



# Florida Junior Academy of Science

A Division of the Florida Academy of Sciences

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## Call for Research Papers

All FJAS members are invited to submit their experimental or literary research papers to the preliminary FJAS competition. ALL entries MUST be received by January 31, 2015.

### Research Paper Guidelines

See complete instructions and judging rubrics for both papers on the Junior Academy section of the [www.floridaacademyofscience.org](http://www.floridaacademyofscience.org) website. The paper MUST meet these guidelines:

- Title page ONLY has a lay-language title (maximum of 75 characters) and the lay-language abstract (maximum of 100 words).
- NO mention of student's name, school, acknowledgments, mentor or facility can appear in the paper.
- Maximum of 20 pages double-spaced.

In addition to these guidelines, since the papers are submitted and sent to judges electronically there are additional requirements.

- file name less than 30 characters with key words of the title - Do NOT use your name, school, or generic title of "FJAS paper".
- save the file in **pdf, rtf, doc, or docx**
- files MUST be 2MB or smaller - do not include too many pictures - if a large file is submitted I will remove ALL pictures and graphics - please meet this criteria so your paper is not altered and you will still lose points for not following the criteria.

### Submitting the Research Paper

All papers should be sent electronically. All papers are forwarded electronically to the preliminary judges. Failing to follow the guidelines above deducts points from the scoring.

PLEASE USE MY SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS - [zalop@manateeschools.net](mailto:zalop@manateeschools.net)

The email should include:

- student's name
- school
- grade in school
- Type of paper: Experimental or Literary
- For Experimental papers ONLY the area of study: Biological, Environmental, Medical, Physical
- Exact Title of the paper

An email showing receipt of paper is generally sent within 24 hours.

Some common errors last year which decreased the score for "following directions" were:

- the attachment was larger than the maximum of 2 MB
- student's name was in the attachment's file name or within the paper
- abstract was too long and/or not written in lay-language
- acknowledgments were included in the paper

## Preliminary Competition Procedures

Papers are assigned to sessions from the information given in the email and the number of papers submitted.

It is the goal of the FJAS Director to place similar papers in the same session and to allow for equal chances for all submissions. For this reason papers are sorted by:

- grade level (middle school or high school)
- type of paper (literary or experimental)
- general area for the experimental papers (Biology, Environmental, Medical, or Physical)

If the sessions for each grade level have differing number of entries then papers will be moved at the discretion of the FJAS Director. It is the goal for each preliminary judge to review approximately the same number of papers and to select the best 10 which will be invited to compete at the FJAS competition. This gives the students equal opportunities of being selected.

## Special Award for Seniors

Once high school seniors are selected to present at the state competition, an application will be available to submit information for the scholarship presented at the FJAS competition in addition to the place awards. These applications will be sent with the confirmation of presenting students and the competition registration forms. Scholarships are only given to students that remain in Florida to attend college.

## Last Call for memberships - Don't miss out

To be able to compete you must be a member. The last chance to pay dues without the late charge is December 31<sup>st</sup>. **Late membership is accepted until January 31<sup>st</sup> but it may delay acceptance of the paper. PLEASE turn in your applications and dues.**

## 2015 FJAS Competition

The **2015 Florida Junior Academy of Science Competition** will be held March 21st at St Leo University in St Leo, Florida. More details about the campus and lodging are available on pages 3 and 4 of the "Call for Abstracts" found on the [www.floridaacademyofsciences.org](http://www.floridaacademyofsciences.org) website in the "What's new" under the "Welcome" tab.

The tentative schedule is:

9:45 AM	Welcome
10 AM to 12:30 PM	Judging sessions
2 PM to 3 PM	Awards Ceremony after the Business Meeting

## Guidelines for Presentations

Students have 10 minutes to present their material. The judges then have 3 minutes to ask the presenter questions. A moderator should be in each room to insure that everyone follows these guidelines. Students are encouraged to practice their presentations to insure coverage of the entire presentation in the allotted time. The list of presenters will be sent to the sponsors in mid February.

**More information will be sent to the presenters regarding the technology available at the competition.**