GRADES K-12

Judging Criteria
RESEARCH LITERATURE REVIEW DIVISION

ACADEMY OF SCIENCE – ST. LOUIS SCIENCE FAIR

sciencefairstl.org

SEQUENCE NUMBER_____

Project Elements	**DESCRIPTION OF CRITERIA** LIMIT: 5 double-spaced pages + Bibliography/Works Cited page. 2-3 addt'l pages allowed w/graphs/tables/diagrams ONLY. Pages may be double-sided. Paper is Age-Appropriate.	Possible Score	Score
APPROVAL FROM TEACHER	All students choosing to complete a Research Review Paper are required to have approval from their teacher **prior** to the beginning of their study. The student has uploaded a safety form, or included their teacher approval in their research paper.	0-5	
TITLE & DESCRIPTION	Title and description of project. Title accurately describes the research. Description is 50 words or less.	0-5	
INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND	Student introduces specific question, provides background information of science concepts related to their question. History – highlights key discoveries and early research. Significance – explains the importance of this research. Explains why the student is interested in the topic.	0-10	
BIBLIOGRAPHY & SOURCE CREDIT	Includes at least 3 reliable sources. Student is careful to give proper credit. Use quotes and citations to cite a fact, quote directly from a source. The citation is set off using "signal phrase" or with parentheses and is cross-referenced in the Bibliography.	0-10	
RESEARCH AND BODY OF THE PAPER:			
	Research the topic. Student clearly defines why topic is important or "how can I or society make this better." All information should be in student's own words unless cited. Research contains sufficient information to provide a scientific explanation. Shows evidence student understands project. Research is age-appropriate. Research can be interviews with knowledgeable adults (with permission and oversight of parent) as well as reliable internet sources and books. Facts – tells what is known about the topic. Method – tells how this topic is being studied.	0-25	
	Possible Solutions: Student describes possible solutions that are being studied by their reliable internet sources, books and articles. Student documents what solutions or technologies already exist.	0-10	
	Data: Data that is collected from reliable source/s is organized, properly labeled, and presented as a data table, graph, photos or illustrations.	0-10	
	More to study: Student describes their own ideas or additional ideas that are under investigation by universities and research laboratories.	0-5	
	Conclusion & Reflection: Reflects what the student has learned. Were there any surprises? Student demonstrates an understanding of the subject matter. Conclusions and applications are clear and supported by research data.	0-10	

	Total Possible Score	90	
	TOTAL SCORE:____		