

Ethic Statement

Scientific fraud and misconduct are not condoned at any level of research or competition. Such practices include plagiarism, forgery, use of presentation of other researcher's work as one's own and fabrication of data. Fraudulent projects will fail to qualify for competition in Regional Expos or the Eskom Expo National Finals.

I. Plagiarism - What is plagiarism?

It can be defined as follows:

To use another person's words or ideas and to pretend that they are your own. The following are considered as plagiarism:

- To steal or borrow another person's work.
- To pay another person to write your assignment.
- To copy directly from a source without referencing the original source.
- To use another person's ideas and build on them without giving credit to the original ideas.
- To paraphrase another person's work word-for-word.
- To present false data (fabricated, altered or borrowed without permission).

The worst form of plagiarism is to do it intentionally:

- to pretend that another person's work is your own;
- to buy a piece of written work from somebody (e.g. from the internet); or
- to pay somebody to write your assignment for you; or
- to write something word-for-word from a source without acknowledging that source (or to "cut and paste" from the Internet).

Plagiarism can also occur unintentionally: when you rewrite another person's ideas or words in your own words, or use small sections of another person's writings without acknowledging it as a source. Fraudulent projects will be disqualified at a Regional Expo and National Finals. **It is compulsory that every participant has a signed copy of the plagiarism form in their file.**

2. Ethics

Ethics is concerned with what is right or wrong, good or bad, fair or unfair, responsible or irresponsible.

Make sure your project is safe and ethical

Before you start a project, it's important to know the rules - especially if you're thinking of using animals, human subjects, hazardous equipment or materials, recombinant DNA or other biotechnological materials. (By the way, "animals" include pets and livestock and humans include family members and students in your class or school.) It's heartbreaking to have your project disqualified at the Regional or National Finals because you broke the rules - or maybe even the law! Any research or experiment on potentially hazardous biological agents, animal or human subjects must be done under the supervision of a qualified scientist/laboratory. A signed letter/form from the qualified scientist/laboratory will be required before participating at Regional Expos or National Finals.

Forbidden in your display:

1. Living organisms (including fungi, bacteria, insects, fish, etc.).
2. Human / animal parts, tissues or body fluids (for example blood, urine, hooves, skins etc.).
3. Poisons, drugs, medication, controlled substances, hazardous substances or devices (for example, firearms, weapons, ammunition, reloading devices).
4. Flames or highly flammable material.
5. Photographs or other visual presentation depicting humans or vertebrate animals in surgical techniques, dissections, necropsies or other lab procedures.
6. No branding must be visible in your display.
7. Food can only be displayed if sealed in (transparent) containers.
8. Water, except water integral to an enclosed, sealed apparatus.
9. Any apparatus deemed unsafe by the Expo organisers.

N.B. Photos will be sufficient for judging.