Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge 2026 Application Questions

This document previews the application questions for the Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge (JIC) online application. ALL entries must be submitted through the online application system; hard copies will not be accepted. The application deadline is **Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 8 PM Eastern Time**. The online application can be accessed at https://thermofisherjic.smapply.org.

Applicants may email jic@societyforscience.org with any questions they may have. Please be aware this document contains many branching questions that are hidden within the application. Some of these questions will only appear based on the entrant's response to a previous question. The application appears here in its longest state.

Application Instructions

Congratulations, you are now registered in the Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge (JIC), a program of Society for Science (the Society)! Tell us about yourself and your awesome project through this application form. We are here to help you along the way – check out the Resources tab in the upper right-hand corner for helpful hints, and feel free to email us at any time with your questions. Please add jic@societyforscience.org as a contact in your email account to make sure you receive important notifications.

Take these next steps to complete your application:

1. Review the complete Official Rules 2026.
2. Complete all the Parts of this application. You may save your work and return to the site as often as you'd like before the deadline, even after you hit submit!
3. Upload your visual aid PDF (data, charts, graphs, etc.).
4. Upload your signed Parent/Guardian Permission Form 2026.
5. Upload your science fair approval forms (if applicable).
6. Download your application to review your responses, using the button in the upper right-hand corner
7. Submit all information by **Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 8:00 pm Eastern Time**. Be sure to hit the "**Submit**" button!

Part 1: Registration

Please complete this form to register as an official nominee of the 2026 Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge. Please note that this section contains a second page. Contact information is used by the Society to send you, your parent/guardian and/or your school contacts reminders and notices about the status of your application.

**Required Field*

Before you begin the application, please review the 2026 Thermo Fisher JIC Official Rules and the Parent/Guardian Permission Form you will need to submit at the end of the application.*

- I have read the Official Rules
- I have read the Parent/Guardian Permission Form

Scientific Research & Academic Integrity

Please read and certify the following statements regarding your application*:

- I attest all content in this submission is exclusively my work in substance and in presentation. I understand that my application materials will be screened for authenticity. I further understand that scientific fraud, misconduct, misrepresentation of work or attribution thereof, or violation of the rules and/or eligibility requirements may result in disqualification and forfeiture of any monetary awards and that the Society reserves the right in such cases to bar future participation in Society programs.
- I have acknowledged all potential conflicts of interest, payment for research programs and parental/familial involvement and outside support related to my Thermo Fisher JIC project.
- I certify that I have not used AI tools, like ChatGPT, to construct responses to questions in the application.

STUDENT INFORMATION

- Legal Student First Name, Middle Name, Last Name*
- Chosen Student Name/Nickname (enter your name as you prefer to be known)
- Student Email Address* (we will use this email address for communications about this year's competition)
- Student Long Term Email Address (please provide an email address where we can reach you in the future for alumni requests)
- Student Phone Number (optional)
- Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)*
- T-Shirt Size (adult sizes)*
- Mailing Address

If you are selected as one of the Top 300 Junior Innovators or 30 finalists, do we have permission to share your contact information with your members of Congress?*

- Yes/No

Your Name for Public Materials

- Please tell us how you would like your name to appear in public materials relating to Thermo Fisher JIC (press releases, print materials, etc.)*
    - First Name*, Middle Name (optional), Last Name*, Nick Name for Public Materials (optional)

Languages

- Do you speak another language besides English*? Yes/no
- What languages do you speak?* (select all that apply).
- Fluency* Explain your level of fluency in speaking the language(s) selected above.

Are you an alumnus of the Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators?*

- Yes, I am a former entrant, former semifinalist or former finalist. (Welcome back!)
- I have received a nomination in the past, but this is my first time applying. (Congrats!)
- This is my first year receiving a nomination! (Awesome!)

PARENT/GUARDIAN 1 INFORMATION

This information will be used for communication purposes after the application has closed.

- Parent/Guardian 1 First Name*,
- Parent/Guardian 1 Last Name*
- Parent/Guardian 1 Relationship to Entrant*
- Parent/Guardian 1 Cell phone number (xxx-xxx-xxxx)*
- Parent/Guardian 1 Home phone number (xxx-xxx-xxxx)
- Parent/Guardian 1 Email Address*
- Parent/Guardian 1 Occupation*
- Parent/Guardian 1 Place of Employment and Department name (if applicable)*

PARENT/GUARDIAN 2 INFORMATION

Include your other primary parent/guardian here (if you have one), even if you do not share a household. Complete all fields below, unless you do not have a second parent/guardian.

- Parent/Guardian 2 First Name*,
- Parent/Guardian 2 Last Name*
- Parent/Guardian 2 Relationship to Entrant*
- Parent/Guardian 2 Cell phone number (xxx-xxx-xxxx)*
- Parent/Guardian 2 Home phone number (xxx-xxx-xxxx)
- Parent/Guardian 2 Email Address*
- Parent/Guardian 2 Occupation*
- Parent/Guardian 2 Place of Employment and Department name (if applicable)*

Are any of your parents, stepparents, guardians, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings and/or any other relatives or members of your household professional scientists or engineers, or do they work in a field related to STEM (medicine, dentistry, education, etc.), or work in academia?*

- Yes
- No

If so, list their names, occupations and places of employment below, even if already stated above, even if you do not live in the same household, and even if you did not do research with them.* (150 word limit)

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Please list your middle school science teacher, research teacher, informal science program educator, or homeschooling instructor. The person you list here must work at your middle school and will receive application reminders and notifications from the Society. This teacher will receive awards if you advance to the Top 300 Junior Innovator or finalist level. You will not be permitted to change the teacher listed here after the application deadline.

Middle School Teacher Information
Teacher Prefix, First Name*, Last Name*, Email Address*

Are you related to this teacher?* (This information is not used in the evaluation of your application.)

- Yes
- No

Would you identify this teacher as your research mentor, or the person who has most supported your science or engineering project?*

- Yes
- No

Project Mentor Information
Please identify the person who has most supported you with your research project, other than a parent or guardian. This person will be notified if you advance in the Thermo Fisher JIC competition.
Mentor Prefix, First Name*, Last Name*, Email Address*

Middle School Principal Information
Principal Title, First Name*, Last Name*, Email Address*

SCIENCE FAIR & PROJECT INFORMATION

You were nominated for the Thermo Fisher JIC by _____. Did you receive a second nomination from another science fair?*

- Yes/No

Is this a team project?*
Just a friendly reminder: each member of a team project needs to submit their own independent application in their own words.

- Yes/No

Besides yourself, how many other members are there in your team?*

- 1 or 2

If you worked on a team, please list the name(s) of your team member(s). Do NOT list yourself.

- Team Member #1 First Name, Last Name
- Team Member #2 First Name, Last Name

Part 2: Student Experience

SCHOOL INFORMATION

What is your current grade (2025/2026 academic year)*?

- 6th
- 7th
- 8th

Type of School* (select all that apply)

- Public
- Private
- Charter
- Homeschool
- Online/Virtual
- Magnet School/Program

School Name*
School Address*

Gender*
Gender Pronouns*
Ethnicity*
Race*
All questions have a "prefer not to say" option.

Why did you decide to conduct a research project this year? (select all that apply)*

- It was required by my science teacher/for my science class
- I was interested in a topic and wanted to investigate it
- I completed a project last year and wanted to continue my research
- My teacher encouraged me to complete a project
- My parent(s)/guardian(s) encouraged me to complete a project
- A friend wanted to do a team project and I decided to join
- Other (please describe)

Please select all that apply to your research experience this year*

- I conducted research at home or on my own time, apart from school
- I conducted research as part of my science class
- Enrolled in a research class offered by my school

- I currently attend or have attended a research club offered by my school after school or on weekends
- A relative, friend, or acquaintance made or helped me make an initial connection that led to my acceptance into a research setting (not at school)
- My teacher or school provided contacts or connections to scientists/engineers
- I identified and contacted a scientist/engineer independent of any support
- None of the above

Would you describe your project as an invention?*
Use the following definition to help you decide: An invention is a novel or unique device, process, or method. It could be an improvement on an existing product or a new process for creating a tangible product.

- Yes (please briefly explain why) / No

Part 3: Project Information

This is your chance to tell us about your awesome science or engineering project in your own words. If you are feeling stumped, take a look at your science fair poster/board for inspiration. This section is designed to feel like a judging interview at your science fair. You will have an opportunity to share charts, tables, graphs, photos, etc. containing your data in a PDF visual aid later in this application. Note: there are two pages in this section.
Reminder: Each member of a team project needs to submit an independent application in their own words.
**Required field*

Select a category that best describes your project*:
These categories might differ from the categories at your local science fair. Here's a helpful hint to help you choose: think about what type of scientist or educator would best understand your project. You can read project category descriptions here.

- Animal Science
- Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Computer Science & Software Engineering
- Energy & Sustainability
- Engineering
- Environmental & Earth Sciences
- Mathematics
- Materials Science
- Medicine & Health Sciences
- Microbiology
- Physics (includes Air/Space Science)
- Plant Science
- Robotics & Intelligent Machines

Project Title*
This is how your project title will appear in our materials if you are selected as one of the Top 300 Junior Innovators or Top 30 Finalists. For any symbols, please write the name of the symbol in all capital letters (ALPHA, GAMMA, etc.) Otherwise, please use normal Title Case. If you need help determining title case for your project title, check out this resource (use APA format)! If you did a team project, please use the same title as your teammate(s).

Sometimes, we need a short version of your project title for print materials. If your full project title is already 75 characters or less, use the same title in the full project title and short title boxes.

- Full Project Title*
- Short Title* (75 characters max)
- If the title of your project requires any special symbols or formatting (such as italics) please explain here:

Remind us, is this a team project*?

- Yes/no

<u>Project Overview</u>

Project Summary (max. 300 words)

Please Select ONE question, then answer in the text box below*

- Submit an abstract for your project
- Create an elevator pitch for your project

Your abstract/elevator pitch should include:

- Brief background information about your project topic and why it's important to research (who or what does your project benefit?)
- Your research question and hypothesis or engineering design criteria
- A short summary of your methods, results, and conclusions

If selected as one of the Top 300 Junior Innovators or top 30 finalists, do we have permission to share this summary with media?*

- Yes/No

What was the inspiration for your project?* (max. 200 words)

- How did you come up with your topic? Please describe if there was a personal experience, challenge or individual(s) that inspired your choice of this project. If your topic was assigned or you got your project idea from an external source, what was the source? List any website URLs as applicable. How did you make it your own?

Project Background* (max. 150 words)

- What did you learn about your topic before you started your project, and how did you learn this background information? For example, did you learn about your topic in school, did you read any books or articles on your topic, did you talk to a subject matter expert, did you find a dataset online, etc.? List any URLs as applicable.

Is this project a continuation of a past year's research project?*

- Yes/no
- If yes:
    - Briefly describe how your current project builds off of your past research (what you changed and/or what is new).* (100 words)

Project Details

What was your research question? For engineering projects: what was the human need or problem you wanted to solve?* *Note: you may not have had both for your project, that's okay!** (max. 50 words)

What was your scientific hypothesis or engineering design criteria?* (max. 125 words)

Explain your methodology and procedures for carrying out your project or building your design in detail, addressing the questions below. * (max. 400 words).

- What data did you collect and how did you collect that data? For engineering projects, how did you build your design?
- What were your testing procedures? For engineering projects, what was the device/prototype you designed, and how did you test your design?
- Discuss your control group and variables tested, including your independent, dependent, and controlled variables. For engineering projects, discuss the controls and variables tested in your design.
- You can reference figures, tables, and/or images from your visual aid in this section (See the Resources tab, Part 3 Walkthrough Video if you need an example of how to do this).

How did you analyze and interpret your data?* (max. 400 words)
Use this section to write about the process of analyzing and interpreting your data.

- What were the results of your data collection?
- Did you notice any patterns in the data?
- Did you use any statistical methods or special analysis? How did you determine the appropriate tests to use?
- For engineering projects, this question still applies. You can reference figures, tables, and/or images from your visual aid in this section (See the Resources tab, Part 3 Walkthrough Video, if you need an example of how to do this).

What conclusions did you reach*? (max. 350 words)

- Revisit your hypothesis or engineering design criteria. Did your data support your hypothesis - why or why not?
- Describe any limitations you had in your experimental design and how that might have affected your results.
- Do you have any future directions or next steps for your research?

What problems arose during experimentation and how did you troubleshoot them? * (max. 150 words)

- Describe any factors that impacted your research and/or results (e.g. lack of time, access to supplies). Did any questions or problems arise that you were not expecting?

Where did you conduct your experimentation?* Please select all that apply.

- Home
- School
- Field
- Lab (Please Specify)
- Workplace (Please Specify)

- Other (Please Specify)
- For Lab, Workplace, and Other:
    - Please share more specific details about the location of your experimentation. How did you gain access to this research location?* (max. 50 words)

Did you attend any paid research programs where you worked on your Thermo Fisher JIC project and/or pay for any coaching/research mentorship to assist you with your Thermo Fisher JIC project and/or this application?*

- Yes
- No

If yes:

You indicated that you attended a paid research programs where you worked on your Thermo Fisher JIC project and/or paid for coaching/research mentorship to assist you with your Thermo Fisher JIC project and/or this application. Please elaborate on that response in the questions below.*

- Program/Mentor/Coach Name (to whom fees were paid)*:
- Mentor/Coach name (if different from above):
- Program/mentorship/coaching location*:
- Tuition/Total Fees (not hourly fee or initial registration fee; provide original price for the program before scholarships applied)*:
- Explanation of program/mentorship/coaching provided and what fees were used for (i.e. residential program, tuition, meals provided, etc.)*
- Notes (anything else we should know about your participation in this program?)*
- Website for program*

A science or engineering project is never a solitary activity – and that's okay! Tell us who contributed to your research and what resources they brought to your project. Whether a parent/guardian works in your field and helped inspire your project idea, a mentor helped you in the lab, or a teacher helped answer questions, it's important to acknowledge the support you received and credit their contributions.* (max. 350 words)

Answer the following questions as they apply:

- Where and how did you conduct your research? What special equipment did you use?
- Who supervised and/or collaborated with you on your research (i.e., parents, teachers, mentors, siblings, peers)? What were their contributions? If you worked at a lab, what role did your mentor or others play in your research?
- Were there others who helped you perform your research who you wish to tell the evaluators about?

If you were a member of a team, please list each team member and explain each person's role in researching, developing and presenting your project. Describe how work was divided among your team. (optional) (max. 150 words)

Do you have any references and/or citations for your research?*

- Yes
- No

If yes:

Please include references and/or citations here. If you cited any papers within your project essays in this section of the application (Part 3), you MUST include those references here. If your reference list exceeds the word count, choose your most relevant references to include.* (max 200 words)

Reminder: Using AI to generate citations is in violation of the Thermo Fisher JIC Ethics Statement. Oftentimes, AI-generated citations produce many errors and/or fake sources. We strongly recommend that you verify all information in your citations is correct and links are working before including them here.

Upload a Visual Aid

Each nominee is required to submit a Visual Aid as a part of the application. The Visual Aid is for nominees to show any visuals related to their research to support the findings of the project. Visual Aids must follow the guidelines below as per the 2026 Thermo Fisher Official Rules:

- The Visual Aid **must be no more than 2 pages**, sized 8.5x11 inches each, and uploaded in the online application as a PDF.
- You do NOT need to include your name and project title in your Visual Aid.
- This visual aid should only include figures, charts, tables, photos, and/or other graphics that represent your methodology, data collection, data analysis, and/or findings. Choose the most important visuals an evaluator or judge would need to understand your project.
- The visual aid should NOT be a digital poster or photograph of a physical project board. You should NOT include a summary of your background, methods, data analysis, etc., since you have already described them in the application.
- Text on the visual aid should be minimal and limited to titles, short captions and image citations (see below for guidance on citations).
- Portrait or Landscape orientation are both acceptable.
- The following are **not allowed** within your visual aid:
    - Active hyperlinks or QR codes to websites with additional information about your project, aside from hyperlinks included in image citations.
    - Any videos or audio embedded within the Visual Aid PDF.
    - Any identifiable photographs of yourself and/or any human participants. Photographs where faces are blurred or digitally covered in some way are acceptable.
- We **recommend** the following guidelines for formatting your visual aid (these are NOT requirements):
    - Limit visuals to 3-4 per page so that all visuals can be seen clearly at 100% zoom.
    - Keep titles and captions short.
    - All text should be easily readable when viewing the entire page at once. Use a font size that is readable at 100% zoom.
- **Citations**: All graphics, charts, images, graphs, photographs, drawings, etc. should be cited in your Visual Aid. Please follow the guidelines below:
    - Citations should be provided alongside the graphic or in a vertically displayed reference list within the Visual Aid using a numbered list that matches each citation to the graphic

with the same number.

- All graphics that are created by the student should be properly cited individually using statements such as “Photo taken by Student,”; “Image created by Student”; “Graph created by Student”; “Data Table created by Student”; “Logo created by Student.” **Do NOT include your name in these citations.**
- All graphics not created by the student should be properly cited individually with the source. If the graphic was obtained via the Internet then a URL must be provided (digital object identifiers are acceptable in place of long URLs). This applies even if the license under which the graphic was obtained does not require credit or citation.
- See the Regeneron ISEF Graphic Credit Guidance here for examples of proper citations if needed (can also be found at https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/international-rules/display-safety-rules/).

If you have uploaded a file and would like to replace it, click the three dots in the upper right corner of this task and select "Reset". This will remove your previous file and will allow you to upload a new one. PDF is the only acceptable file format for these documents. If you do not have access to PDF creation/writer software, check out our tips on how to convert files to PDFs in the FAQ. You can also get a parent/guardian's permission to use a free online program that creates PDFs, such as this Free PDF Converter from Adobe.

Part 4: Essay Questions

*This section provides you with an opportunity to tell us more about yourself and your thoughts about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) as they relate to your project and in general. *Required*

- Describe your STEM journey. How did you become interested in STEM and/or scientific research and your project this year? Who helped you or influenced you (in ways good or bad)? How is STEM viewed in your school or community? (max. 250 words)*
- What did you do for the last two summers? This could include any travel, family trips, responsibilities at home, volunteering, camps, etc. What are you looking forward to doing this summer?* (max 150 words)
- What is something you've learned recently that was interesting or surprising to you, and why? (max 150 words)*
- Some students have a background, identity, interest, accomplishment, obstacle, setting or circumstance that is so significant they believe their application would be incomplete without describing it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story. (max. 200 words) (optional)

Part 5: Personal Interests

Tell us a bit about yourself as an individual, apart from your science fair project and your thoughts on science or engineering. Share information that will help us get to know you better.

**Required field*

Check activities in which you are currently or have been involved (select all that apply). (optional)

- Science Club
- Math Club
- Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts (provide rank*)
- 4-H
- Future Farmers of America
- Boys & Girls Club
- School Publications
- Music (instrument or choir)
- Athletics
- Art Club
- Computer/Coding Club
- Community Service (where?*)
- Science or Engineering Summer Camp
- Yearbook/School Publications
- Student Council
- Foreign Language studies (list language*)
- National Junior Honors Society
- Theatre/Drama Club
- Chess Club/Game Club
- Speech and/or Debate Club
- Model UN
- Mock Trial
- Science or Math Oympiad
- Science or Math Bowl
- Other (please specify*)

What instrument(s) do you play? (select all that apply) (optional)

- Piano
- Cello
- Violin
- Trumpet
- Guitar
- French Horn

- Saxophone
- Flute
- Clarinet
- Choir/Singing
- Drums/Percussion
- Oboe
- Viola
- Other, please specify*

What sport(s) are you involved in? (select all that apply) (optional)

- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Swimming
- Golf
- Volleyball
- Track/Cross Country
- Gymnastics
- Softball
- Dance (specify type*)
- Martial Arts (specify type*)
- Fencing
- Football
- Hockey
- Other (please specify*)

What hobbies or extra-curricular activities do you most enjoy and why? (max. 100 words) (optional)

Science Training Institutes, Research Programs, Summer Programs (optional)

- Please list the names of programs where you have conducted research projects, science summer camps you have attended, etc.

If you would like to elaborate on your participation in any of the above, please use the space below. (max. 100 words) (optional)

Are there any other volunteer activities or obligations outside of school that you'd like to share? (max. 100 words) (optional)

Is there additional information that you wish to share with the judges to help them better know you as an individual and what is personally important to you? Future goals, favorite topics, role models, etc.– this is your chance to share anything. (max. 100 words) (optional)

Which one of the following STEM careers are you most interested in pursuing*?
To find a specific career, click inside the box and type the name. If it's included in the list, the career will appear in blue.

- Electrical Engineer
- Climatologist
- Medical Doctor
- NanoSystems Engineer
- Cartographer
- Biologist
- Biomedical Engineer
- Neurologist
- Chemist
- Mechanical Engineer
- Cardiovascular Technician
- Industrial Engineer
- Astrophysicist
- Scientist
- Physicist
- Science Teacher
- Animal Trainer
- Sound/Light Engineer
- Pharmacist
- Epidemiologist
- Aeronautical Engineer
- Surgeon
- Surveyor

- Meteorologist
- Civil Engineer
- Materials Scientist
- Computer Engineer
- Nutritionist
- Optometrist
- Nuclear Engineer
- Dentist
- Orthodontist
- Physical Therapist
- Nurse
- Hydrologist
- Anthropologist
- Forensic Scientist
- Forest Ranger
- CAD Technician
- Imagineer
- Astronomer
- Audiologist
- Laboratory Technician
- Respiratory Therapist
- Health Care Professional
- Geologist
- Speech/Language Pathologist
- Veterinarian
- Statistician
- Mathematician
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Seismologist
- Zoologist
- Semiconductor Processor
- Satellite Imaging Engineer
- Biochemist
- Environmental Engineer
- Web Developer
- Psychologist
- Software Developer
- Botanist
- Dietician/Nutritionist
- Other

Why does this career interest you*? (max. 100 words)

Part 6: Science Fair Paperwork Wizard

In this section you will be asked about what paperwork you completed, what safety measures you followed and/or what approval process you completed for your research project. Please see the Thermo Fisher JIC Official Rules (2025/2026) for our full rules and guidelines.

Note: You may be required to upload paperwork from your local fair. Please upload files in PDF format only. If you do not have access to PDF creation/writer software, check out our tips on how to convert files to PDFs in the FAQ. You can also get a parent/guardian's permission to use a free online program that creates PDFs, such as this Free PDF Converter from Adobe.

Hint: If you need to remove and replace a file after you have completed the section, click the three dots in the upper right corner of this section and select "Edit." .You can then scroll down to your saved pdf, click the three dots next to it and select "delete." You will then have the ability to upload a new document. To view the paperwork you have submitted, click the three dots next to the document and select "View."

Research/ Experimentation Location*
This is what you entered for where you conducted your experimentation in Part 3 of the application: _____. Is there anywhere else that you conducted your research?*

Please select any additional locations where you conducted your research / Experimentation Location* Home, School, Field, Research Institution (i.e., a laboratory); specify name*; Workplace (please specify*); other (please specify*)

Did you use any of the following in your research? Please select all that apply.*

- Human Participants (used survey)
- Human Participants (other than myself or teammates) tested a device/invention/app
- Vertebrate Animals
- Recombinant DNA
- Microorganisms
- Human/Animal Tissue ((fresh/frozen tissue, including primary cell lines, human and other primate established cell lines and tissue cultures)
- Blood, blood products and body fluids
- None of the above

Please provide a brief summary of the approval and permission process at your school or science fair, including answers to the following questions.* (max. 150 words)

- Who approved your project idea?
- What type of paperwork did you complete, if any?
- Please describe any review or permission process that was followed.

All projects involve some level of risk. Please describe any safety precautions and/or procedures that you took while conducting your research to reduce risk.* (max. 150 words)

- Who supervised your project?

- Did you use any hazardous chemicals, activities or devices, and if so, what were they?
- Did you work with any microorganisms, rDNA or tissue (potentially hazardous biological agents)?

If you worked with human participants, you will see the following questions:

Because you worked with human participants, please answer the following questions in the space below (max. 150 words):

- Who were the people you recruited to participate in your study?
- Did the participants review and sign a consent form?
- Who reviewed your survey and/or testing protocol prior to your research?* (max. 150 words)

Please upload a copy of your survey, consent forms and/or testing protocol (i.e. what volunteers were asked to do) here. *

Please list the start and end dates of your research (MM/DD/YYYY).*

Is this project a continuation of a research project from a previous year?*

- Yes (if yes, upload continuation form)
- No

Did you submit any science fair safety paperwork at your fair?*
Hint: If you checked off anything in question 3 above (human participants, vertebrate animals, potentially hazardous biological agents, and/or hazardous chemicals/devices), your fair may have required paperwork. This includes paperwork specific to working with human participants, vertebrate animals, potentially hazardous biological agents and/or hazardous devices/chemicals, AND/OR general forms such as Regeneron ISEF Form 1, Form 1A, Form 1B, Form 1C or Form 2.

- Yes/ Yes, but I submitted the form(s) to my local fair and no longer have a copy/ No

If you selected "Yes" above:

- You MUST upload copies of your science fair paperwork if your science fair or school required these to approve your research.
- If you no longer have ALL copies of your science fair paperwork and you cannot get copies, you must upload a letter signed by the adult that approved your project (i.e., SRC or IRB team member, teacher, fair director).*
- This letter must include what you worked with (human participants, animals, microorganisms, hazardous chemicals/devices, etc.), what approvals you obtained and the date on which approval was given, and/or what safety measures you took while conducting your research.
- Students who do not submit their paperwork or a letter may be deemed ineligible to progress to the Top 300 or Finalist level of the competition.
- PDF FORMAT ONLY!
- You can upload multiple files if needed. If you are having trouble, email jic@societyforscience.org for assistance.

If you selected "Yes, but I submitted the form(s) to my local fair and no longer have a copy:

- If you no longer have your science fair paperwork and you cannot get copies, you must upload a letter signed by the adult that approved your project (i.e., SRC or IRB team member, teacher, fair director).*
- This letter must include what you worked with (human participants, animals, microorganisms, hazardous chemicals/devices, etc.), what approvals you obtained, and/or what safety measures you took while conducting your research.
- Students who do not submit their paperwork or a letter may be deemed ineligible to progress to the Top 300 or Finalist level of the competition.
- Please email jic@societyforscience.org with any questions about what science fair paperwork you should provide.
- PDF FORMAT ONLY!

Upload Your Permission Form

Please upload a signed version of the parent/guardian permission form. Prior to signing the form, please be sure to read the Ethics Statement found in the 2026 Thermo Fisher JIC Official Rules.

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