

# JUDGING INFORMATION

Eastern Newfoundland Science & Technology Fair

## Project Categories

Each project is placed into one of two categories – life science or physical science – and is then placed into one of three levels:

- Junior                Grades 7 & 8
- Intermediate       Grades 9 & 10
- Senior                Grades 11 & 12

## Judging Teams and Project Assignments

The judges are volunteers who have backgrounds in science and technology. Each judging team is comprised of four individuals and is assigned as many as 10 projects to evaluate, all within one category and division. Projects will be evaluated twice – once by one pair of judges and then a second time by the other pair of judges from the same team.

## Judging Schedule

Judging will take place from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM on the first day of the fair (typically a Friday). This period will be divided into 15-minute time blocks with 5-minute breaks between each. Projects will be randomly scheduled to be judged during two of the time blocks. The specific times that each project is to be evaluated will be provided to the student finalists and to the judges.

## Project Grading

At the end of the judging period, the four judges on each team will meet to discuss their assigned projects and to complete an official project evaluation form for each one. The form will contain the project's final grade (from 0 to 100). The judges submit the forms to the Chief Judge who compiles a summary of the project numbers and official marks.

A copy of the project evaluation form can be found at...

<http://eastern.scifairs.k12.nf.ca/pdf/judgingform.pdf>

## Medals

Projects are awarded medals based on the final grade.

Category	Final Grade Range
<b>Gold</b>	80 – 100 %
<b>Silver</b>	75 – 79 %
<b>Bronze</b>	70 – 74 %
<b>Honorable Mention</b>	60 – 69 %

## Important Notes

### Bilingual Judges

Judges who are fluent in both English and French are sought to evaluate projects that are prepared in French. However, since our judges are volunteers, we do not always have a sufficient number of bilingual judges to evaluate all of the French projects that are registered in the fair. Consequently, **some projects that are prepared in French may be evaluated by judges who are only fluent in English.** When preparing the judging teams and schedule, French speaking judges will first be assigned to Senior French projects, then to intermediate, and finally to junior. **Student finalists should be aware that if their backboard and presentation is prepared in French they may have to present their project in English when being evaluated by the judges. Also, the judges may not be able to read their backboard.**

### Judging Time Requests

**Requests, from students or parents, for a project to be judged at a specific time will not be honored.** All projects are assigned judging times randomly and the student finalists must be present on the judging floor for the duration of the judging period (even when their project is not scheduled to be judged).

### Disqualification

**Each project must be evaluated twice at the scheduled times.** If students are not present at their project at their schedule judging time and the project is not evaluated twice, the project is not eligible for any awards or medals.

### Project Grades Are Final

The grade for each project will be determined and calculated by a judging team and then submitted to the Chief Judge on an official project evaluation form. **The grade on the project evaluation form is final. It will not be changed under any circumstances (except in the case of mathematical error).**

### Conflicts of Interest

A Judge will not be permitted to evaluate projects in the same level in which a student participant is registered who is a relative of the judge. Judges should alert the chief judge of any such potential conflicts of interest prior to the day of the fair.