

2024 Project Wizard Graphic: Required task for ALL students to participate at ACSEF

REQUIRED STEPS TO ACSEF: Between May 30th and November 30th - **LEARN IF YOU need SRC/IRB pre-data collection approval before beginning your type of project.** **HERE'S HOW:** Follow the steps below to read the RULES and content of each Information Boxes

1. Do this 1st. [Check the link for ACSEF Participation Rules and Guidelines for all types of projects.](#)
2. Do this 2nd Read through each GRAY box of sentences below
 - a. If you answer **YES** to a single sentence in any single info. box of the Project Wizard – then your type of project DOES REQUIRE pre-data collection approval. By the fair's SRC or IRB. Follow the RED arrows to the right and down to your next step.
 - b. IF YOU ANSWER **NO** to ALL of the GRAY Info. Boxes below – Your type of project DOES NOT require pre-data collection approval by the Fair's SRC/IRB. Follow the BLUE arrows to the bottom of the page General Application

Schools holding science fairs must follow the ACSEF Participation [Rules & Guidelines](#) above + the Project Wizard to qualify. All school science fair organizers must know that only ACSEF applications (Early or General) will be accepted for the fair. If the type of project follows the **YES** red arrow pathway, then follow the steps for Early Pre-Research Plan deadline of Dec. 1st, 2023. All Students with project types using the General Application & **hoping to be promoted to ACSEF** from their school science fair are required to follow the **NO** blue arrow to the General Application and submit it by Feb.10th 2024. School science fair Organizers
NOTE: Input only the actual promoted student information onto ACSEF provided spreadsheet for your school by 2/15/24.

Is this a continuation of a previous year's project? Is your project being done in person or virtually at an RRI (hospital, college, professional lab, any type of clinic with or without a mentor)? Are you sending/receiving samples or data? **This includes students with plans to spend the summer doing research at and RRI. If you are planning work at an RRI this Summer or Fall - use this [link to obtain required forms](#) applicable to your project and share them with your mentor BEFORE the research data collection begins!**

NO ↓

YES →

Does your project involve people other than yourself to answer questions, take tests or to perform physical activity, or experimenting on other people in any way or asking volunteers to test your invention, app, program etc.?

NO ↓

YES →

Does your project involve altering the diet, habitat or behavior of your pet or other (vertebrate) animals?

NO ↓

YES →

Does your project use:

- Bacteria? Virus? Or anything involving microbes?
- Samples collected from (surfaces, water, soil etc.) that will be cultured (grown or multiplied)?
- DNA from one organism inserted into the DNA of another organism.
- Anything coming from a human or animal body? Cheek cells or other body items? Organs like liver, teeth, bone, or bodily. Fluids such as blood, saliva, or urine?

NO ↓

YES →

Does your project involve...

Potentially Dangerous activities such as igniting objects, climbing ladders to heights over 15 ft? Are you using Lab grade chemicals such as solvents, metals, organics, or concentrated acids or bases? Using any Model rockets? Class 2 Lasers? UV light wavelengths between 240 and 315 nm? Radiation? Guns or gun powder? Higher than 30 volts electricity? Heat over 60 C or 140 F? Prescription drugs? Alcohol, wine, or beer? Cigarettes, or other tobacco products, vaping materials? Are you using any DEA controlled product which a student may **not** legally purchase?

NO ↓

YES →

You do **NOT** need SRC/IRB pre-data collection approval. ***NOTE you do not need to be finished with data collection to submit a general application -data collection can continue.***

You can start data collection. Keep an accurate [lab notebook](#).

Here is the **REVISED 2024** General Application Google Information Form. The **DEADLINE** to submit the [General Application Information Google Form](#) **February 10, 2024.**

Note: The application is not the same as REGISTRATION. Registration holds a spot at the fair. [Registration Instruction emails](#) will be sent in February to all students with an application on file. **NOTE: ADULT General Application PROJECT SPONSORS – TAKE ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY OF THE RESEARCH AND INVOLVED MATERIALS AS PER STUDENT RESEARCH PLANS.**

You **MUST** submit an Early Application [Pre-Research Plan](#) to the Google Form below. Submission Deadline **December 1st, 2023** before 11:59 pm

Link to: [Google Form Pre-Research Plan](#)

Application Forms will be required upon pre-research plan approval