Junior Science and Humanities Symposium
Poster Presentation Requirements 2023-2024

The National Junior Science & Humanities Symposium (JSHS) invites up to three individual student delegates from each regional symposium to present their research at the National JSHS Poster Competition. Posters will be judged to select winners in each of eight categories of competition. The poster session activities will be open to all National JSHS participants during designated times. During judging, attendance is restricted to judges and student poster presenters only.

These requirements are for National poster presenters only. If you are uncertain of your National Finalist status, please check your National Finalist confirmation email or contact your Regional Director. Be sure to read each requirement carefully. Please note that the email address used at the time of registration will also be your National JSHS login if necessary.

Definition

The primary purpose of a poster is to communicate the results of the research or engineering investigation, data obtained, methodology, conclusions reached and recommendations for future research. A poster is a more concise visual presentation intended to attract the viewer to the highlights of the research and engage the viewer in an in-depth discussion.

A Statement of Outside Assistance Form will be required at the time of online registration for all poster presenters and will be provided to the judges by the JSHS staff. This should be the same form you submitted for your regional competition.

Abstract

All National Finalists must submit a 250-word maximum abstract in Word format. The abstract should accurately convey the essential nature of the research conducted and the most significant conclusions reached.

The format for the 250-word abstract includes 1-inch margins, typed in 12-point font (Times New Roman). Abstracts must be adequate in length but not exceed these specifications. The header preceding the abstract body must include:

1. Title of the research;
2. Authors name(s);
3. High school, high school city, high school state;
4. Name of teacher/mentor/sponsor and his or her organization. Precede the
individual's name with a subheading (i.e. teacher, mentor, sponsor);
5. Include one line of space between the heading and the abstract body.

Abstract documents must be labeled as "Firstname Lastname Abstract". Abstracts will be published in the *2024 National JSHS Abstract Catalog*. You will have until DATE, to make any edits to your submitted abstract. Please carefully proofread your submission since abstracts will not be proofread or edited. You do not need to print your abstract.

Statement of Outside Assistance

All JSHS applicants prepare and submit a *Statement of Outside Assistance Form* as a part of their registration. This form requires students to report on their contributions to the research investigation. National Finalists must submit the same completed *Statement of Outside Assistance Form* that was included with their regional registration. *Statements of Outside Assistance Form* must be in PDF format and labeled as "Firstname Lastname SOA". Students should contact the JSHS staff immediately if they have not previously submitted the JSHS *Statement of Outside Assistance Form*.
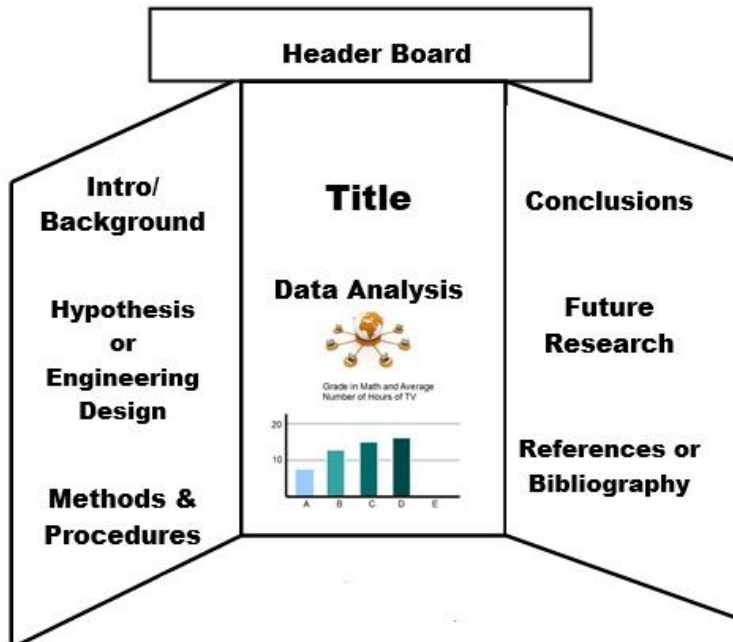
Name Pronunciation Recording:

National Finalists will need to record and submit a recording of their first and last name pronunciation at the time of registration. Recordings must be uploaded to YouTube as "unlisted". The unlisted link to your recording is what is submitted at registration.

- Be sure to say your name slowly and clearly.
- Must be submitted at the time of National registration as an unlisted YouTube link.

Physical Poster Presentation Requirements

A suggested layout for the poster is presented in the below diagram.

Composition
The poster contains the following sections:

- Title
- Introduction/Background
- Hypothesis or Engineering Design
- Methods & procedures
- Results/Conclusions
- Conclusions
- References/Bibliography

Do not include an abstract on the poster board.

Display
- Tri-fold poster boards will be provided and will be available for participating students when they arrive at the National JSHS.
- Other materials that will be provided include staplers, stick pins, double sided tape, clips, markers and scissors.
- The poster ready, printed materials must fit within the dimensions of the poster board.
- Poster board dimensions are 36" high x 48" wide. The poster board includes two folds; fold dimensions are 12" x 24" x 12".
- Header boards are allowed and must be no larger than 10" high x 36" wide. The Header board should only contain a title. Header boards are not provided by JSHS.
- Tables will be supplied.
- Posters should be readable from a distance of 4 feet.
- The Title should be at least one inch (72 pts) in height. The student's name and regional should be included and should be (48 pts). All other lettering should be in 24-point font size. (Point size indicated above is suggested size only).
- The poster should be balanced and organized in a logical, sequential order.
- Keep the amount of text to a minimum.
- There should be more emphasis on graphics, tables, charts, and graphs. These items should be cited on the poster board.
- Photographs in addition to other illustrations may be used. Figures may be in color.
- No hazardous materials are allowed. No laptops, tablets or other electronic devices are to be used. No specimens, no apparatus, no chemical reagents, no models, logbooks, or papers are to be used during the presentation. Only printed material, affixed to the poster, will be allowed for the poster presentation.
- All materials must be prepared (printed) and "poster ready" in advance of arriving and ready to be tacked onto the poster board. Printers will not be available.

Judging

Poster session judges first review the posters without the students present; then continue judging by interviewing the students at their display board. For the duration of the poster session, presenters should remain close to their posters and be available to answer questions and discuss their research. Judging criteria used by the judges follows below. Each judge is instructed to rank presentations based on the below criteria. The scores are tallied for each presenter and used as the basis for discussion among judging team members.

- Statement and identification of research problem
- Scientific thought, creativity/innovation, appropriate duration
- Research or engineering design and procedures
- Logical conclusion relevant to the research problem. What was learned? Did student recognize contribution to the field?
- Skill in communicating results
- References stated

Poster Label Numbers

At registration for the in-person poster presentations, poster label numbers will be assigned to each student poster presenter by the JSHS staff. These numbers will also be assigned to preset tables during the Nationals, in a designated room, so students know where to set up their poster display.

JSHS Poster Session Competition Contacts

National JSHS Office – admin@jshs.org