



# 2012 Student Checklist

How to Participate in the  
Beal Bank Dallas Regional Science & Engineering Fair

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## Benefits of participating in the Beal Bank DRSEF

- Study something that interests you. Follow your own ideas. Go beyond what is taught in the classroom.
- Win cash awards, scholarships, and other prizes.
- The chance to travel to other competitions at State, National, & International level.
- Prepare yourself for college with independent work.
- Meet scientists & engineers who are experts in your field of study.

### **IMPORTANT:**

To compete in the DRSEF, you must bring to check-in on Fair day either a **paperwork Approval Form that your teacher will give you or a copy (not the originals) of all your signed ISEF forms.**

## Step 1:

From Jun 2011: Identify a topic, start your reading research, and formulate your hypothesis. Public and private school students, grades 6-12, covering TEA Region 10 are eligible (but there are special rules for grade 6). You may enter as an individual or a team of 2 or 3, but there will be no separate categories for teams. All projects are entered in one of 17 science categories.

## Step 2:

**BEFORE** you begin any experimentation for your project, you must fill out the required safety and permission forms. These are available at [drsef.org](http://drsef.org) together with examples. Every project must have at least **ISEF forms 1, 1A, 1B, and a Research Plan**. Give a **copy** of any forms to your teacher and keep originals safe. No forms – No fair!

Some experiments may require additional forms and permissions. The most common examples of this are when the proposed experiment:

- Is physically hazardous (*for example, you are working with bacteria*)
- Involves humans or animal subjects
- Is a continuation from last year
- Is performed in a facility other than school or home, or needs a scientist's supervision

The ISEF Forms Wizard (linked from [drsef.org](http://drsef.org)) should be used to help you and your teacher decide if additional forms and permissions are needed.

- If the experiment is physically hazardous or involves animals it requires Scientific Review Committee (SRC) approval before you start experimenting.
- If your experiment involves human subjects it requires Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval before you start experimenting.

In these cases, your teacher must submit **copies** of all your ISEF forms, especially the Research Plan, to the SRC or IRB. Note that 6<sup>th</sup> graders **cannot** do projects that would require SRC or IRB approval. ISEF forms returned from the SRC/IRB with signatures become your new originals.

## Step 3:

## Participate in School/District Fair

## Step 4:

## Register for the DRSEF

Strict Deadline: Midnight Feb. 10, 2012: If you are a "winner" at your fair and are selected to represent your school at the DRSEF, you may go online to [drsef.org](http://drsef.org) to register your project. Your teacher will verify with us separately that you are eligible to enter. For a **team project**, only one registration is needed for the whole team. Fill out an ISEF Abstract (available at [drsef.org](http://drsef.org)) for your project to go with the other ISEF forms.

## Step 7:

## Participate in the DRSEF

Feb 25, 2012: Refer to the website for the day-of-fair student information.