



2/25/2021

The Neurological Surgery, P.C. Health Science Competition is a high school medical research competition for students residing in Nassau and Suffolk counties in New York State. Launched in 2019, the event is a venture of the titular sponsor, Neurological Surgery, P.C., and the administrator, the Center for Science Teaching & Learning, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit science education and advocacy center. The Competition utilizes a modified version of the International Science and Engineering Fair rules, of which permission to use has been graciously given by the Society for Science.

While originally an in-person science fair style program, the Competition moved to a virtual format in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will remain virtual for the 2021 event as well. This has not impacted participation, as 2020 saw 250 Teams comprised of over 300 students participate, an increase over 2019, and 2021 registration rates are double from this same time last year.

To compete, students register in Teams of 1-3 online at a rate of \$30 per Team, with most registration costs being covered by participatory school systems. Teams perform their research in one of five categories that cover the breadth of the medical spectrum; Behavioral Science, Biology – Medicine/Health, Biology – Microbiology/Genetics, Health Related Biochemistry/Biophysics, and Bioengineering & Computational Biology. To compete in the 2021 event, these Teams will create a website to which they upload a slideshow or digital poster board presentation, a ten minute video explaining their research, and all applicable forms. They are provided a detailed guide to show them how to properly format their site. These websites are then dispersed to volunteer judges to score.

Judges are given three weeks to score these projects from May 21 to June 10, with each judge receiving between 8-10 projects. Judges are looking more to the pursuit of the scientific method than to verify items like math and chemistry are correct, meaning each project takes around 20 minutes to score. Based on previous years and current registration rates, we are anticipating a need of between 100-150 judges to properly judge all submissions. Due to this and the wide range of project topics, we are looking for volunteer judges in any medical field to assist. The only requirements are that judges must not have any students or relatives competing, and that they have at minimum two years' experience in a scientific or medical field of work or study.

The NSPC Health Science Competition is an incredible experience that inspires determined students to push themselves even further. Volunteer judges are the backbone of this important work and your donation of a few hours of time is all that is needed to make this happen!

To register, judges may visit our website www.cstl.org/nspc/be-a-judge/. All questions are encouraged to be directed to the administrator listed below by either email or phone. Thank you for your support!

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