



Massachusetts State Science & Engineering Fair JUDGING CRITERIA

1. Scientific Approach (30 points)

Science Project

Clearly Stated Hypothesis
Logical Experiment with Control
Accuracy of Data and Observations
Well-supported Conclusions
Consideration of Future Research

Engineering Project

Identified Need or Problem
Development of Clear Performance Criteria
Well-constructed and Tested Prototype
Retesting and Redesign
Feasibility Study

2. Understanding of Science (25 points)

Application & Understanding of Scientific Method or Design Process
Conclusions are Consistent with Data
Knowledge of Scientific Literature Relevant to Project
Connections to other Disciplines

3. Innovation/Creativity (20 points)

Originality
Use of Unique Methods, Designs or Materials
Creative Approach to Problem-Solving

4. Presentation (15 points)

Clarity of Auditory Presentation
Effectiveness and Use of Visual Display
Research Paper with Citations
Evidence of Equitable Collaboration (if Team Project)

5. Laboratory Notebook (10 Points)

Well-documented Entries
Dated Records
Evidence of Project Development
Students in a team have their own laboratory notebook