



Science Fair Alumni Mentorship Program Information for Mentors

Attention Science and Technology Professionals!

The Science Fair Foundation of BC is seeking mentors for the 2010 science fair season to assist students as they prepare projects for regional science fairs throughout BC. The Science Fair Alumni Mentorship Program (AMP) is an initiative run by science fair alumni that aims to provide students in grades 9-12 with the resources they need to investigate scientific questions of interest to them. The 2009/2010 program will be available to all BC students preparing for a regional science fair.

Based on an initial project proposal, AMP matches most successful student applicants with two mentors – and this is where we need your help! First, each student is assigned a former Canada-Wide Science Fair participant who provides support as the student prepares a project for judging. Well-developed projects are also matched with a university or industry expert who answers science- and technology-related questions and may assist by providing technical advice or access to journal articles and laboratory equipment. While we strive to provide students with face-to-face mentorship opportunities, mentoring can also take place via email or phone.

Eligibility

Mentors are professionals or graduate students with a background in science or technology. At a minimum, they must be available for the duration of the program (November 2009 to April 2010) to answer a student's questions by email. If possible, they will also help the student address specific needs (eg. for a particular reagent or for assistance with a piece of equipment). The time commitment for mentors will vary but they should be able to commit a minimum of 10 hours to the program. While mentors can provide guidance, the idea behind the project and the methods employed must originate from the student.

If you are interested in mentoring a science fair participant, please complete the online registration form (available at <http://www.sciencefairs.ca/mentorship.html>) and submit it by **October 17, 2009**.

Why participate?

Our ability to help students achieve their project goals depends on participation by mentors like you. In addition to your valuable contribution to science education, you will be able to meet with other mentors and perhaps even to benefit from the new perspectives offered by your mentee.

Important dates

October 17, 2009	Mentor Registration deadline
October 24, 2009	Successful applicants notified
November 2009	Program Orientation Dinner (exact date varies by region)
Jan-March 2010	Students complete projects for school or district science fairs
March-April 2010	VIP Viewing at regional science fairs
May 22, 2010	Mentor feedback form due

Further Information

Questions? Please email us at alumni@sciencefairs.ca or visit www.sciencefairs.ca.