



TXSEF Finalist Registration Guide

Texas Science & Engineering Fair (TXSEF) 2024

Congratulations on your advancement to the Texas Science & Engineering Fair!

The Texas Science & Engineering Fair (TXSEF) 2024 will be in-person at Texas A&M University March 22 - 23, 2024. The competition will follow the guidelines set forth by the [Society for Science at the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair \(ISEF\)](#) to determine eligibility. All finalists are required to complete a virtual display board and project overview video within the registration platform. Finalists will also be required to provide a physical display board for the finalist for in person category judging. All displays will undergo Display & Safety inspection. The TXSEF team worked closely with the Scientific Review Committee (SRC) and Display & Safety (D&S) to establish how projects will be judged at 2024 TXSEF.

Read these guidelines thoroughly before registering as an TXSEF Finalist:

- ❖ Review the rubric in the guide to better understand how your physical display board will be judged.
- ❖ **Registration Platforms:**
 - STEM Wizard - this platform served as the registration platform for Regional Fairs and will additionally be used to facilitate the approval for SRC.
 - Once you have received approval from SRC within STEM Wizard, you will register for TXSEF registration platform called OpenWater
 - OpenWater -this is the platform finalists will use to register for TXSEF.
- ❖ **Team Projects:**
 - If students are part of a team project, every team member must register individually in OpenWater.
 - Team projects will need to designate one team member as the team lead. The team lead is in charge of submitting all required items (*virtual display board/physical display board, project overview video and additional documents as needed*).

Required Items:

- ❖ **STEM Wizard**
 - Once advanced from a Regional Fair, finalists must log in to STEM Wizard, <https://txsef.stemwizard.com/>. Finalists must complete and upload the [TXSEF Abstract Form](#). This version will be the only version SRC approves for state. Additionally, be sure to update or complete any milestones that are incomplete, and check their Files and Forms to make sure all required paperwork is submitted.
 - **SRC**
 - SRC approval must be completed for your project before you register for TXSEF.
 - Finalists will need to login to their STEM Wizard account daily to monitor status and check for SRC messages. When they receive email requests for corrections from the SRC, they need to make these corrections and resubmit within a day of receiving the email
 - Approval is indicated by the Files and Forms circle turning green with a check mark, along with all forms being listed as approved.

- ❖ **TXSEF Registration (OpenWater)**
 - Every finalist must officially register for TXSEF. You will receive an email from TXSEF via STEM Wizard with information on how to register. Finalists will need to login to their STEM Wizard account daily to monitor status and check for messages.
 - Pay all fees to participate in TXSEF. - ***THERE WILL BE NO ONSITE PAYMENT***
 - Finalists, teachers, and parents will need to determine who is paying the finalist(s) participation fee.
 - The fee is \$50.00 per student.
 - Personal checks will not be accepted.
 - Any district, school or regional fair paying on behalf of finalist(s) will need to email TXSEF at txsef_registration@tamu.edu and include a full list of all students from the district competing in TXSEF. ***Please allow 1-2 business days to receive requested invoices.***
 - Although payment prior to fair is encouraged, we will not require payment up front. ***Final deadline to pay is April 30, 2024.***
- ❖ **Submissions**
 - All submissions must be submitted during registration. **Registration is considered incomplete until all required submissions are received.**
 - **The submission deadline is March 5, 2024, 11:59 p.m. (CST).**
 - After the submission deadline, projects will then be locked for TXSEF and special award judges to review prior to the fair. Projects that fail to submit revised paperwork in a timely manner will not be eligible for participation in TXSEF 2024.
 - Finalists who advance to TXSEF are required to submit the following when registering:
 - Form 1C (if applicable) PDF format
 - Form 7 (if applicable) PDF format
 - Abstract (PDF format)
 - Note: Your abstract needs to be on the TXSEF Abstract Form with the correct category. This year's Abstract will not have an official state SRC approved seal. Your abstracts will be stamped during TXSEF Display & Safety.
 - Virtual display board (PDF format)
 - Project Overview Video
 - Students can upload a limited number of lab notes, which is optional.
 - Compete in-person at Texas A&M University and provide a [physical display board](#) (project poster) as well as be interviewed in-person by TXSEF judges.

Requirements

Online Submissions:

1. Virtual Display Board

a. Virtual Display Board (Judges - Review virtual submission)

- 📄 The virtual display board represents the project poster used during the in-person fair.
- 📄 Finalists are welcome to make the board look like the one used for the in-person fair, and can use the [JR/SR Project Board Template Example](#). This is an example project board template for students. Finalists may change colors, text box sizes, move panels, etc. ***To access this document, you must download and save it to your computer.***
- 📄 The template includes additional guidelines.

- ❑ Students are not allowed to change the size of the template or add additional pages. Students are allowed three 48" x 36" slides.
- ❑ The virtual display board must include the SRC approved Abstract from STEM Wizard as well as Form 1C (*Regulated Research Institutional/ Industrial Setting Form*) and Form 7 (*Continuation/ Research Progression Projects Form*), if required for the project. These forms are found on the STEM Wizard Dashboard (left side of screen) and can be downloaded as PDFs. **Failure to include these required documents may result in points being deducted during special award judging.**
- ❑ Many images found on the web are copyrighted. Only use images for which you have the express permission of the photographer/stock image company, and credit the image as required by copyright.
- ❑ Virtual display boards are **not** allowed to have any:
 - Animations or active hyperlinks. Remember: NO hyperlinks!
 - References to an institution or mentor that supported the work or to any patents pending other than what is displayed on Form 1C on slide 4.
 - Personal information such as email address, home address or phone number.
- ❑ **The final poster board presentation should be saved as a PDF for submission.**
- ❑ All virtual display boards must conform to the same D&S rules as if placed on a physical poster for judges and the public. Passing a [Display & Safety](#) inspection will be required to compete.

Avoid these common mistakes on the virtual poster board:

- Student name on the first slide
- Clickable links or hyperlinked URLs
- Adding more pages than allowed
- Pictures of logbook pages
- Only using links to credit sources

2. Presentation - Project Overview Video

a. Project Overview Video (MUST not exceed 2 minutes) – (TXSEF Judges - Review virtual submission)

- Video should summarize the project at a high level and still be understood by a general core audience and should not exceed 2 minutes.
- **While judges will have access to this video, it will not be the focus of their project review.** Therefore, the video should not include key information omitted in other submitted items.
- If a project is best explained by showing a demonstration, you may include this in the project overview video. This video must meet all [Display & Safety](#) regulations.
- Physical poster boards are not necessary in videos because judges will have access to the virtual poster board.
- Only MP4, MPG, MPEG, MOV, and WMV video files are accepted. MP4 or MOV files are recommended.

b. Project Overview Video Tips

The video does not need a physical poster board because judges will have access to virtual poster boards.

Reference the Judging Rubrics for Science and Engineering projects included in this guide to become familiar with how project overview videos will be judged.

Additional suggestions include:

- ❑ **Introduce Yourself:** State your full name, city, and school. Rather than reciting your project title, consider explaining your project in a single sentence.

- ❑ **Explain Your Project by Key Points:** What did you do? What did you find? What conclusions did you draw?
- ❑ Any props or visuals used must follow [Display & Safety](#) guidelines.
- ❑ Only student researchers of the project are allowed in the video. Parents are not allowed!

Best Practices for Filming:

Videos cannot be edited after submission. Keep these best practices in mind to ensure videos are the best representation of the work.

- Dress appropriately, as if being interviewed by a judge.
- Film in a well-lit and non-distracting environment so the viewer's focus stays on you and your work.
- Remove or avoid distractions such as a moving fan in the background.
- For best results, film horizontally (landscape).
- Keep the camera still and in place during filming.
- Speak clearly, loudly, and avoid long pauses.
- Do **not** increase the speed of the video to stay within 2 minutes.
- Watch the video before submitting to ensure the lighting is appropriate, the audio is clear, and does not have excessive background noise.

In-person:

1. Physical Display Board: (Judging - In-Person - Live Interviews) March 23, 2024.

Finalists who advance to TXSEF will be required to provide a physical display board (project poster).

- ❑ Your SRC Approved Abstract from STEM Wizard will need to be displayed vertically at your booth. If required for the project, Form 1C (*Regulated Research Institutional/ Industrial Setting Form*) and Form 7 (*Continuation/ Research Progression Projects Form*) must also be displayed. These forms can be found in your Files and Forms in STEM Wizard and can be downloaded as PDF's. **Failure to include these required documents may result in points being deducted during judging.**
- ❑ All physical display boards must conform to D&S rules to be displayed for judges and the public. Passing a [Display & Safety](#) inspection will be required to compete.

2. Presentation

a. Project Presentation: Interview (Judging - In Person - Live Interviews)

- ❖ Finalists will be interviewed during initial judging at Texas A&M University.
- ❖ Finalists should convey an understanding of their project's basic science, interpretation and limitations of the results and conclusions.
- ❖ If a team project, all team members should demonstrate significant contributions and understanding of the project.
- ❖ Reference the Judging Rubrics: Science/Engineering located in these guidelines.

Lab Notes (OPTIONAL)

- ❑ TXSEF does not require any project to submit a laboratory notebook. However, a finalist may upload a maximum of four individual pages (saved as four separate PDF files; one page = one PDF file) from a lab notebook to provide evidence of its use for online judging of Special Awards.
- ❑ Special Award judges reviewing projects online will have access to these optional lab notes, just as they would at a finalists' booth during an in-person fair. However, key information must be provided in the required materials as previously outlined since lab notes are supplemental. A maximum of four pages is allowed in order to protect your intellectual property.
- ❑ Lab notes may be provided for in-person judging and must conform to the [Display & Safety](#) guidelines.

Judging Criteria for Science Projects

I. Research Question (10 pts)

- ❖ clear and focused purpose
- ❖ identifies contribution to field of study
- ❖ testable using scientific methods

II. Design and Methodology (15 pts)

- ❖ well-designed plan and data collection methods
- ❖ variables and controls defined, appropriate and complete

III. Execution: Data Collection, Analysis, and Interpretation (20 pts)

- ❖ systematic data collection and analysis
- ❖ reproducibility of results
- ❖ appropriate application of mathematical and statistical methods
- ❖ sufficient data collected to support interpretation and conclusions

IV. Creativity (20 pts)

- ❖ project demonstrates significant creativity in one or more of the above criteria

V. Presentation (35 pts)

a. Poster (10 pts)

- ❖ logical organization of material
- ❖ clarity of graphics and legends
- ❖ supporting documentation displayed

b. Interview (25 pts)

- ❖ clear, concise, thoughtful responses to questions
- ❖ understanding of basic science relevant to project
- ❖ understanding interpretation and limitations of results and conclusions
- ❖ degree of independence in conducting project
- ❖ recognition of potential impact in science, society and/or economics
- ❖ quality of ideas for further research
- ❖ for team projects, contributions to and understanding of project by all members

Judging Criteria for Engineering Projects

I. Research Problem (10 pts)

- ❖ description of a practical need or problem to be solved
- ❖ definition of criteria for proposed solution
- ❖ explanation of constraints

II. Design and Methodology (15 pts)

- ❖ exploration of alternatives to answer need or problem
- ❖ identification of a solution

- ❖ development of a prototype/model

III. Execution: Construction and Testing (20 pts)

- ❖ prototype demonstrates intended design
- ❖ prototype has been tested in multiple conditions/trials
- ❖ prototype demonstrates engineering skill and completeness

IV. Creativity (20 pts)

- ❖ project demonstrates significant creativity in one or more of the above criteria

V. Presentation (35 pts)

a. Poster (10 pts)

- ❖ logical organization of material
- ❖ clarity of graphics and legends
- ❖ supporting documentation displayed

b. Interview (25 pts)

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- ❖ quality of ideas for further research
- ❖ for team projects, contributions to and understanding of project by all members

Scientific Review Committee (SRC)

The State Science Review Committee (SRC) reviews each project for eligibility. Each project must be cleared by the SRC prior to TXSEF participation. The volunteer-based SRC includes at least one biomedical scientist, one science educator, and one other member. Members of the SRC are knowledgeable about research subject matter and regulations, review required forms for entries, and address any problems before competition. The SRC looks for “red flags” that may require additional forms or project eligibility. The goal of the SRC is to ensure all projects are safe and meet the guidelines set by ISEF. Visit the [ISEF Rules Wizard](#) as a first step to help you determine what forms of approvals are necessary.

What are common SRC red flags?

- ❖ Human Subjects
 - If you used human subjects, IRB approval is required.
- ❖ Vertebrate Animals
 - If you used vertebrate animals, SRC approval is required.
- ❖ Potentially Hazardous Biological Agents
 - If you worked with microorganisms and/or human or vertebrate animal tissues, cells, or fluids, then SRC approval is required.
 - Certified Laboratories
 - Experimentation involving the culturing of potentially hazardous biological agents, even BSL-1 organisms, is prohibited in a home environment. However, specimens may be collected at home as long as they are immediately

transported to a laboratory with the BSL containment determined by the affiliated fair SRC. For more information about Potentially Hazardous Biological Agents Rules please review [ISEF rules](#).

- The following types of studies involve BSL-1 organisms and are exempt from prior SRC review and require no additional forms:
 - Studies involving baker's yeast and brewer's yeast, except in rDNA studies.
 - Studies involving Lactobacillus, Bacillus thuringiensis, nitrogen-fixing, oil-eating bacteria, and algae-eating bacteria introduced into their natural environment. (Not exempt if cultured in a petri dish environment.)
 - Studies involving water or soil microbes not concentrated in media conducive to their microbial growth.
 - Studies of mold growth on food items if the experiment is terminated at the first evidence of mold.
 - Studies of slime molds and edible mushrooms.
 - Studies involving E. coli k-12 (and other strains of E. coli used solely as a food source for C. elegans) that are performed at school and are not subject to additional rules for recombinant DNA studies or use of antibiotic resistant organisms.

❖ [Checklist and information for SRC Review](#)

Is data collection after the Regional Fair allowed?

Yes. However, finalists cannot add any new procedures involving human subjects, bacteria, vertebrate animals, or anything else that would require approval and was not approved earlier.

Display & Safety (D&S)

Display & Safety inspections include a review of all submitted materials and enforcement of the display guidelines as published in the [International Rules and Guidelines](#). This includes meeting all of the format and size requirements, providing appropriate credits for photographs, graphs and other visuals and having any permissions of individuals depicted in any project materials (on the board or in the project overview video) available.

Judging

Category Judging (Live Interviews) will take place on Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Texas A&M University, [Student Recreation Center](#).

Awards

TXSEF will award first through third place winners in 21 categories in both divisions. There will be a limited number of special awards and scholarships available to select projects. A number of students from the senior division will be selected to attend the [Governor's Science and Technology Champions Academy](#) and [Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge \(JIC\)](#) finalists will be selected from the junior division. Best in the State for Life Science and Physical Sciences will be awarded to both divisions, plus an honorable mention for each award. Twelve (12) projects will be selected from the senior division to advance to the [Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair \(ISEF\)](#). Those selected for ISEF will be required to attend a **mandatory meeting** immediately after the TXSEF awards ceremony.

Important Dates for TXSEF

- ❖ March 5, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. (CST) — Student deadline to submit all required items in OpenWater
- ❖ March 22, 2024 — Student, Project check - in and Display and Safety, [Student Recreation Center](#), Texas A&M University
- ❖ March 22, 2024 — Night at the ZACH, [Zachry Engineering Complex](#), Texas A&M University
- ❖ March 23, 2024 — Category Judging - live Interviews, [Student Recreation Center](#), Texas A&M University
- ❖ March 23, 2024 — TXSEF Awards Ceremony, [Rudder Auditorium](#), Texas A&M University
- ❖ April 30, 2024 — Payment Deadline

Important Dates for ISEF and Thermo Fisher

- ❖ May 11 - 17, 2024 — Regeneron ISEF 2024 - Los Angeles, CA.
- ❖ June 1, 2024 — Thermo Fisher JIC application deadline.

Step-by-Step Registration Process

The images below are a helpful guide through the registration process. Finalists are able to return and make changes or add submissions before the **March 5, 2024, deadline at 11:59 p.m. (CST)**. **Once finalists submit their registration, no additional changes are allowed.**

Every finalist must officially register for TXSEF. To register, you will receive an email from TXSEF via STEM Wizard with information on how to register. Finalists will need to login to their STEM Wizard account daily to monitor status and check for messages.

- ❖ If you are a new user to OpenWater, you must register by creating an account. Remember to keep track of the email address and password you use for future reference.
- ❖ If you participated in TXSEF last year, use your Scienceteer email address, select the "forgot password" option, and proceed to generate a new password.
 - If you do not remember your Scienceteer email, you will need to create a new account (see first bullet for instructions).

This link should not be distributed to anyone else, as registration submissions will be monitored. Non-state finalists found on the registration platform will be removed.

Once your TXSEF registration has been started, you can revisit and update your submission form in the My Account tab any time before the deadline on **March 5, 2024 at 11:59PM (CST)**.

Note: SRC reviews will be completed by March 4, 2024 at 5:00PM (CST).

If students fail to register on time, it will result in automatic disqualification. Please do not wait until the last minute to register your project.

Complete all of the **Entrant Information** and select the **“Save and Next”** button:



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- All (1)
- Incomplete (1)
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Email Address *

Last Name *

First Name *

Secondary Email *

Many students are unable to receive all email to student school email accounts. It is required to give an additional non-school email that is checked on a regular basis.

Parent or Guardian Email Address *

Parent First Name *

Parent Last Name *

Parent Phone Number *

Student Contact Number *

Please list a phone number that will be answered in case you advance or TXSEF has any questions for you.

Home Mailing Address *

Street Address

Line 2

City

Country

State / Province

Zip / Postal Code

What county do you currently live in? *

Student Gender *

Student Race *

Date of Birth *

Current Grade *

Anticipated Graduation Year *

Current Age *

Are you a foster youth or were you at any time in the foster care system? *
This data will not be connected to individual students or shared with judges. We are collecting the data to have a better understanding of the student population we serve.

Complete all of the **Project Information** and select the **“Save and Next”** button:

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Which Regional Fair did you advance from? *

Are you a high school student (9th-12th grade)? *
 Yes
 No

Division: *

Project Title *

Did you use coding or programming in your project? *

School Name *

School District *

Which of the following best describes your school? *

Select

School Address *

Street Address

Line 2

City

Country

United States

State / Province

Select

Zip / Postal Code

Teacher First Name *

Teacher Last Name *

Teacher Email *

Prev Save Save and Next

Complete all of the **General Questions** and select the **“Save and Next”** button

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What career industry interests you the most? *

- Arts & Culture: Arts, Communication, Entertainment, Media
- Business: Accounting, Consulting, Finance, Human Resources, Marketing & Sales, Operations
- Engineering, Technology & Data Science
- Entrepreneurship
- Healthcare: Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Other Health Professions
- Public Service: Education, Government, Law, Nonprofit
- Sciences: Life, Physical
- Other

Would you like to receive Texas A&M University information based on your college and career interests? *

Yes

No

Please check any of the following extra-curricular activities you participate in on a regular basis.

- Academic Societies and Competitions
- Pre-Professional and Vocational Groups
- Sports
- STEM Club/Activities
- Arts and Drama
- Music
- Media and Journalism
- Government, Politics, and Social Activism
- Community and Volunteer Work
- Part-time Job
- Summer Camps
- Other

Are you eligible for 504 accommodations? *

This data will not be connected to individual students or shared with judges. We are collecting the data to have a better understanding of the student population we serve.

Yes

No

Will you require a translator or interpreter? *

Yes

No

After high school I plan to... *

Select

Will your parent/guardian or school district be paying your registration fee? *

- PARENT/GUARDIAN/SELF
- SCHOOL/SCHOOL DISTRICT

Prev Save Save and Next

Complete all of the **Terms and Conditions** and select the “Save and Next” button:

TERMS & Conditions

Please thoroughly read each statement below and acknowledge:

I understand that a \$60 registration payment is required to participate and no personal checks or cash will be accepted. *

I understand

I understand that although payment prior to fair is encouraged, we will not require payment up front. Deadline for payment is April 30, 2024. *

I understand

I understand Project Board Check - In, Display and Safety, Round 1 & Blue Ribbon Judging will take place in-person on campus March 22 - 23, 2024. My attendance is required to be judged. *

I understand that if I advance to TXSEF that I am required to submit a virtual display board and a project overview video online. I will also be required to participate in TXSEF in person at Texas A&M University and provide a PHYSICAL display board that meets all ISEF guidelines along with a copy of my STEM Wizard approved abstract to put on display.

Note: This year's Abstract will not have official State SRC Approved seal. Your abstracts will be stamped during TXSEF Display & Safety.

I understand

I give permission for my research to be shared with Judges and relevant TXSEF team members for the purpose of evaluating the project. *

I agree

I will not contest in any manner decisions made by the TXSEF staff or Judges. *

I agree

I understand that participation in a competition of this nature allows for and permits a certain amount of subjectivity in these decisions. *

I understand

I agree and understand that judges must evaluate certain aspects of my research that are objective, and they also evaluate interpretive aspects of my entry which are qualitative in nature. *

I agree and understand

Ethics Statement *

Ethics Statement

Student researchers, as well as adults who have a role in their projects, are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. These include, but are not limited to:

- Integrity. Honesty, objectivity, and avoidance of conflicts of interest are expected during every phase of the research. The project should reflect independent research done by the student(s), and represent only one year's work.

- Legality. Compliance with all federal, country, state and local laws is essential. All projects must be approved by a Scientific Review Committee (SRC), and when necessary must also be approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB), Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), and/or Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC).

- Respect for Confidentiality and Intellectual Property. Confidential communications, as well as patents, copyrights, and other forms of intellectual property must be honored. Unpublished data, methods, or results may not be used without permission, and credit must be given to all contributions to research.

- Stewardship of the Environment. It is the responsibility of the researcher(s) and the adults involved to protect the environment and its organisms from harm. All projects involve some amount of risk. Everyone is expected to recognize the hazards, assess the risks, minimize them, and prepare for emergencies.

- Animal Care. Proper care and respect must be given to vertebrate animals. The guiding principles for the use of animals in research includes the following "Four R's": Replace, Reduce, Refine, Respect.

- Human Participant Protection. The highest priority is the health and well-being of the student researcher(s) and human participants.

- Potentially Hazardous Biological Agents (PHBAs). It is the responsibility of the student and adults involved in the project to conduct and document a risk assessment and to safely handle and dispose of organisms and materials.

Scientific fraud and misconduct are not condoned at any level of research or competition. Plagiarism, use or presentation of other researchers' work for one's own, and fabrication or falsification of data will not be tolerated. **Fraudulent projects will be automatically disqualified.**

I understand.

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Complete all of the **Liability Waiver Information** and select the “Save and Next” button:

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Terms of Use

Texas Science & Engineering Fair (TXSEF) 2024

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

AGREEMENT FOR WAIVER, INDEMNIFICATION, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND MEDICAL TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION

I, _____, age _____, desire to participate voluntarily in all activities of the **TEXAS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR** ("Activity"), which is sponsored or conducted by or under the auspices of

TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION ("Sponsor"), a member of The Texas A&M University System. I am fully aware that there are inherent risks to myself, and others involved with the Activity, including but not limited to illness, including the COVID-19 virus, its variants and other mutations, injury (including death), and loss of personal property, and I choose to voluntarily participate in the Activity and do voluntarily assume the above-mentioned risks as to myself and my property, and to the person and property of others. I acknowledge that the Activity may be physically strenuous. I know of no medical reason why I should not participate.

HOLD HARMLESS, INDEMNITY AND RELEASE:

For myself, my heirs, personal representatives or assigns, I do hereby release, waive, covenant not to sue, indemnify and agree to hold harmless for any and all purposes the Sponsor, The Texas A&M University System, the Board of Regents for The Texas A&M University System, and their members, officers, agents, volunteers, or employees ("RELEASEES" and/or "INDEMNITEES") from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, injuries (including death), or damages, including court costs and attorney's fees and expenses, which may occur to myself, other participants, and third-persons as a result of my participation and conduct in the Activity, while traveling to and from the Activity, or while on the premises owned, leased, or controlled by RELEASEES/INDEMNITEES, including injuries sustained as a result of the sole, joint, or concurrent negligence, negligence per se, statutory fault, or strict liability of RELEASEES/INDEMNITEES. I understand this waiver does not apply to injuries caused by intentional or grossly negligent conduct.

NO INSURANCE:

I understand that RELEASEES/INDEMNITEES do not maintain any insurance policy covering any circumstance arising from my participation in the Activity or any event related to that participation. **As such, I am aware that I should review my personal insurance coverage.** Sponsor does not carry general liability insurance to cover claims arising from the Activity so it seeks a waiver of claims as additional consideration for my right to participate such that Sponsor, a governmental unit of the State of Texas, can (a) provide the activity at the lowest possible cost to participants; and (b) provide access to a greater number of participants by expending limited resources on program materials rather than on liability insurance.

MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION, INDEMNITY AND WAIVER:

I understand RELEASEES/INDEMNITEES cannot be expected to anticipate or control all of the risks associated with the Activity and RELEASEES/INDEMNITEES may need to respond to illnesses, accidents, injuries, and potential emergency situations. **Therefore, I hereby give my consent for any medical treatment, rescue or evacuation services that may be required** (as determined by Sponsor staff, medical, emergency personnel, or other medical professionals) during my participation in the Activity with the understanding that the cost of any such treatment will be my responsibility. **I, for myself, my heirs, personal representatives, or assigns,** agree to indemnify and hold harmless INDEMNITEES for any costs incurred to treat me, even if an INDEMNITEE has signed medical care facility documentation promising to pay for the treatment due to my inability to sign the documentation. I, for myself, my heirs, personal representatives or assigns, further agree to release, waive, covenant not to sue, and agree to hold harmless for any and all purposes, RELEASEES from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, injuries (including death), or damages, including court costs and attorney's fees and expenses, that may be sustained by me while receiving medical care or in deciding to seek medical care, **including while traveling to and from a medical care facility, including injuries sustained as a result of the sole, joint, or concurrent negligence, negligence per se, statutory fault, or strict liability of RELEASEES.** I understand this waiver does not apply to injuries caused by intentional or grossly negligent conduct.

VOLUNTARY SIGNATURE AND BINDING OF HEIRS AND ASSIGNS:

In signing this Agreement, I acknowledge and represent that I have read it, understand it, and sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed. Sponsor has not made and I have not relied on any oral representations, statements, or inducements apart from the terms contained in this Agreement. I execute this document for full, adequate and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by the same, now and in the future. **For students engaging in extracurricular activities:** I understand I can choose not to sign this document and free myself from its terms and the associated risks of the activity by simply not participating in the activity and choosing some other activity available to me that has a lower level of risk to me. I further understand this is a voluntary activity and that not participating in this activity will in no way hinder my ability to obtain a degree from member institutions of The Texas A&M System. **For students going on field trips, foreign travel or other class-related activities:** I understand participation in this class/fieldtrip/activity is not mandatory and I will not be penalized for failing to participate in this activity because an alternative activity exists for which I can receive like credit. While I understand alternative activities are available to me that do not have the risks associated with the Activity I still desire to voluntarily engage in the Activity.

It is my express intent that this Agreement shall bind the members of my family and spouse, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns and personal representatives, if I am deceased, and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas.

**SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT INVOLVES THE WAIVER OF VALUABLE LEGAL RIGHTS.
CONSULT YOUR ATTORNEY BEFORE SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT.**

SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT INVOLVES THE WAIVER OF VALUABLE LEGAL RIGHTS.
CONSULT YOUR ATTORNEY BEFORE SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT.

Signed this day *

Participants Initials in Lieu of Signature *

Participants Name *

Participant's Date of Birth *

Finalists MUST have a parent or legal guardian fill out the information below. Failure to do so will disqualify your participation in the Texas Science & Engineering Fair. SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT INVOLVES THE WAIVER OF VALUABLE LEGAL RIGHTS. SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE RIGHTS AND THE RAMIFICATIONS OF SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT YOU SHOULD CONSULT AN ATTORNEY.

Parent or Legal Guardian Initials in Lieu of Signature (If participant is under 18 years old)

Parent or Legal Guardian Name

Address

Street Address

Line 2

City

Country

United States

State / Province

Select

Zip / Postal Code

Phone

US - (201) 555-0123

Driver's License# (if applicable)

Dependent

Yes

Emergency contact name: *

Emergency Contact Address *

Street Address

Line 2

City

Country

United States

State / Province

Select

Zip / Postal Code

Emergency contact phone number: *

US - (201) 555-0123

Alternate Phone

US - (201) 555-0123

Relationship to Participant *

Prev Save Save and Next

Complete all of the **The Texas A&M University Information** and select the “Save and Next” button:

[WAIVER, INDEMNIFICATION, AND MEDICAL TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION](#) → [THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM](#) → [Submissions](#)

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM TERMS & CONDITIONS

Definitions:

**Participant – TXSEF Student Participant (Parents/Guardians will accept on behalf of any participants 17 years old or younger.)
System Member – Texas A&M Spark! Program**

1. The Participant consents to the use by the System Member and assigns and grants to System Member the irrevocable and unconditional power, right, privilege and permission to make, record, produce, edit, modify, reproduce, exhibit, distribute, publish, publicly or privately display, publicly or privately perform, create derivative works, and transmit by the means of still photography, live or recorded broadcast, cablecast, webcast, or Internet streaming, broadband, wireless, mobile, film, videotape, or any other similar mechanical or electronic method (whether now known or invented later) the Participant's performance, contribution, appearance, name, voice, picture, likeness, poses, actions and any combination of any of these (the "Appearance") in connection with TXSEF promotional material which is generally for the purposes of education, instruction, research, publicity, advertising, and promotion in connection with TXSEF. Participant also waives any moral or similar rights Participant may have relating to the Appearance.
2. Participant understands that System Member shall have the absolute power and right to copyright the recorded production (and System Member shall be the owner of such copyright), in whole or in part, of TXSEF promotional material involving Participant and the Appearance and that such recorded production may be subsequently used, in whole or in part (including but not limited to any still recordings, images, or screen shots) for any purpose, including but not limited to the purposes described above at any time and from time to time hereafter throughout the world.
3. Participant also understands that there is no compensation or other consideration for appearance or participation in TXSEF promotional material, or for the grant of rights described in this document and that the opportunity to potentially appear in the recorded production related to TXSEF is sufficient consideration received for this Appearance Release.
4. Participant releases and discharges System Member, The Texas A&M University System and/or any affiliated organization, and their respective, regents, officers, employees, agents, and representatives from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, or liabilities arising out of or in connection with the Appearance or the making, producing, reproducing, processing, exhibiting, distributing, publishing, transmitting by any means described above or otherwise using the recorded production relating to TXSEF promotional material or the Appearance (e.g., violation of privacy rights; rights of publicity; false light; libel, slander, or disparagement; or copyright or trademark infringement).
5. Participant represents and warrants that Participant has not granted any similar rights to any third party that would conflict with the rights granted to System Member in this Appearance Release. Participant/Parent/Guardian certifies and warrants that Participant is of legal age, has full power, right and authority to enter into this consent and release, has read same in its entirety, understands all of its terms and provisions, and voluntarily and knowingly executes this Appearance Release.

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION TERMS & CONDITIONS

I hereby authorize the Texas Workforce Commission (the "Agency"), including any of its officers, employees, contractors, and agents, to photograph, videotape, film or record me in any media in relation to my participation in the Texas Science and Engineering Fair. The Agency may use my name, image, likeness, and the attached written information about myself, as shown in the written materials, photographs, video, film, electronic images, and/or audio recordings in relation to my participation in the Texas Science and Engineering Fair in whatever way they desire, including print, broadcast, web content and social media. I understand that I will not receive any monetary compensation for time or services.

Furthermore, I hereby release and discharge the Agency from any and all claims and demands arising out of, or in conjunction with, the use of my name, image, likeness and the attached written information about myself, as shown in the written materials, photographs, video, film, electronic images, and/or audio recordings and the plates, tapes and/or software from which they are made, including but not limited to, any and all claims for copyright, defamation, libel and privacy. I understand that these materials shall become the sole property of the Agency and it shall have the right to duplicate, reproduce and make other uses of the material for any lawful purpose, including illustration, advertising, promotion, and publication. I hereby waive the right to inspect or approve any such use of my name, image, likeness, and the attached written information about myself, as shown in the written materials, photographs, video, film, electronic images and/or audio recordings in relation to the Texas Science and Engineering Fair.

Signed this day *

Participant signature *

[Clear](#)

Participants Name *

Participant's Date of Birth *

Parent or Legal Guardian signature (If Participant is under 18 years old)

[Clear](#)

Parent or Legal Guardian Name

[Prev](#) [Save](#) [Save and Next](#)

Submissions

- Select the type of project: Individual or Team.
- Upload Project Overview Video (video format maximum 4 minutes).
- Reference the official [TXSEF poster template](#) to upload the Digital Board. Must be in **PDF** format!
- Upload up to four individual pages of lab notes. (OPTIONAL)
- Complete all required information and select **“add to cart”**

Individual Project Submission

What type of project is this? *

Individual

Upload a 2-minute Project Overview Video for judges to learn about your project and research *

TXSEF will only accept .MP4, .MPG, .MPEG, .MOV, .MOV, .WMV. It is recommended to use .MP4 or .MOV formats.

Your video may not be longer than 2 minutes and you are not allowed to increase the clip speed.

No file chosen

Digital Board *

Only the official TXSEF poster template will be accepted. To download the template click [HERE](#). Do not change the size of the poster template or add additional slides/pages.

- Read the template directions fully before creating the poster.
- All completed templates must be submitted in PDF format. No other versions will be accepted.
- You must include your OFFICIAL approved abstract which can be found in Scienteer.

No file chosen

Upload up to four individual pages of lab notes. (OPTIONAL)

Items	Action
No items have been added. Click on Add Item below.	

Upload Form 1C (if applicable)

All completed templates must be submitted in PDF format. No other versions will be accepted.

No file chosen

Upload Form 7 (if applicable)

All completed templates must be submitted in PDF format. No other versions will be accepted.

No file chosen

Upload Abstract: *

All completed templates must be submitted in PDF format. No other versions will be accepted.

No file chosen

Payment Instructions *

Please ensure you follow the instructions carefully:

If you choose Parent/Guardian as the payment option, click "add to cart", proceed to "checkout", enter your card information, and then click "process". A message will appear, click "ok". Once you've done this, a registration confirmation message will appear on the next screen, indicating your registration is complete. No further action is necessary.

If School/District is your selected payment option, click "add to cart", proceed to "checkout", and then click "finalize". After completing these steps, a registration confirmation message will display on the next screen.

Remember, your registration remains incomplete until you finish the steps outlined above. Incomplete registrations will prevent your participation in TXSEF. Ensure you complete all the steps for your registration to be considered complete. Additionally, you'll receive a registration confirmation email once the process is finished.

I understand

Team Project Submission:

If the project is a Team Project, identify the **Team Lead** who will be responsible for submitting the Project Overview Video and Digital Board for the entire team. Team Lead will continue to upload the project information. Other team members will proceed to Check-out by selecting **“add to cart”**

2024 Texas Science & Engineering Fair

[Entrant Information](#) → [Project Information](#) → [General Questions](#) → [Terms and Conditions](#) →

[WAIVER, INDEMNIFICATION, AND MEDICAL TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION](#) → [THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM](#) → [Submissions](#)

What type of project is this? *

Are you the Team Lead? Only one person on each team can be the Team Lead. *

The Team Lead is responsible for submitting the Project Overview Video and Digital Board for the entire team.

Yes

No

Payment Instructions *

Please ensure you follow the instructions carefully:

If you choose Parent/Guardian as the payment option, click "add to cart", proceed to "checkout", enter your card information, and then click "process". A message will appear; click "ok". Once you've done this, a registration confirmation message will appear on the next screen, indicating your registration is complete. No further action is necessary.

If School/District is your selected payment option, click "add to cart", proceed to "checkout", and then click "finalize". After completing these steps, a registration confirmation message will display on the next screen.

Remember, your registration remains incomplete until you finish the steps outlined above. Incomplete registrations will prevent your participation in TXSEF. Ensure you complete all the steps for your registration to be considered complete. Additionally, you'll receive a registration confirmation email once the process is finished.

I understand

Prev

Save

Add to Cart

Once finished with submissions, each registrant is to select **“add to cart”**

Payments:**Payment by Parent or Guardian**

- ❖ If the school does not pay participation fees, have a parent or guardian pay the participation fee with a credit card.
- ❖ After completing submissions, select "Add to Cart", proceed to "Checkout", enter your card information, and then click "Process". A message will appear; click "Ok". Once you've done this, a registration confirmation message will appear on the next screen, indicating your registration is complete. No further action is necessary. *(see examples below)*

Review and Checkout

Title	Category	#	Cost	Details	Action
Saving the Sea Turtles	Senior Division > Animal Sciences	9255	\$50.00	TXSEF Participation Fee	Select Remove

Total: \$50.00

[Print All Applications](#)[Checkout](#)**Complete credit card information then click "process"**

Total Amount Due: \$50.00

 Pay by Credit Card

Billing Information

Enter your payment details below.

Cards Accepted

**Credit Card ***

Secure

First Name

Last Name

Card Number

 /

Expiration Month

Year

Security Code

**Billing Address ***

Street Address

City

State / Province / Region

Postal / Zip Code

Country

[Back](#)[Process](#)

Avoid Duplicate Charges - Click Process Only Once

Click “ok” *Note that you will not be able to make changes, once submitted.*

Total Amount Due: \$50.00

Pay by Credit Card

Billing Information

Enter your payment details below.

Cards /

Credit C

Secure

Billing

Young

Last Name

32

Security Code

Texas

State / Province / Region


United States

Country

Postal / Zip Code

Back Process

Avoid Duplicate Charges - Click Process Only Once



Please note this will submit your Application. You will not be able to make changes.

Press OK if you would like to proceed. Press Cancel if you would like to keep making changes.

Cancel OK

Once you click “ok” this screen pops up with confirmation that your registration is complete.

Howdy! Congratulations!

You have completed your registration for the 2024 Texas Science and Engineering Fair (TXSEF). Please visit <https://txsef.tamu.edu/> regularly for updates leading up to the fair or email Taylor Young at txsef_registration@tamu.edu, for any questions and we will see you in March!

Invoice # 2888

Back To List

Print Invoice

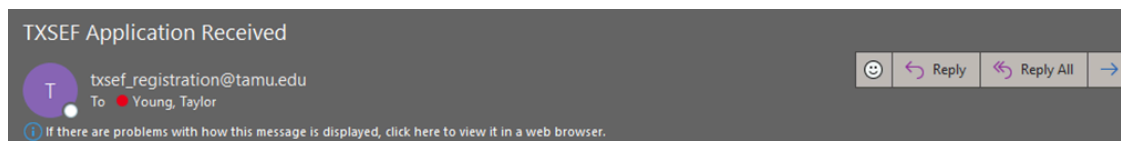
Print Invoice and All Applications

Payment Status: Paid

Date	Details	Amount	Notes	Action
1/25/2024	9255, Senior Division > Animal Sciences, Saving the Sea Turtles	\$50.00	TXSEF Participation Fee	Print View
1/25/2024	Payment	-\$50.00	Paid with MasterCard ending in 9296. Response from Processor: AQ1P9C3D1DE3	
	Total:	\$0.00		

You will then receive two emails - please check your JUNK/SPAM folders.

Registration Confirmation Email:



Hello Taylor

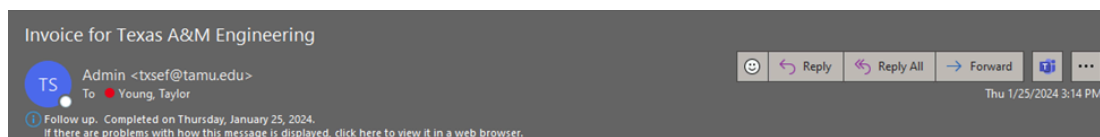
This email is to confirm your application for the Texas Science and Engineering Fair has been successfully received. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact txsef_registration@tam.u.edu.

Good luck!

TXSEF team.
txsef_registration@tam.u.edu

This email is a service from Texas A&M Engineering.

Payment Confirmation Email:



Taylor Young,

Your invoice is now available. A printable copy is available here <https://txsef.secure-platform.com:443/a/organizations/main/submitterinvoices/details/2888>.

Date	Details	Amount	Notes
1/25/2024	9255, Senior Division > Animal Sciences, Saving the Sea Turtles	\$50.00	TXSEF Participation Fee
1/25/2024	Payment	-\$50.00	Paid with MasterCard ending in ██████. Response from Processor: AQ1P9C3D1DE3
	Total:	\$0.00	

Collected \$50.00 on 1/25/2024 03:14 PM. Paid with MasterCard ending in ██████. Response from Processor: AQ1P9C3D1DE3

This email is a service from Texas A&M Engineering.

Congratulations! Your registration is complete!

Invoices and Payment Confirmation:

Finalists will be able to view the registration invoice and confirmation of payment received by selecting "Invoices" from the menu on the left side of the screen. The invoice and registration can be printed from this screen. If finalists have any questions or concerns, please contact: txsef_registration@tam.u.edu

Payment by School or District: *THERE WILL BE NO ONSITE PAYMENT (example below)*

- ❖ Any district, school or regional fair paying on behalf of finalist(s) will need to reach out to TXSEF at txsef_registration@tamu.edu and include a full list of all students from the district competing in TXSEF. ***Please allow 1-2 business days to receive requested invoices.***
- ❖ Although payment prior to fair is encouraged, we will not require payment up front.
- ❖ ***Final deadline to pay is April 30, 2024.***

Instructions:

- ❖ After completing submissions, select “add to cart”, proceed to “checkout”, and then click “finalize”. After completing these steps, a registration confirmation message will display on the next screen. *(see examples below)*

Review and click “Checkout”

[Home](#) / [Carts](#) / [2024 Texas Science & Engineering Fair](#) / [Confirmation](#)

Review and Checkout

Title	Category	#	Cost	Details	Action
Rev	Senior Division > Animal Sciences	9256	\$0.00		Select Remove

Total: \$0.00

[Print All Applications](#) [Checkout](#)

Click “Finalize”

Your Cart has a \$0.00 Balance. Please press the Finalize button below or press the Back button if you'd like to continue to make edits.

[Finalize](#) [Back](#)

[Home](#) / [Invoices](#) / [Invoice # 2889](#)

Howdy! Congratulations!

You have completed your registration for the 2024 Texas Science and Engineering Fair (TXSEF). Please visit <https://txsef.tamu.edu/> regularly for updates leading up to the fair or email Taylor Young at txsef_registration@tamu.edu, for any questions and we will see you in March!

Invoice # 2889

[Back To List](#)

[Print Invoice](#)

[Print Invoice and All Applications](#)

Payment Status: Paid

Date	Details	Amount	Notes	Action
1/25/2024	9256, Senior Division > Animal Sciences, Rev	\$0.00		Print View
	Total:	\$0.00		

You will then receive two emails - please check your JUNK/SPAM folders.

Registration Confirmation Email:

TXSEF Application Received 🔍 Inbox x



txsef_registration@tamu.edu
to me ▾

3:31 PM (0 minutes ago)



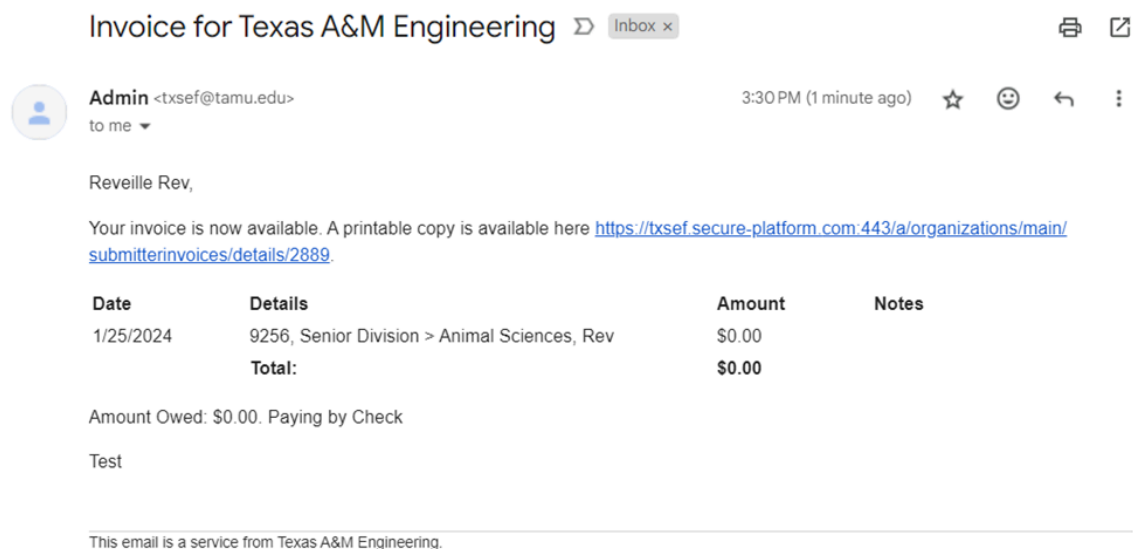
Hello Reveille

This email is to confirm your application for the Texas Science and Engineering Fair has been successfully received. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact txsef_registration@tamu.edu.

Good luck!

TXSEF team.
txsef_registration@tamu.edu

This email is a service from Texas A&M Engineering.

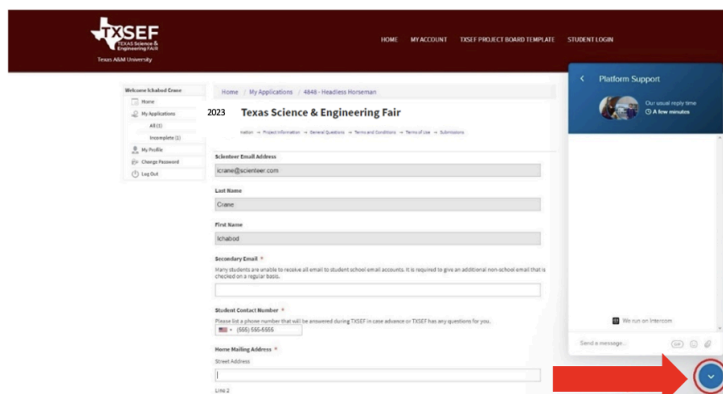


Congratulations! Your registration is complete!

Note: The amount is zero because you selected that your School/District is paying for your registration. If your registration fee is being covered by your School/District, kindly ask your teacher or the appropriate individuals to email a list of names to txsef_registration@tam.u.edu. This will ensure that an invoice for your registration fee is sent accordingly.

Registration Assistance

For any questions about TXSEF registration that is **NOT** related to payment or STEM Wizard, use the live chat feature. The chat box is located in the bottom right-hand corner of the registration website. Representatives are available to answer questions Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (CST). Finalists waiting until the last minute to register risk not completing registration before the deadline, which will automatically disqualify their TXSEF participation.



For other TXSEF inquiries, contact the appropriate division below:

- General Information: txsef@tam.u.edu
- Display & Safety: txsef_ds@tam.u.edu
- Scientific Review Committee: txsef_src@tam.u.edu
- Payment Process: txsef_registration@tam.u.edu