

Science Fair Ethics Requirements

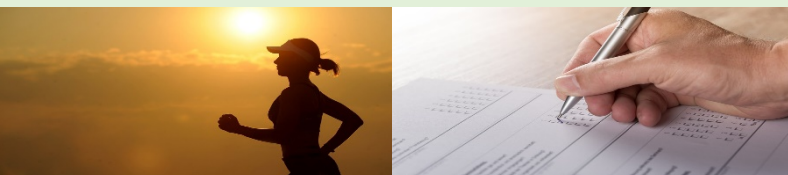
Does your science fair project involve any animal or human subjects?
If so, please read carefully.



HUMAN INVOLVEMENT

Does your project involve asking participants to do a **low-risk** (everyday) activity or a written survey? Low risk studies are limited to some surveys, projects involving absorption through skin, food and beverage, everyday exercise, and caffeinated beverage projects.

YES



- COMPLETE FORM 4.1 A
- If completing a survey, attach a copy
- Forms: <https://youthscience.ca/node/95>

NO



**HIGHER RISK STUDY
(PRE-APPROVAL REQUIRED)**

- COMPLETE FORM 4.1B
- Write a detailed research plan
(<https://youthscience.ca/node/8197>)

For all projects involving human participation, a “**Letter of Information**” is required, along with individual consent forms from each participant*. If the participant is under **19** years of age, their parents must also sign the consent form. **Before starting your project**, submit blank templates of these documents to your fair’s ethics committee for review.

ANIMAL INVOLVEMENT

Does your project involve the use of animals with a backbone (vertebrate), or cephalopods (e.g. an octopus / squid species) and/or their tissues?

YES (PRE-APPROVAL REQUIRED)



- COMPLETE FORM 4.1C
- Ensure you have a scientific supervisor and fill out a proposal (<https://youthscience.ca/node/75>)
- Email all forms & proposals to your science fair’s ethics committee

NO



- LOWER ORDERS OF LIFE (e.g. Bacteria, fungi, protozoa, insects, plants, and invertebrates) can typically be used without ethics approval

*For very low risk studies (e.g. some surveys), informed consent can be assumed by the participant simply agreeing to partake in the study. Forms 4.1A to 4.1C and blank templates for letters of information + consent forms can be found at www.youthscience.ca > ETHICS. Select your study (e.g. low-risk study) and click on “Forms”.

YOUR FAIR’S ETHICS COMMITTEE: ethics@gvrsf.ca