



Note: this is a sample of a topic approval form you are welcome to use in order to approve student's research projects before they begin experimentation. You do not need to turn this form into SASEF.

Research Project Plan Topic Approval Form

This plan must be completed and signed before work on the project can begin.

First Name:

Last Name:

Project Title:

Name of School:

Grade:

Sponsoring Teacher:

Teacher's Email:

Please staple additional page(s) containing the following information to this sheet.

A. Problem or question being addressed

B. Hypothesis/engineering goals

C. Detailed description of procedures, including the following:

- Specify all chemicals, tools, equipment, and experimental subjects that will be used.
- How will the above items be used? In what quantity?
- If surveys or questionnaires will be used, a copy of each one must be attached.

D. Bibliography of sources that you have used in preparing this plan and/or intend to use later.

- At least 5 references should be included.

If your project involves human subjects or vertebrate animals:

Projects involving human subjects (even if participants are only answering surveys, testing computer programs, or donating hair samples) must meet additional requirements, as must projects involving vertebrate animals. See the detailed instructions provided in the ISEF Rules and Regulations (<https://student.societyforscience.org/intel-isef-forms>). The ISEF Rules Wizard (<https://ruleswizard.societyforscience.org/>) is very helpful in determining which rules apply to your particular project.

For Junior Division projects, SASEF serves as your SRC and IRB. You cannot begin work on projects involving human subjects or vertebrate animals until SASEF has approved your plan. Failure to comply will disqualify your project and could put you in violation of federal regulations. SASEF discourages any procedure that will cause pain, discomfort, or stress to people or to animals and will reject plans that do not strive to minimize these factors. For full details on project pre-approval please visit our registration page here: <https://sasef.utk.edu/student-participation/forms/>

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent and Sponsoring Teacher/Adult — Review the entire documentation package and sign below.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Teacher Signature: _____

Date: _____