

SIM Science & Engineering Fair

APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

Submission of the Online Application to the SIM Science & Engineering Fair does not guarantee acceptance to the fair. The Fair has always rejected applications on the basis of inappropriate content and for violations of Fair regulations. Projects that are substandard (poor quality) or incomplete will also be rejected. The basis for this judgment of quality is exclusively the information collected on Online Application Form which includes the Project Summary and additional project information including the Project Abstract. The SIM Science & Engineering Fair does not consider other submitted materials or awards won at affiliated fairs.

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Acceptance to present a project at the SIM Science & Engineering Fair requires the approval of an application submitted by the student(s).2. Applications without a Project Abstract will be rejected without recourse to appeal. Each student on a team project must complete his/her own personal application, but the Project Abstract need only be supplied by one member of the team. As long as the abstract is provided by at least one member, other members of the team may choose to provide or omit the abstract without penalty.3. Abstracts must demonstrate a level of knowledge and investigation that is appropriate for the grade of the student and discipline and which is beyond what is considered common knowledge. In other words, the investigations must demonstrate knowledge that is not found in middle or high school textbooks.4. Abstracts must communicate ideas effectively, use Standard English and be legible.5. The methodology and experimental design should be appropriate for the student's grade and discipline and should include the following where appropriate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experiments are appropriate to achieve the stated objective.• The sample size and/or number of trials is sufficient for projects where replication is necessary to establish validity.• The statistical analysis is appropriate for the student's grade and discipline; the conclusion is relevant to the stated hypothesis.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Projects which are merely demonstrations, display collections and literature searches are generally not acceptable. In order to be acceptable, the student must use the demonstrations, collection, or search results, to extract new information not previously known to the student.7. Applications may be rejected for failing to satisfy the rules of the Fair.8. The application fees are not refundable if the application is rejected.9. All rejected applications will be reviewed by the Directors of Judging and are subject to appeal (with the exception of those applications which do not contain an Abstract). <p>Student, parents and advisors should be aware that these acceptance criteria are not intended to limit the number of participants but rather, by requiring higher standards for project abstracts, to improve the quality of the Fair and to ensure that all participants are able to effectively communicate their projects to the judges. Only a small percentage of applications have ever been identified as likely to be rejected. Every disqualified application will be contacted in a timely manner.</p>
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