The National Junior Science & Humanities Symposium (JSHS) invites up to 3 individual student delegates, excluding oral presenters, from each regional symposium to present their research at the National JSHS. Posters will be judged to select winners in each of eight categories of competition. The poster session activities will be open to all National JSHS participants during designated times. During judging, attendance is restricted to judges and student poster presenters only.

A suggested layout for the poster is presented in the below diagram. Displaying the Abstract and a Research Report or Research Lab Book in front of the poster board is recommended.
POSTER PRESENTATION Rules & Guidelines

Definition:
The primary purpose of a poster is to communicate the results of the research or engineering investigation, data obtained, methodology, conclusions reached and recommendations for future research. A poster is a more concise visual presentation intended to attract the viewer to the highlights of the research and engage the viewer in an in depth discussion.

A Statement of Outside Assistance Form will be required at the time of online registration for all poster presenters and will be provided to the judges by the JSHS staff.

Composition:
The poster contains the following sections:

- Title
- Introduction/Background
- Hypothesis or Engineering Design
- Methods & procedures
- Results/Conclusions
- Conclusions
- References/Bibliography

Do not include an abstract on the poster board. The abstract will be displayed vertically at the exhibit table and should be 250 words maximum and should include your name, high school and JSHS region.

Display:

- Tri-fold poster boards will be provided and will be available for participating students when they arrive at the National JSHS. Other materials that will be provided include staplers, stick pins, double sided tape, clips, markers and scissors. The poster ready, printed materials must fit within the dimensions of the poster board.
- Poster board dimensions are 36" high x 48" wide. The poster board includes two folds; fold dimensions are 12" x 24" x 12".
- Header boards are allowed and must be no larger than 10" high x 36" wide. The Header board should only contain a title. Header boards are not provided by JSHS.
- Tables will be supplied.
- Posters should be readable from a distance of 4 feet.
- The Title should be at least one inch (72 pts) in height. The student’s name and regional should be included and should be (48 pts). All other lettering should be in 24-point font size. (Point size indicated above is suggested size only).
- The poster should be balanced and organized in a logical, sequential order.
- Keep the amount of text to a minimum.
- There should be more emphasis on graphics, tables, charts, and graphs. These items should be cited on the poster board.
- Photographs in addition to other illustrations may be used. Figures may be in color.
- No hazardous materials are allowed. No laptops, tablets or other electronic devices are to be used. No specimens, no apparatus, no chemical reagents, no models are to be used during the presentation. Only printed material, affixed to the poster, will be allowed for the poster presentation.
POSTER PRESENTATION Rules & Guidelines

- All materials must be prepared (printed) and “poster ready” in advance of arriving at National and ready to be tacked onto the poster board. Printers will not be available.

Judging:

Poster session judges first review the posters without the students present; then continue judging by interviewing the students at their display board. For the duration of the poster session, presenters should remain close to their posters and be available to answer questions and discuss their research.

Judging criteria used by the judges follows below. Each judge is instructed to rank presentations based on the below criteria using a scale from 1 to 5. The scores are tallied for each presenter and used as the basis for discussion among judging team members.

- Statement and identification of research problem
- Scientific thought, creativity/innovation, appropriate duration
- Research or engineering design and procedures
- Logical conclusion relevant to the research problem. What was learned? Did student recognize contribution to the field?
- Skill in communicating results
- References stated

Poster Label Numbers:

At registration for the poster presentations, poster label numbers will be assigned to each student poster presenter by the JSHS staff. These numbers will also be assigned to preset tables during the Nationals, in a designated room, so students know where to set up their poster display.

JSHS Poster Session Competition Contacts:

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