

ELIGIBILITY

The Beal Bank Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair (DRSEF) is affiliated to the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), the world's largest pre-college science competition, and is bound by the rules of ISEF.

Students in grades 6-12 at public and private schools within the boundaries of TEA Region 10, who placed in their school science fair, are eligible for DRSEF. (Schools without a fair should contact DRSEF). Students may be entered by their school into DRSEF as an individual or in a team of 2 or 3 students all from the eligible region, in either Junior (grades 6-8) or Senior (grades 9-12) division.



QUICK GUIDE

2017-18

Title Sponsor

Beal Bank

Supporting Sponsors



FLUOR®

Fair Website:

drsef.org

Email Address:

drsef@smu.edu

Mailing Address:

Caruth Institute for Engr. Edu. (DRSEF)
Southern Methodist University
P.O. Box 750278
Dallas, TX 75275-0278

Physical Address:

3145 Dyer Street
Caruth Hall, 353
Dallas, TX 75205

PROJECT STEPS

Before starting any experiments, the school, the teachers, and the students (in that order) must activate an account in **Scienteer**, which is linked via drsef.org. Scienteer is a state-wide project management system which works hierarchically, from the Texas State Fair director down through region, (district), school, teacher, to student. Any teacher can act as their school fair director. If in a public school district, the school fair director should first check whether their district has a fair account in Scienteer; if so, the school will be sending winners on to district rather than directly to region. Once the school fair account is activated by its director, teachers can be invited to login to activate their own accounts, after which their students can begin to activate their project accounts. Team projects can be formed once each student has registered.

To ensure experiments are performed safely, ISEF-affiliated competitions like DRSEF enforce federal and state regulations that require each project to complete steps in Scienteer, one after the other. The steps involve review of the project before it begins and getting various ISEF forms completed and approved online. Some steps must be performed before experiment and some afterwards.

Once a student has activated their Scienteer account and described the project, Scienteer will determine the ISEF forms required. Certain projects will need prior approval by a SRC or IRB **before** experiment begins.

SRC/IRB

Vertebrate animals or bio-hazards (e.g. bacteria). These experiments require prior approval by a Scientific Review Committee (SRC) before experiment begins.

Human Participant projects require prior approval by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) before experiment begins.

Hazardous chemicals, activities or devices and some micro-organisms exempt from SRC prior approval do not require prior approval by SRC but will need risk assessed on ISEF form 3 before the experiment begins and a designated supervisor.

If Scienteer indicates that any project requires prior approval (or in some cases post approval for institutional work), a school must set up an SRC and/or IRB in Scienteer with at least 3 members. Such projects will not be able to progress to DRSEF otherwise. Some school districts may provide these committees for their schools. The IRB consists of at least an educator (not the project teacher), a school administrator, and a human risk evaluator (school nurse, counselor, etc.). The SRC must have a bio/medical expert. Full details of the required committee membership can be found at the ISEF website.

If it proves impossible to obtain a suitable bio/medical specialist, a school fair director may request help in finding one by emailing

SRC@dallasciencefair.org

General scientific questions (not IT questions) about completing or reviewing ISEF forms may also be sent to this email address.

DRSEF ENTRY

Projects can **only** be advanced to the next higher fair (district or region) by the school or district fair director via Scienteer by the deadline shown in their account. Only projects that have completed all steps will be available for selection. For districts and those schools directly entering DRSEF, the deadline is midnight **February 7, 2018**. Each school may have entered into the DRSEF a maximum of 2% of their enrollment in grades 9-12 and/or grades 6-8. Entry fee is \$14 per student (not per project), due before fair day February 24. Payment options will be shown on the teacher page at drsef.org.

DRSEF DAY

Saturday, February 24, 2018.

Fair Park, Dallas. Student Check-in 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Parents will need to leave the building after 8:30 a.m., return to collect their students at Noon. Results from 5:30 pm Consult drsef.org before the fair for full details on the schedule.

BEAL BANK AWARDS BANQUET

Junior Division, Noon-2 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, 2018
Senior Division, Noon-2 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, 2018

Umphrey Lee Center,
3300 Dyer St, Southern Methodist
University, Dallas, TX 75205

Students who place 1st-4th in Science Category or received a Special Award are invited to receive their prizes at a formal luncheon at SMU (honorable mentions are not eligible). Their teacher named in Scienteer will also be invited at no charge. An additional student guest may pay to attend, subject to space availability. All banquet attendees **must** make a reservation via drsef.org before the deadline on their invitation so lunches can be ordered. Teacher Awards will be announced at the banquet.

FURTHER COMPETITIONS

Projects that place 1st - 4th in Science Category at DRSEF will be invited to enter the Texas State Science & Engineering Fair.

The top approximately 10% of Junior Division projects at DRSEF will receive invitations at the Awards Banquet to the Broadcom Masters competition.

Senior Division grand prize winners and runners-up at DRSEF qualify for the International Science & Engineering Fair, with attendance sponsored by Beal Bank.