

Southern Minnesota Regional Science & Engineering Fair

Research Paper Judging Criteria | Middle School/High School Division

Scoring Criteria	Points Possible	Points Awarded
Statement and Identification of Research Problem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the problem clearly stated? Does the presenter demonstrate understanding of existing knowledge about the research project? 	10	
Scientific Thought Creativity/Originality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process skills demonstrated by the student in the solution to the research problem and/or the research design. Student demonstrates individual contributions to and understanding of the research problem. Level of Effort 	10	
Research Design, Procedures (Materials & Methods), Results Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriateness of research design and procedures. Reproducibility. Identification and control of variables. Engineering, Computer Science, Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workable solution that is acceptable to a potential user. Recognition of economic feasibility of solution. Recognition of relationship between design and end product. Tested for performance under conditions of use. Results offer an improvement over previous alternatives. 	25	
Discussions/Conclusions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity in stating conclusion. Logical conclusion that is relevant to the research problem and the results of experimentation or testing. Recognizes limits and significance of results. Evidence of student's understanding of the scientific or technological principles. Theoretical or practical implication recognized. What was learned? 	20	
Skill in Communicating Research Results Oral Presentation & Written Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity in communication research results to non-specialized audience and to judges. Definition of terms as necessary. Appropriate use of audio-visuals. Response to questions from audience and judges	25	
Acknowledgement of sources and major assistance received	10	
TOTAL POINTS	100	

RIBBON POINTS

Purple Ribbon= 85-100
 Blue Ribbon= 70-84
 Red Ribbon= 55-69
 Green Ribbon=0-54

Purple Ribbon - Project above expectations, superior in category
Blue Ribbon - Project achieved expectations, satisfactory in category
Red Ribbon - Project met expectations; additional development opportunities were identified
Green Ribbon - Project has not met standard criteria