

# 2017 Mississippi Science and Engineering Fairs

## Upper Fair Abstract Form



*This form must be complete and attached to each registration.  
Failure to attach the abstract form will result in disqualification.*



Project Title \_\_\_\_\_

### COMPLETING THE ABSTRACT:

Abstracts must be at least 25 words and no more than 250 words. The abstract must be typed single spaced in 12 point Times New Roman Font.

The abstract should include the following:

- a) *purpose of the experiment*
- b) *procedure*
- c) *data*
- d) *conclusions*

It may also include any possible research applications. An abstract must not include the following:

- a) *acknowledgments (including naming the research institution and/or mentor with which you were working), or self-promotions and external endorsements*
- b) *work or procedures done by the mentor*

### Research Category

**(Check one only)**

- 0100 Behavioral & Social Sciences
- 0200 Biochemistry
- 0300 Inorganic Chemistry
- 0400 Organic Chemistry
- 0500 Earth & Environmental Sciences
- 0600 Animal Sciences
- 0700 Medicine & Health
- 0800 Microbiology
- 0900 Physics & Astronomy
- 1000 Engineering
- 1100 Computer & Math
- 1200 Robotics & Intelligent Design
- 1300 Botany

### Competition Category

**(Check one only)**

- Class 3 (Grades 7 & 8)
- Class 4 (Grades 9 & 10)
- Class 5 (Grades 11 & 12)

## TIPS ON WRITING A PROJECT ABSTRACT

A project abstract is a brief paragraph or two (limited to 250 words or 1,800 characters) highlighting and/or summarizing the major points or most important ideas about your project. An abstract allows judges to quickly determine the nature and scope of a project.

- Emphasize these aspects: purpose (hypothesis), methods (procedures used), data summary or analysis, and conclusions.
- Focus only on the current year's research.
- Omit details and discussions.
- Use the past tense when describing what was done. However, where appropriate use active verbs rather than passive verbs.
- Use short sentences, but vary sentence structure.
- Use complete sentences. Don't abbreviate by omitting articles or other small words in order to save space.
- Avoid jargon and use appropriate scientific language.
- Use concise syntax, correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

## AVOID A REWRITE

- Focus on what you did, not on the work of your mentor or of the laboratory in which you did your work.
- Do NOT include acknowledgements, self-promotion or external endorsements. Don't name the research institution and/or mentor with which you were working and avoid mentioning awards or honors (including achieving a patent) in the body of the abstract.
- Be sure to emphasize the current year's research. A continuation project should only make a brief mention of previous years' research (no more than a sentence or two).

For more help check out: <https://student.societyforscience.org/abstract-instructions>