



## Poster Submission Guidelines & Judging Criteria

### Poster Dimensions

Posters can be a maximum size of 3 feet by 4 feet. Posters larger than 3'x4' will not hang correctly in the space provided and therefore will not be accepted.

### Submitting Your Abstract

Please submit a ½ page (maximum) abstract along with your registration that briefly explains the topic of your poster. The abstract allows you to elaborate upon each major aspect of the project and helps readers decide whether they want to learn more. The preferred format for poster abstracts is a MS Word document.

### Additional Authors

Please include the names of everyone who worked on the project, as well as your faculty mentor, in your registration. Each student who would like to present or attend WSTS should fill out a separate registration form, but **only one student from each research team should submit a poster.**

### Judging Criteria

Each poster will be assessed by multiple judges from various academic and professional backgrounds. Judges will be identified with a ribbon on their WSTS nametags throughout the conference. Posters will be scored based on the following criteria:

- **Abstract:** The abstract should be clear and concise. It should contain the objective(s), methods, results and conclusions or recommendations.
- **Statement of Research/Intellectual Merit:** The questions, hypotheses or objectives should be well explained and justified. The relationship of the project to the state of knowledge within the discipline should be clear. References must be cited appropriately.
- **Methods:** Methods should be clearly described and appropriate to address the project goals.
- **Analysis/Results:** Findings should be presented accurately and clearly, using tables or figures when appropriate, to present your data.
- **Conclusions:** Conclusions should address the study's problem or question and be supported by the results. What new learning or new knowledge the project produced should be clear.
- **Significance:** This is the most important criterion. Your poster presentation should clearly communicate the "so what" factor of your research: how will the project contribute to the advancement of scientific knowledge or impact the economy and society through technology transfer, innovation, new business or jobs creation?
- **Presentation Quality and Clarity:** Your poster should be aesthetically pleasing, highly legible, well organized and clearly labeled/captioned when necessary. Oral discussions should also be clear and show the presenter's understanding of their work.

Presenters will have the opportunity to see judges' feedback on their posters after the competition.

For more information on the WSTS Poster Symposium please contact Jennifer Cook at [jennifer@wisys.org](mailto:jennifer@wisys.org) or by phone at 608-316-4131.