TAMUCC Campus in the University Center (UC). The Award Ceremony will be at 4 PM on Saturday, February 10 in the same location. Parking is free on the second floor of the Bayview Parking Garage on Friday and free in all lots on Saturday.

Your school district is likely arranging transportation for Friday. Parents are not required to attend if they are coming with their teachers. Parents can attend if they desire.

Please see our [campus map](https://campusmap.tamucc.edu/?id=1758#!ct/41227,45184,45185,42919,41218,41221,43145,43188,43193,43340,43341,43389,43391?s/) for building locations and parking lots (Jellyfish Lot and Turtle Cove are closest).

**Project Board**

**ALL students need to bring their projects with them during their check in time. Parents/teachers can go with their child to help them set up their boards. *Parents/teachers MUST leave the Exhibit Hall when judging begins.***

* You created a Project Board to compete in your school or district fair. You can use that same board or improve your board if the original experiment stays the same.
* Please see the [CBRSF student guide](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fsciencefair.tamucc.edu%2Fstudent_project_guide.html&data=05%7C01%7Cnorma.swaenepoel%40tamucc.edu%7C22cae53121ec40336eac08db3acca999%7C34cbfaf167a64781a9ca514eb2550b66%7C0%7C0%7C638168422920753733%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qJGwWQal8RiXSoYk5qsZ99P35AFkbnuQXs9Zd7mRm5M%3D&reserved=0) for more details on the required board elements and any items allowed/disallowed as part of your display.
* Please print a copy of your abstract and any approval forms. The abstract needs to be displayed in front of the project or taped to the table.

**TIP!** Dr. Chris Bird, professor of Biology at TAMUCC created a presentation for the 2021 Regional fair which had to be held virtually. This presentation is excellent because Dr. Bird explains the key features of sharing data. Viewing this video can help students understand how to best represent their findings. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bA05G3TE8UDsGon-UOOjCsGE4bk4cwb_/view?usp=sharing>

**!!!IMPORTANT!!!**

·      ***NO*** *boards will be allowed to be displayed that have glitter on them! (Glitter is very hard to remove).*

*·****NO*** *helium balloons are allowed in the exhibit hall or any place in the Dugan Wellness Center.*

*·****NO*** *liquids (even water) or organic materials allowed in front of display or on the board.*

*\*\*\*Remember NO GLITTER or organic materials are allowed on or in front of the* *display.\*\*\**

*·      Please check the student guide for any other allowed/dis-allowed items).*

**Checking in**

* Please arrive on time.
* Check-in is in the Foyer inside the UC, just outside the Anchor Ballroom. Students will receive their T-shirts, a name tag, and a project form.
* 9-12 students should enter in the doorway to the far right as seen from the parking lot (we will have signage and a person there directing)
* 6-8 students should enter the main UC doors to the far left of the parking lot.
* *The lines will be long, but we have lots of volunteers checking on our projects. At check-in boards will be inspected to make sure display and safety rules have been followed.*
* After checking in with our volunteers, teachers and/or parents can walk with their child to the Exhibit Hall and help them set up their project board.
* Parents/guardians will be given a fair sheet with the student’s name and exhibit hall location on it at check in.
* Students will need to use the Fair sheet to find their place.

**Exhibit Hall**

* Teachers and/or parents are allowed in the exhibit hall during set up time but must leave during judging.
* We will have chaperones in the exhibit hall to supervise students.
* Students are not expected to stand the whole time and may need to rest. They may bring a towel or blanket to rest on while they wait for the judges. A small chair is allowed.
* Students should bring water only to drink. No other drinks are allowed. A small, neat snack is allowed.
* Students may bring a quiet game, book or drawing materials. Electronic games are allowed, but users will need earphones.
* Students are expected to stay relatively quiet and by their boards during judging. Students should NOT use this time to visit other projects other than the ones closest to them.

**Judging**

* Students will be judged in the 2-hour period following the check-in and set up.
* We will do our best to have 2 judges interview them. Additional Judges may talk to them for special awards.
* Please see our website under resources for some hints about the interview.
* Students should be prepared to talk about their project for 2-3 minutes and then the judges will ask questions for 2-3 minutes. Judges may return to ask more questions.
* Students must stay in the judging Hall until released to be considered for awards.

\*\*\*Parents and/or should wait in the University Center or close-by while the student is in the Exhibit Hall. \*\*\*

**After Judging**

* After an entire division is complete, we will release the students from the exhibit hall and bring them to the Lone Star Room.
* We will announce from the stage that they are coming out of the Exhibit Hall.
* At the end of all judging, please students need to pick up their project board at 1:30.

**Awards**

Every student registered for Regionals this year will receive a special commemorative T-Shirt and Certificate of Participation. Students will receive these awards at the Award Ceremony.

* 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each category by Grade will receive a Medallion.
* We have many special Awards from sponsors and professional organizations
* This year, for the first time we will be awarding cash awards to top projects due to a generous sponsorship from the Port Authority.
* The top project in 6-8 and 9-12 receive a trophy for Best in Division.
* The top project overall wins Best in Show and a 1000 tuition scholarship to TAMUCC
* The College of Science at TAMUCC is also conducting a drawing for tuition waivers for 11th and 12th grade students. Look for a special email soon with applications for this opportunity and more.

**AWARD Announcements:**

As soon as we have made decisions about all awards, we will post a list of names of students who need to return for the awards ceremony at 4 PM on Saturday

The list will be posted on our website here: [https://www.tamucc.edu/education/events/sciencefair/awards-photos.php](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.tamucc.edu%2Feducation%2Fevents%2Fsciencefair%2Fawards-photos.php&data=05%7C01%7Cnorma.swaenepoel%40tamucc.edu%7C22cae53121ec40336eac08db3acca999%7C34cbfaf167a64781a9ca514eb2550b66%7C0%7C0%7C638168422920753733%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DAQ%2BpKEM7qTU%2F0FfijTV%2FPQnxmUH9TcrApGmABUhkQE%3D&reserved=0)

**ADVANCING to TxSEF: Texas Science and Engineering Fair, or National Fairs (ISEF: International Science and Engineering Fair or Thermo-Fischer)**

**Category Awards TxSEF**

* Students who place 1st or 2nd place in their category are automatically promoted to state.
* 3rd place winners can attend state if the 1st or 2nd place winner cannot attend. 1st and 2nd place winners need to confirm their attendance by Saturday, February 11th.
* Five 3rd place winners will be selected to attend state from each Division.
* **ALL 1-3 category winners** will need to stay from 4-5 for meeting to inform you about attending state. ALL state bound participants need to have ALL required information in STEM Wizard to be able to attend State. State participants will have to submit a Virtual Project Board and a 2 minute or less video when they complete the TxSEF registration.

**Senior Division: ISEF**

Two projects will be selected to attend ISEF, and one runner up will be selected. This year if any of the three ISEF selected by the Regional also receive the ISEF award at state, the other two will also go as representatives for CBRSF. If neither of the three get selected at state for ISEF, only our top two projects will attend ISEF. The regional Fair pays all expenses for selected projects to attend ISEF which is in Los Angeles this year in May. (Information here: https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/

**Junior Division: Thermo Fischer**

## The top 10% of all projects in the Junior Division are selected to submit to the Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge. Students submit their projects online and receive certificates and prizes as well as the opportunity to attend the final competition in Washington D.C. (information here: https://www.societyforscience.org/jic/)

**Fair Schedule is posted on our website:**

**https://www.tamucc.edu/education/events/sciencefair/**