

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Dr. Nelson Ying Science Competition at the Orlando Science Center

The following are the Eligibility Requirements and details for entering the Orlando Science Center Dr. Nelson Ying Science Competition:

- Reside in Florida
- Be a high school/home school equivalent student (grades 9, 10, 11, & 12) *
- Have a letter of reference from their science teacher
- Have a project in one of the Physical Science Categories:
 - Chemistry
 - Earth and Space Sciences
 - Engineering
 - Environmental Sciences
 - Mathematics
 - Physics
- Submit a paper on a science project that meets the following requirements:
 1. An abstract or executive summary of one page
 2. No more than 10 pages, double-spaced, type size 12
 3. References and appendix no more than 5 double-spaced pages
- Submit both an Application and a Project Summary and Certification form documents available at <https://www.osc.org/learn/competitions/ying-competition/>
- If invited, perform an oral presentation of the paper at OSC no more than 20 minutes in length, and be prepared to answer questions
- Identify any mentors and their role in the project
- Submit papers before the deadline. Late papers will not be reviewed.

*** Please Note: Schools are limited to 5 applicants per organization**

Criteria for Judging:

Five (5) finalists will be selected by a panel of judges based on the written research reports they submitted. These finalists will be evaluated further through an oral presentation and discussion with the judges to determine the winner.

Judges will be composed of a distinguished panel of local Central Florida educators, scientists, and industry leaders.

The winner will be judged on the following criteria:

- Originality of the research – looking into the future – benefit to humanity
- Student's work versus role of mentor
- Point of departure for hypothesis and its relationship to current scientific knowledge (state of the practice)
- Validity of conclusions
- Experimental work and set-up
- Documentation of scientific research supporting the project
- Use of the scientific method
- Oral Presentation
 - Substance of the project
 - Discussion of future potential of project
 - Clarity
 - Ability to engage in discussion

Contact Information:

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