

Seeking Volunteer Judges

Every year thousands of students across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts participate in science fairs at the school, district, and regional levels. Select projects are promoted for participation at the *Massachusetts Science & Engineering Fair*, an annual event that celebrates the innovation and curiosity of student participants and empowers them to pursue careers in STEM. MSEF is the non-profit organization that has proudly coordinated the State Fair since 1949.

This year the High School State Fair will be held live, virtually, on May 5th & 6th, 2022.

MSEF is seeking STEM academics and professionals as volunteer judges for the State Fair. This is a unique opportunity for organizations to show support for youth STEM education, create a shared experience across teams, and engage with the local community.

As judges you will enjoy the opportunity to support and inspire local students, renew their passion for their current work, and perhaps reminisce about their own experiences as student fair participants. Likewise, student participants are thrilled to meet STEM professionals, often for the first time, to review and discuss their projects. Regardless of placement, all student participants benefit from the invaluable experience of presenting their work.

Judge eligibility/commitment requirements:

- Judges must hold a graduate degree and/or have 5+ years working experience in their selected subject category: Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Behavioral Science, Earth/Space Science Physics & Electronics, Engineering, Math, Computer Science, and Environmental Science.
- Judges commit to a 4-hour block for judging either May 5th, 2022 or May 6th, 2022. Blocks are scheduled based on their preferred subject category. See sign-up form for details.
- Judges must pre-register & attend a virtual info session, which will be held April 26th, 2022 @ 7pm or April 27th, 2022 @ 12pm.

What is the judging experience like?

- Each judge reviews 4-6 projects which includes a student presentation and Q&A session over 25 minutes. Each student is judged six times (3 sets of 2 judges)
- Judges utilize a rubric (with point allocations) that guides their assessment
- Judges will have access to student materials in advance and may review these materials ahead of judging.
- Judges commit to providing a rigorous, yet encouraging, interview process for students

Sign up for judging now - click [here!](#)

Fair sponsorship is an investment in STEM research experiences for Massachusetts youth. If your company is interested in becoming a corporate partner for the High School 2022 Fair or would like additional information, please contact Helen Rosenfeld, Executive Director, hrosenfeld@scifair.com.