


NJAS Central Regional Science Research Competition

Dear Teachers,

Welcome to a new school year! As you begin planning classroom instruction and FFA activities, we'd like to share some important updates regarding this year NJAS Central Regional Science Research Competition for 6-12 grade. The competition will be held at the **University of Nebraska-Kearney in the Ponderosa Room at 9 a.m.**

 **Competition Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026. Registration fee is \$15 per student (\$30 for team project.) Lunch is included.** Teachers, parents, bus drivers and others can have lunch in the cafeteria for \$10 with their students. **Registration will be online at www.nebraskajunioracademyofsciences.org Click on fairs and then on Central region. Deadline to register is February 10, 2026. Make check out to Nebraska Junior Academy of Science and bring it March 3rd.**

Awards: The NJAS Central Regional will be awarding medallions and ribbons to the students.

 **Location:** Ponderosa Room at **UNK**.

To better accommodate school calendars and avoid conflicts with district and state basketball and speech, this year's competition will be held earlier.

A Dual Opportunity for FFA Agriscience Projects

Students preparing **FFA Agriscience Fair projects** for the State Convention will also be eligible to enter those same projects in the **NJAS Central Regional Science Research Competition**. Most Agriscience projects align well with the categories and expectations of both events, giving students a broader platform to present their work and gain recognition for their efforts. Please don't hesitate to pass this along to your FFA colleagues.

Who Can Participate?

- **NJAS Central Regional Science Fair (Grades 6–12):** A qualifying competition for the **Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences (NJAS) State Science Fair**.
- **Eight Senior and Eight Junior High projects** from the Central Regional will be selected to present their research at the **NJAS State Science Fair at UNL Eastern Union April 23, 2026**. Over **\$200,000** in scholarships and cash awards will be awarded to your students.
- I've attached a suggested timeline to help guide your students through the research and registration process.

Thank you for your continued dedication in support of student inquiry, innovation, and leadership. We are excited to see the creative and impactful projects your students will bring to this science competition this year!

Best Regards,

Joel Berrier

Regional Director of NJAS Central Region

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