



Florida Junior Academy of Science

A Division of the Florida Academy of Sciences

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Call for Research Papers

All FJAS members are invited to submit their scientific or literary research papers to the preliminary FJAS competition. Because many students competing with experimental papers will also be competing in Regional, State, and Intel International Science & Engineering Fairs, it is imperative that appropriate requirements for these competitions be met including:

- proper completion of forms and approvals PRIOR to experimentation.
- experimentation does not exceed 12 months and was begun after January 1, 2011.

Forms do NOT need to be sent to FJAS.

Literary papers MUST NOT discuss any data collected by the student, only published data may be presented for discussion and analysis.

The instruction sheets for both types of papers are available on the website: Junior Academy pages of www.floridaacademyofsciences.org See the "Paper instructions" where the information for the literary paper follows the experimental information.

Research Paper Guidelines

See the complete guidelines for writing the paper and judging rubric. To not lose any points the paper MUST meet these guidelines:

- Title page with lay-language title (max 75 characters) and lay-language abstract (max of 100 words) ONLY.
- NO mention of student name, school, acknowledgments, mentor or facility can appear within the paper.
- Maximum of 20 pages double-spaced

Submitting the Research Paper

All papers should be sent electronically, if at all possible. If unable to submit electronically, papers can be mailed and will then be scanned. All papers are sent electronically to the preliminary judges.

After preparing the paper according to the guidelines please save the paper in **pdf, rtf, or doc** with a filename less than 30 characters using the key words of the paper title.

Do NOT name the file with

- your name (this discounts anonymity)
- generic title such as "FJAS paper"

The attachments are not renamed and are sent directly after sorting to the preliminary judges.

Some common errors last year which led to reduced points for not following the directions during the preliminary judging were:

- too large of an attachment (max is 2 MB)
- name on the attachment or within the paper
- too long of an abstract, not in lay-language
- acknowledgments

Entries that are too large or in an unacceptable format will be returned to the student to edit and not forwarded for judging until corrected.

See complete guidelines on the website under "Entry Form - Competition".

Please check your attachment prior to sending to make sure it meets your expectations.

An e-mail will be returned within 24 hours verifying receipt of the paper.

Papers can still be mailed

to Pat Zalo to be received by Jan. 31st
2812 26th Avenue Dr W
Bradenton FL 34205-3707

Preliminary Competition Procedures

Sessions are assigned for each paper from the information in the email and the number of papers submitted.

It is the goal of the FJAS Director to place similar papers in the same session and to allow for equal chances for all submissions. For this reason papers are sorted by:

- grade level (middle school or high school)
- type of paper (literary or experimental)
- general area for the experimental papers

If there are uneven numbers of papers submitted in these different sessions then the sessions may be split and/or combined at the discretion of the FJAS Director. It is the goal for each preliminary judge to review between 15 and 25 papers and to select the best 10 which will be invited to compete at the FJAS competition.

Special Awards for Seniors

Once high school seniors are selected to present at the state competition, an application will be available to submit information for the scholarship presented at the FJAS competition in addition to the place awards. These applications will be sent with the confirmation of presenting students and the competition registration forms. Scholarships are only given to students that remain in Florida to attend college.

Last Call for members - Don't miss out

To be able to compete you must be a member. The last chance to pay dues without the late charge is December 31st. **Late membership is accepted until January 31st but it may delay acceptance of the paper. PLEASE turn in your applications and dues.**

2012 FJAS Competition
will be held March 17th at the
University of South Florida
in Tampa, Florida

Hotel information is posted in the *Call for Abstracts* in the "What's new" under the "Welcome" tab on the FAS website.
www.floridaacademyofsciences.org

The tentative schedule is:

9:45 AM	Welcome
10 AM to 12:30 PM	Judging sessions
2 PM	Awards Ceremony after the Business Meeting

Guidelines for Presentations

Middle school students have 10 minutes while high school students have 12 minutes to present their material. The judges then have 3 minutes to ask the presenter questions. Students are encouraged to practice their presentations to insure coverage of the entire presentation in the time allotted.

Information regarding the equipment available at the competition will be sent with the letter confirming students selected to present.

It is suggested that each student bring their presentation on a flash drive and download it onto the computer in the room PRIOR to the welcome, if possible. More details will be available in the letter. Generally the universities have PC's and not Macintosh computers so plan accordingly. If multiple students from one school are in the same session it may save time for the multiple presentations to be saved on one flash drive.