Student Research Projects
Is SRC or ACUC Approval Needed BEFORE I Start?

IF YES,

YOU MUST HAVE SRC/IRB or ACUC APPROVAL BEFORE STARTING EXPERIMENTATION.

See http://stemed.unm.edu OR contact your Regional ISEF-Affiliated Fair office for more information & deadline dates for this year.

You &/or your teacher MUST submit your paperwork for pre-approval by the Regional SRC/IRB Review Committee for Prior approval.

Your project involves ANY type of Vertebrate Animals

Or

Your school DOES NOT have it’s own SRC/IRB for other types of projects requiring pre-approval.

IF NO,

If your project DOES NOT involve Human Subjects, Vertebrate Animals, or Potentially Hazardous Biological Agents as described to the left, you DO NOT need SRC/ACUC approval before starting your project & may begin.

DOES YOUR PROJECT INVOLVE...

- Asking your friends or other people questions?
- Experiments on yourself?
- Experiments with people in any way other than pure observation OR product testing of engineering projects?
   (HUMAN SUBJECTS – Additional forms required)

DOES YOUR PROJECT INVOLVE...

- Your pet OR any other animals that have bones (except people)?
- ALL vertebrate animal protocols must be submitted to the Regional Fair Animal Care & Use Committee for PRIOR approval.
   (VERTEBRATE ANIMALS – Additional forms required)

DOES YOUR PROJECT INVOLVE...

- Mold or fungus? Bacteria? Viruses? Anything that might make you sick? Cultured samples collected from the environment?
- DNA from one organism inserted into the DNA of another organism?
- Anything coming from a human or animal body? Cheek cells or other cells? Teeth? Bone? Fluids such as blood, saliva, or urine?
   (POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS BIOLOGICAL AGENTS – Additional forms required)

DOES YOUR PROJECT INVOLVE...

- Any chemical such as household cleaners, solvents, metals, or organic chemicals?
- Model rockets?
- Lasers? UV Light? Radiation?
- Guns, Gunpowder, Explosives?
- Trebuchet? Potato Cannons? Archery?
- Anything else that might be considered dangerous or hazardous?
- Prescription drugs? Alcohol, wine, or beer? Cigarettes or other tobacco?
- Any product which cannot be legally purchased by students under age 18?
   (HAZARDOUS or CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES/DEVICES)

YOU MUST HAVE YOUR TEACHER/SCHOOL’S APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH THIS PROJECT.

You MUST complete ISEF Form 3 – Risk Assessment thoroughly & detail.

APPROPRIATE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & ADULT SUPERVISION MUST BE IN PLACE.**

**Inadequate safety measures or lack of appropriate supervision could result in disqualification of a project.**