

Dear parents,

Congratulations on having a son or daughter win a chance to go to the 2020 International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) sponsored by Regeneron. It is truly an honor to compete at the international level. Your child is one of the fifteen hundred finalists selected world-wide to compete at this event. I am the State of Alabama's Coordinator for this event. I will be assisting you and your child to make this event a great one. Most of our contact will be through e-mail so please check yours/your child's often.

First make sure that your child sends their ISEF packet within 10 days of the fair and registers on line at <https://finalistquestionnaire.societyforscience.org/>. If you have any questions about this or need assistance contact me.

I will also need the following information from you and your child no later than **April 8, 2020:**

1. All necessary forms related to their project – (A copy of the package you send to ISEF)
2. A copy of their abstract
3. A copy of your health insurance card
4. A notarized letter giving me permission to provide necessary medical care in case of an emergency.
Sample :(I _____ give Virginia Vilardi or her designee permission in case of emergency to have my child _____ treated at my expense at the nearest medical facility during the week of ISEF 2020).
5. Telephone number at home/work/cell where parents or guardian can be reached
6. Home address and **e-mail** if available
7. Any medical conditions and list of medication

*****If for some reason or conflict you chose not to compete you must contact your fair director and me ASAP (within 48 hours).**

- **The regional fair or state fair is responsible to pay for the finalist's expenses.** They will send a check close to the date of ISEF to cover the cost of meals and incidentals or I will have their \$\$\$ for them when we arrive in Anaheim. They also pay for the hotel and transportation for each finalist. I will make **all** reservations for the finalists!
- All finalists must travel with the **group** and stay in the hotel with the **group** – **NO exceptions!**
- If a teacher or parent is going, please travel with the student. I can add them to our group if I know far enough in advance (by State Science Fair March 27th – **sooner is better**).
- Please advise your child to abide by the rules. All finalists **must attend all ISEF events** – this is a working trip for the finalists not a vacation. We will try to sight see when we can, but their first responsibility is to the fair. This is still a school function and they are representing their school, region, state, and country. They must abide by **my** rules (curfew, etc.), ISEF rules, school policy, and hotel regulations. Violators will be sent home at their parents' expense!
- Remind the students to take all safety precautions at Anaheim, CA.
- Remind them to bring necessary amounts of dress clothes for pictures, judging, three award ceremonies, and several banquets. Encourage them to pack mix and match outfits. Pack as lightly as possible, remember they will be sharing a room with up to 3 other students plus they must carry their own luggage.
- Look over the ISEF package for the agenda for the week.
- The Alabama ISEF 2020 competitors will be leaving by plane from Birmingham on May 10th. All competitors will return home on May 16th. While in Anaheim they will be staying at the Anaheim, Marriott.
- The students may want to bring small state pins or other type hatpins from their region to trade with other finalists from around the globe. If you contact your local chamber of commerce or your state legislator they may be able to assist you in finding them. There are over 1500 finalists expected to compete so bring plenty.
- **Make sure that projects that are shipped are shipped on time. Follow the shipping instructions carefully. If they are transported with you. Pack them well. Bring a back up jump drive with project information loaded on it in case something is damaged.** Intel will supply a variety of tools, paper, glue, etc. to put projects together so you will not need to transport them.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call, text or e-mail me.

Sincerely,

Virginia Vilardi Ph.D.

Alabama Academy of Science Intel/ISEF Coordinator

1158 Persons Drive Wetumpka, AL 36092

334-799-0104 cell – best

334-514-1770 home

334-567-5158 work

E-mail: virginia.vilardi@elmoreco.com

vavilardi@gmail.com

334-567-1178 fax