

GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Projects should be related to a subject being studied and should assist students in learning more about the subject. Group and/or class projects may be entered in all divisions as well as individual projects. They will be judged separately and separate awards will be given. Emphasis will be given to those projects that require methods of research and inquiry, rather than just “show” displays or “collections of things.”

All projects must be classified by exhibitors at the time of entry according to the social studies areas listed in the chart below. Teachers should be careful that all projects are entered in the appropriate areas and division and that no subject area has an excessive number of entries. It is recommended that teachers strive for a balanced distribution of projects for each subject area.

Social Studies Fair Divisions and Disciplines

DIVISION I

(Grades 4-6)

Individual & Group

Anthropology

Economics

Geography

History

Political Science

Sociology

DIVISION II

(Grades 6-8)

Individual & Group

Anthropology

Economics

Geography

History

Political Science

Sociology

DIVISION III

(Grades 9-12)

Individual & Group

Anthropology

Economics

Geography

History

Political Science

Sociology

Individual projects are projects completed by an individual student without assistance from any other student. Group projects are those projects completed by two or more students in the same division. The number of students in a group project should be enough to encourage a pooling of talent and skill, but not so many that one or more of the group make little or no significant contributions to the finished project. Judges will be asked to question the speaker for the project about the development of the project.

SOCIAL STUDIES DISCIPLINES

The following is a list of the various social studies related disciplines. The descriptions should assist both students and teachers in properly assigning projects to a correct area. Please note the importance of “people” in each area; it is critically important that all projects stress the role of “people” within each area.

Anthropology- Culture developed by people living and thinking together

Cultural patterns differ widely among the peoples of the world. Each nation has different mores and folkways. Group culture is influenced by the material factors of life. Nations are influenced by other nations in patterns of daily living. The human race has passed through many states of cultural changes.

Economics- Wants and needs satisfied by people laboring

People utilize their natural environment to satisfy their needs and wants. They engage in the production of goods and services to satisfy needs and wants. People increase material satisfaction by the exchange of goods and services. They are faced by problems of changing economics, methods, and organization.

Geography- People and nature interact

The management and utilization of the natural environment is a major problem for people. The natural environment is greatly diversified, offering both opportunities and restrictions to activities. The natural environment provides the setting and raw material for human activities and is, in turn, altered by the activity. Constant interaction between people and the environment takes place. The geographer studies both the physical and cultural elements of the environment, as well as the interaction between the two.

History- The continuous narrative of human progress

Nothing in history has occurred in isolation or in a vacuum. The concept of continuity and change, of cause and effect relationships, and of evolutionary character are understood only when events are linked in the long passage of time.

Political Science- Group living regulated by social control

Social controls are essential in group living. People have developed the means of regulating group life. Agencies for social control undergo constant change. Society has established regulations to govern human behavior. Different nations have different methods of human control.

Sociology- People living in groups

Group living is the result of people's social needs. Group living necessitates cooperation within and among groups. Groups are constantly changing in nature and functions. Individual adjustment to group living is constantly necessary.

Listed below are a few selected examples of topics which could be used in each of the disciplines. Care should be exercised that the treatment of the topic is consistent with the discipline for which it is chosen.

- Anthropology:** Ancient civilizations, Native Americans, customs, festivals, types of shelter and food, religion, etc.
- Economics:** Money, manufacturing, trade, transportation of goods and services, communication, inflation, stock exchange, Common Market, government budgets, etc.
- Geography:** Ecology, foreign countries, land and people, maps, flooding, rivers, lakes, cities, conservation, etc.
- History:** Story of mankind, historical events, places, biographies, personalities, wars, etc.
- Political Science:** Government agencies, FBI, crime, U.S. Constitution, courts system, international governments, etc.
- Sociology:** Families, crime, mental health, propaganda, life styles, dreams, television, media, etc.

Social Studies Fair Regulations

All students going to the Social Studies State Fair should be familiar with and agree to abide by these regulations. Fair directors are encouraged to duplicate these regulations and give them to students.

1. Projects must conform to "division" level and to academic discipline at both the Regional and State competition. Group projects must have "one" person designated as spokesperson for the group. (A group project is one in which at least two students were involved in its development.) The Social Studies Fair Director cannot assume responsibility for incorrectly completed forms. No projects will be changed from one category to another at the Regional or State Fair.
2. The exhibitor will be allowed a maximum of five (5) minutes to explain, defend, and answer questions on the project. It is mandatory that student presentations not exceed three (3) minutes in order to give the judges time for questions. Judges will use the remaining two (2) minutes for questions and answers.
3. Projects are limited to a table space of thirty (30) inches deep (front-to-back) and thirty-six (36) inches wide (side-to-side). All elements of the project must fit within the space assigned at the Fair and not encroach on adjacent space. **No part of the project may be under the display table.** No project may exceed 100 pounds in weight and 100 inches in height. Projects must be self explanatory, stand by themselves, and have back and/or side boards. (See picture in accompanying project guide.)
4. All projects **must** be accompanied by a research paper with the appropriate elements. These elements **must** include a properly written/typed:

Division I & II

Title Page
Table of Contents
Abstract Page
Body of Research Paper
Conclusion Page
Bibliography Page
(sources generally used
to prepare the paper)

Division III

Title Page
Table of Contents
Abstract Page
Body of Research Paper
Conclusion Page
Footnotes/Endnotes Page
Bibliography Page
(sources generally used
to prepare the paper)

(See Social Studies Fair Guide for additional information and examples.)

In regional competition these and other elements MAY be required by the Regional Fair Director. Winning projects at the State Fair **must** include the aforementioned elements. Footnotes and a typed research paper are required for Division III winners only. Any standard research form (APA, MLA, Chicago Style, Turabian, etc.) for citations

(footnotes/endnotes) is acceptable. All information (including oral information) must be properly cited.

The abstract is a brief (250 words or less) summary of the content and purpose of the project. (See the Guide to Social Studies Fair Projects in this Bulletin for an illustration.)

Project papers in Divisions I and II MAY be handwritten or typed; Division III papers **MUST BE TYPED.**

5. Cassette players, light bulbs, batteries, etc. must be provided by the entrant. All projects requiring electricity must be accompanied by a minimum 100 foot extension cord. All extension cords MUST be secured to the floor with "duct" tape. Also, projects using computers must have electrical surge protection devices. **All equipment must be contained within the space allocated for the project.**

6. The entrant's name, school, home town, or other identifying information is not to be visible anywhere on the project or research paper.

7. **NO LIVE ANIMALS OR ANY TYPE EMPRYOS OR FETUSES MAY BE EXHIBITED.** Only properly prepared animal skins, hides or stuffed animals can be used in exhibits.

8. The State Fair is not responsible for valuables left on display, especially audio-visual or computer equipment.

9. One presenter per project will be allowed on the floor to defend the project.

10. No individual will be allowed to defend more than one project.

11. There is to be no communication between the students and parents, teachers, or other participants while a student is being judged.

12. No projects are to be removed until after the awards ceremony. (This is to prevent damage to projects on display and as a courtesy to students who will receive awards after in the awards ceremony. A security guard will be present to enforce this regulation.)

13. Projects not removed after the awards ceremony will be removed and discarded by Fair site personnel during clean-up operations.

14. Parents and guests will be asked to leave the Fair site during the judging.

15. Do not leave our project until the judging in your division/discipline has ended. Notification will be given to students in the Fair site at the end of judging in each area. If your division/discipline has been dismissed and you have not been judged, contact a member of the State Fair Committee immediately.

16. Do not bring food or beverages into the project display area.
17. Students must strictly adhere to instructions given by Fair and LSU Security personnel.
18. No additional entries from regional competitions will be accepted the day of the State Fair. Only entries certified by Regional Fair Directors and received at least ten (10) working days prior to the State Fair are acceptable. If a registration form was sent in from a regional competition because of an error at the Regional competition, the student must be prepared to present evidence that the project and the necessary Fair fee has been paid.
19. Do not block either the aisles or exit/entry corridors, especially during the awards ceremony.
20. If you have a problem or need information, please contact a Fair committee person stationed on the floor for assistance and official information.
21. Projects may be modified or improved between fairs; however, the main theme, title, and discipline must be maintained.
22. The regional directors and State Fair Director have the authority to make decisions not covered in these regulations on all matters related to their respective fairs.
23. Decisions of judges are final and are not subject to review or appeal.
24. Failure by a student, parent, or teacher to adhere to Fair regulations or requests from Fair Committee members will result in disqualification of the associated student project.
25. Parents and/or school personnel are responsible for the supervision and safety of the entrant. The Social Studies State Fair Council is not responsible for supervision.
26. Displays of archaeological materials/human remains should be limited to those: a) from the ground surface (not dug up); b) from private property (not state or federal); and c) not associated with any sort of human burial or contain any human remains. Students can contact the Division of Archaeology, P.O. Box 44247, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225) 342-8170 for booklets about archaeology. (Refer to state law 1991-Act 704, House Bill No. 1446)
27. Judges' evaluation forms for projects will not be made public following the conclusion of the state fair.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Food service facilities are located on the LSU campus and in the area immediately adjacent to campus. (Food may not be brought into the project display area.)
2. Telephones and restroom facilities are available within the Fair site at designated locations.
3. Please observe all LSU campus parking regulations, especially during the loading and unloading of projects in front of the Fair site. A special area in front of the Fair site has been designated for unloading projects. Do not leave your vehicle there while registering for the Fair. You must move your car to a designated parking area immediately. Failure to adhere to LSU parking regulations will result in your car being towed away or ticketed or both. **A FINE MUST BE PAID TO RECOVER YOUR VEHICLE!**
4. Once projects are set up for display in the Fair site, students are both free and encouraged to visit the LSU campus until the time for judging.

LOCAL AND REGIONAL FAIRS

When a local fair is held, the following suggestions may be helpful:

The local curriculum director, principal, and social studies teachers choose a date with the superintendent for the school fair early in the year as to correspond with the school calendar. This will afford each teacher sufficient time to plan projects with students. Careful consideration should be given in selecting a date for the school fair to avoid a conflict with other community activities; this way the parents and public can view the projects. The local fair must also be scheduled early enough to allow for participation in regional and state fairs.

In organizing the fair, it is recommended that a committee be appointed with each member given a specific task, such as: (1) providing space and facilities for the exhibits, (2) securing judges, (3) registering exhibits and exhibitors, (4) securing and awarding prizes, (5) cleaning activities.

Students may act as assistants in all activities pertaining to the fair, except judging.

All schools are encouraged to hold local fairs in order to select participants at the regional level. If a local school fair is not conducted, selections of winners in each division should be made by a committee of teachers.

It is the responsibility of the local fair chairperson, upon completion of the local fair, to submit application to the regional fair chairperson; refer to the map in this Bulletin to determine your region. It is most important that the regional chairperson know well in advance the number of proposed projects in order to arrange for display space and secure judges for the regional fair. **The number of entries to the regional fair may be limited by the regional director due to lack of space at the fair site.**

Each local fair winner completes an application for entry in the regional fair. Applications should be collected from the students and mailed/sent/delivered to the regional director at least ten (10) days before the date of the regional fair. Space assignment will be made upon receipt of the completed entry forms. **NO PROJECT WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR REGIONAL COMPETITION WITHOUT PRIOR RECEIPT OF ENTRY FORM!** It is not the responsibility of regional directors or their committees to find space for unregistered projects even though the project would otherwise be eligible for the regional competition.

It is recommended that the regional director request assistance from local fair officials and student participants in conducting the regional fair.

At their discretion, local fair directors may have regulation more stringent than those of the State Fair. However, projects entered at the State Fair level must meet all requirement listed in this document and the annual Fair program.

SOCIAL STUDIES FAIR AWARDS

LOCAL FAIR:

Awards should be solicited by the local fair chairperson. Publishers, banks, historical societies, service clubs, and local business concerns are potential sources of funding. The local school should provide some form of recognition for all participants. A certificate will usually serve the purpose.

REGIONAL FAIR:

The Louisiana Social Studies Fair Council will furnish appropriate awards for divisional and grand prize winners in the form of plaques, certificates, ribbons, or a financial stipend.

STATE FAIR:

The following are awards usually presented at the Louisiana State Social Studies Fair:

1. Certificate of Participation: Each student registering at the Fair
2. Plaques to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place winners, individual and group*, each division, each discipline
3. Special topic awards may be presented from time to time

*Note: Because of the number of students involved in a group project, only one plaque will be awarded per group. Additional plaques and engraving may be ordered through the company which provides the State Fair awards or any other awards company. The name of the company will be available at the State Fair program each year.

INFORMATION FOR REGIONAL FAIR DIRECTORS

1. Each region will be allowed a maximum of 72 entries to the State Fair as follows: Individual and group first and second place winners in Division I, II, III, in each of the six disciplines.

Ties may not be entered in regional and state competition.

2. A \$18.00 registration fee must be collected for each project entered in the State Fair. The regional directors are responsible for collecting the entry fee and submitting the fees with properly completed registration forms, and the check-off list are due into the State Fair no later than ten (10) working days prior to the State Fair. Please use the forms that are provided within this document.

The State Fair entry cover sheet is for the Regional Directors use. I did not include it here, in order to save space!

I also did not include the actual Judging Scoring Sheets. This information can be found under Judging Criteria.

I will hand out the State Fair entry forms to those eligible on the day of the Regional Fair.

2004
Official Entry Form
Social Studies State Fair

Please print or type. Use only one form for both individual and group projects.

Title of Project: _____

Name(s) of Student(s): _____

Address: _____
Street State Zip

Check whether this is: Individual (I) Group (G)

Check one of the following to identify category of project:

<input type="checkbox"/> Anthropology	<input type="checkbox"/> History
<input type="checkbox"/> Economics	<input type="checkbox"/> Political Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Geography	<input type="checkbox"/> Sociology

Check one of the following to identify the division:

<input type="checkbox"/> Division I - Elementary School (Grades 4-6)
<input type="checkbox"/> Division II - Middle School (Grades 7-8)
<input type="checkbox"/> Division III - High School (Grades 9-12)

School Name: _____

School Address: _____
Street State Zip

School Phone: () _____ Student Phone: () _____

Sponsoring Teacher: _____

Home Phone: () _____ Alternate Phone: () _____

Note: This entry form with the \$18.00 entry fee must be returned to the Regional Fair Directors and signed by the Regional Fair Director to be accepted into the Social Studies State Fair. The Fair is not responsible for lost or stolen projects. **This will be the only communication from the State Fair in reference to your entry into the Fair. Complete and mail the attached "Check Off List".**

Regional Fair Directors Signature

Region Number

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by all Social Studies State Fair rules and regulations. This project is completely mine/ours and was created and completed by me/us within the last 12 months without direct, significant aid or assistance from anyone other than my/our sponsoring teacher. Parental involvement in the project was limited to those areas aspects of the project that are consistent with Social Studies State Fair Regulations.

Student's Signature

Student's Signature (for group project)

Be sure to complete and sign page 14 (on backside to be registered).

CHECK-OFF LIST
FOR YOUR STATE SOCIAL STUDIES FAIR PROJECT

Before going to the state fair, check off each of the following to make sure you are in compliance with state regulations. This form is to be completed and returned with the application.

- _____ 1. Research paper is not attached to the backboard.
- _____ 2. Title page is included (not labeled as such)
- _____ 3. Table of Contents is included (labeled at the top of the page, separate page)
- _____ 4. Abstract is included (labeled at the top of the page, separate page)
- _____ 5. Body of Research is included (pages are not labeled)
- _____ 6. Conclusion is included (labeled at the top of the page, separate page)
- _____ 7. Footnotes/Endnotes is included (labeled at the top of the page) (required for Division III projects, optional for Division I and Division II.)
- _____ 8. Bibliography is included (labeled at the top of the page, separate page)
- _____ 9. The research paper is typed (required for Division III, optional for Division I and Division II)
- _____ 10. Minimum 100 ft. extension cord if needed for project.
- _____ 11. This project, as is, has not, nor will be entered into any other type of fair (i.e. Science, Home Economics, Industrial Arts) other than a social studies fair.
- _____ 12. Oral presentation has been prepared for defending the project (3 minutes). Two minutes additional for judges' questions.
- _____ 13. This project conforms to the maximum space allotment of 36" wide, 30" deep, 8' high, and not over 100 lbs. (these figures are maximums, project maybe smaller)
- _____ 14. The entrant's name, school, home town, or other identifying information is not visible anywhere on the project or research paper .
- _____ 15. No live animals, embryos, fetuses, or original archaeological items are exhibited on the project.
- _____ 16. Only one student is permitted to defend and be present on the floor for judging of group projects.
- _____ 17. If my project deals with archeology, I am aware of state regulations governing this topic.

Signature of Entrant(s)
REQUIRED

Signature of Parent/Guardian
REQUIRED

JUDGING CRITERIA

1. RESEARCH

- 1.1 Depth of research
- 1.2 Scope of subject matter
- 1.3 Quality of content
- 1.4 Purpose/research/conclusions clearly stated

2. ORAL PRESENTATION

- 2.1 Knowledge of subject matter
- 2.2 Speaking ability
- 2.3 Flow of Speech
- 2.4 Quality of presentation

3. DISPLAY BOARD

- 3.1 Self explanatory
- 3.2 Educational
- 3.3 Reflects thought, research, and organization
- 3.4 Neat, attractive, sturdy

4. CREATIVE ABILITY

- 4.1 Subject shows creative ability and organization in development of topic