Regeneron ISEF 2026 Display Guidelines

Regeneron ISEF 2026 will be an in-person event in which finalists will compete in-person in Phoenix, Arizona from May 9-15, 2026. However, **ALL finalists** are still required to complete a virtual display within ProjectBoard to support the judging process and to share their projects with the general public. Finalists are also required to provide a physical display board for the finalist exhibit hall in Phoenix. All displays, virtual and in-person, will undergo Display & Safety (D&S) inspections. The International Rules & Guidelines remain the guide of what is eligible and allowable; all written materials are to be provided in English.

We strongly encourage finalists to use the same core materials in both displays to avoid duplication of effort and to support the D&S review. Where possible, infractions identified within the virtual display should be corrected online and within the physical display board prior to printing or construction of the final physical display. The guidelines are updated for 2026. Please review fully and follow closely to avoid last minute revisions.

ProjectBoard – Virtual Display

I. Regeneron ISEF Paperwork as submitted in the Finalist Questionnaire

a. On display for the judges will be:
   i. **Official Abstract** (250 words)
   ii. **Regulated Research Institutional Setting Form 1C** (if applicable)
   iii. **Continuation Form 7** (if applicable)

b. Appendix I provides an overview of Regeneron ISEF paperwork.

II. Project Presentation

a. The virtual project presentation is the primary way to present the content of your project. It serves the same purpose as the in-person project poster but in virtual format.Appendix II provides complete instructions of the format requirements and recommendations.

b. Project presentations will be required to be submitted by a set deadline and will then be locked for Display & Safety inspection prior to competition. This information will be seen by judges but can be marked as "private" so that it is not shared with the public.

III. A Quad Chart/Visual Summary

a. The quad chart/visual summary is a quick overview of the project. It is a single page and is intended as the public summary, similar to a written abstract. It may also be reviewed by judges to gain a basic familiarity of the project.This is to be a summary and to be visual in nature. Be concise. The words should be short summary statements or captions and citations for images used.

b. Appendix III provides complete instructions with format requirements and recommendations as well as sample templates.

a. A quad chart/visual summary is required to be submitted by a set deadline and will then be locked for Display & Safety inspection prior to competition. This information will be shared with the public and not able to be marked "private." Ensure that you have not overshared any intellectual property.

IV. Project Video (2-minute maximum)

a. This video summarizes the project at a high level and will be used primarily for the public display of projects. Although the main audience of the video is the general public, the video may be viewed by judges to give them a basic familiarity of the project.This video should feature the finalist(s) prominently on screen.
b. This video will be shared with the public and is not able to be marked as "private."

V. Additional Notes

a. Active links or QR Codes are not permitted anywhere on the virtual display
b. Do NOT include your research paper or notebook images as part of your virtual display.

In-Person Physical Display

Display & Safety

Please review the full text of the Display & Safety rules in the International Rules & Guidelines to ensure compliance with the display regulations including:

- Maximum size of the project
- Forms required to be displayed
- Photograph/Image Display Requirements and
- Items/materials not allowed on display or at your project booth.

The virtual display D&S inspection will occur on a rolling basis between March and May and it is our intent to conduct an inspection of all virtual displays by no later than May 1, 2026. This should allow all finalists to make any updates and adjustments to their physical display board to address any infractions that were identified on the virtual display.

The two formats are different and they do not need to be identical, but where a Finalist can use the same elements in both displays, it is encouraged. **The following information are suggested guidelines for your physical display taken from** https://guides.nyu.edu/posters.

- The title is short and draws interest to the project
- Total project board word count is about 300-800 words
- The text is clear and succinct
- Use section headers, bullets, numbering, colors, fonts, graphics and other format techniques to make the board easy to read and understand.

Submission and Review Process

Regeneron ISEF Paperwork

All finalists must submit a finalist questionnaire that includes all the ISEF paperwork required for their project. Minimally, all projects must have Checklist Forms 1, Student Checklist Form 1A, Research Plan, and Approval Form 1B. The forms that are to be made available at your project booth for the judges to review are the Official Abstract, and if applicable, the Regulated Research Setting Form 1C and/or the Continuation Form 7. These forms will be automatically passed over to ProjectBoard from Finalist Questionnaire. You will not be able to upload them directly on ProjectBoard.

- **Official Abstract** approved by SRC (250-word format)
  The abstract summarizes the information contained in the rest of this document. An abstract includes: (a) the research question or engineering problem, (b) procedures used, (c) data, (d) interpretation and (e) conclusions. It also may include any possible research applications. It should be limited to these essential elements. Consider using the summary created by the Quad chart to inform this narrative.

- **Regulated Research Institutional Setting Form 1C** (if applicable)
  This form is required for work done at a Regulated Research Institution or Industrial Setting and is to be completed after experimentation by the adult supervising. A Form 1C can also be used when support from mentors and those in a laboratory setting has been provided, even when the student received this support remotely. This can also include situations in which a high school teacher is supporting laboratory activities on behalf of a remote student to help clarify the student's involvement in each step of the project.

- **Continuation Form 7** (if applicable)
  Any project that is a continuation of a previous year's work must document that additional research is new and different on Continuation Form 7.

Display & Safety

Display & Safety inspections will include a review of all submitted materials and enforcement of the display guidelines as published in the International Rules and Guidelines. This includes meeting all of the format and size requirements, **providing appropriate credits for photographs, graphs and other visuals** and in having any permissions of individuals depicted in any project materials (on the board, slides or in the video) available.

ALL graphics MUST BE properly cited individually. APA format is preferred. If a graphic was obtained via the Internet then a URL must be provided (digital object identifiers are acceptable in place of long URLs). Citations must be provided alongside the graphic or in a reference list. Please refer to the D&S Graphic Credit Guidance for examples of correct citation.

Calendar of Processes

- All finalists must adhere to the deadlines below to compete at Regeneron ISEF 2026. Deadline to submit Finalist questionnaire: **12 days after your fair** ends and finalists are announced
- Final deadline for abstract rewrites by all finalists: **April 17**
- Final submission of presentation materials on ProjectBoard: **Rolling Basis until April 17**
- SRC rolling phone/video conference Interviews**: Completed by May 1**
- Display & Safety inspections of presentation materials**: Completed by May 1**

Project Presentation Instructions

You may prepare your Project Presentation using any software tools that you desire, but the final document submitted for display to the judges and the public must satisfy the following requirements.

Format Requirements

1. The Project Presentation must be uploaded to ProjectBoard as images (JPG, PNG or similar). Each page will need to be a separate image and you are limited to **no more than 12 pages**. *Tip: Powerpoint or Adobe Acrobat pages can be easily converted to separate images when content and formatting has been finalized.*
2. The pages should be created following the science, engineering and mathematics templates provided in **Appendix 1** at the end of this document. The page should be created in Landscape mode so that the entire page is visible at the same time.
3. Your pages must be without animation or active hyperlinks.
4. The page background color must be a light color and should not affect readability.
5. Text color must be predominantly dark to support readability.
6. All text should be easily readable when viewing the entire page at once. The smallest allowable font size of body text is 14 pt. and an 18 pt. font is recommended. *Exception:* You may use a smaller font size, down to 10 pt., for figure captions or photo credits.
7. All Project Presentation elements must conform to all Display & Safety rules as if placed on a physical poster for display to judges and the public. Passing a Display & Safety inspection will be required to compete. (Please see the highlight of Display & Safety Rules below.)

Format Recommendations:

1. Do not use non-standard fonts or colors to "stand out from the crowd" or to be entertaining. It is recommended that you use a sans-serif font such as Arial, Calibri, Helvetica or Century Gothic.
2. Page titles should all be the same size. That size should be larger than headings within each page. In turn, headings should be larger than body text.
3. Avoid long expository paragraphs. State your points succinctly.
4. Use bullets to set out individual points of interest. Use numbered lists when the ordering of points of interest is important (*e.g.*, instructions to be followed in order, or items needing a reference anchor for citation elsewhere in your Presentation).
5. All body text should adopt a common font style and size. Similarly, all heading text should adopt a common font style and size. There is no recommendation for the relation between body and heading styles.

Display & Safety Rules Highlight for Project Presentation Materials

(Please see Display & Safety rules for full text.)

Photograph/Image/Graphic Display Requirements

1) Any photograph/visual image/chart/table/student-created logo and/or graph is allowed if:
   a) It is not deemed offensive or inappropriate (which includes images/photographs showing invertebrate or vertebrate animals/humans in surgical, necrotizing or dissection situations) by the Scientific Review Committee, the Display & Safety Committee, or Society for Science
   b) Only if it has a credit line of origin ("Photograph taken by..."or "Image taken from..." or "Graph/Chart/Table taken from…").
      - **All graphics MUST BE properly cited.** This includes student-created logos, background graphics, photographs and/or visual depictions of the finalist or photographs and/or visual depictions of others, or data-related graphics. Please reference the D&S Graphic Credit Guidance for examples.
      - All visual depictions of others require a signed photo/video release form is in a notebook or logbook at the project booth. These signed release forms must be available upon request during the set-up and inspection process but may not be displayed.
   c) Sample release text: "I consent to the use of visual images (photos, videos, etc.) involving my participation/my child's participation in this research."
2) Finalists using any presentation or demonstration outside of a project board must be prepared to show the entire presentation to the Display & Safety Inspectors before the project is approved. All aforementioned rules apply to this presentation and the presentation may not be altered in any way after the final Display & Safety inspection. Examples of presentations that require approval include, but are not limited to PowerPoint, Prezi, Keynote, software program/simulation and other images and/or graphics displayed on a computer screen or other non-print delivery method.

NOT ALLOWED in your Presentation Materials

1) Any information on the project display or items that are self-promotions or external endorsements are not allowed in the project booth.
   a) The use of commercial logos including known brands, institutional crests or trademarks, flags unless integral to the project and approved by the SRC via inclusion in the Official Abstract and Certification.
   b) Any reference to an institution or mentor that supported the finalist's research except as provided in an acknowledgement section of the poster and within official ISEF paperwork, most notably Form 1C.
   c) Any reference to patent status of the project.
   d) Any items intended for distribution such as disks, CDs, flash drives, brochures, booklets, endorsements, giveaway items, business cards, printed materials or food items designed to be distributed to judges or the public.
2) Any awards or medals, except for past or present ISEF medals that may be worn by the finalist.
3) Postal addresses, World Wide Web, email and/or social media addresses, QR codes, telephone and/or fax numbers of a project or finalist. Note: The only personal information that is permissible to include on the display is the finalist name, school, city, state, country, age and grade.
4) Active Internet or email connections as part of displaying or operating the project at ISEF.
5) Any changes, modifications, or additions to projects including any attempt to uncover, replenish or return removed language or items after the approval by the Display & Safety Committee and the Scientific Review Committee has been received is prohibited.

Quad Chart/Visual Summary Instructions

A "quad chart" is a single page divided into four quadrants providing a high-level summary of the project. A quad chart is one form of a visual summary; you may choose to use an alternate visual summary that has a different organizational pattern than a quad chart if you prefer. A few examples are provided at the end of this document at **Appendix II**. It is intended to be bulleted information that can be reviewed quickly and is a public-facing document that balances summarizing the research while considering the protection of your intellectual property.

1. The page should be created so that **the entire page is visible at the same time.** The page should be created in Landscape mode.
2. The page will have to upload as an image to ProjectBoard.
3. The page background color should be a light color and text color predominantly dark to support readability.
4. The minimum allowable font size is 18 pt. and larger fonts are encouraged for readability. *Exception*: You may use a smaller font size, down to 12 pt., for figure captions or photo credits.
5. Text should be in list or bulleted form and as brief as possible. This 1-page document is intended to be a visual high-level summary that can be read at-a-glance.
6. All four quadrants of your Quad Chart should each be the same size with a single border line delimiting each. Alternate formats may be used but should have no more than 5 areas of content all clearly labeled. Example formats can be found in **Appendix II**.
7. The Title section should be only tall enough to include the required elements which are the same as the abstract header. The project title should be at the largest header size of the document for easy identification of the project. (See section on Quad Chart Title).
8. The Quad Chart/Visual Summary should include all appropriate photo credits, should not include a bibliography, references, or acknowledgments, may not use the term "abstract", and must adhere to all Display & Safety rules. Please refer to the D&S Graphic Credit Guidance for appropriate format.

Quad Chart Title:

- In the upper right-hand corner, list the Project ID.
- Line one is the title of your project.
- Line two is your name, school, city, state, country.

Quadrant 1: Research Question/Engineering Objectives

- Please state the research question or engineering problem being addressed.
- A leading core graphic or visual may be included if it aids understanding.

Quadrant 2: Methodology/Project Design

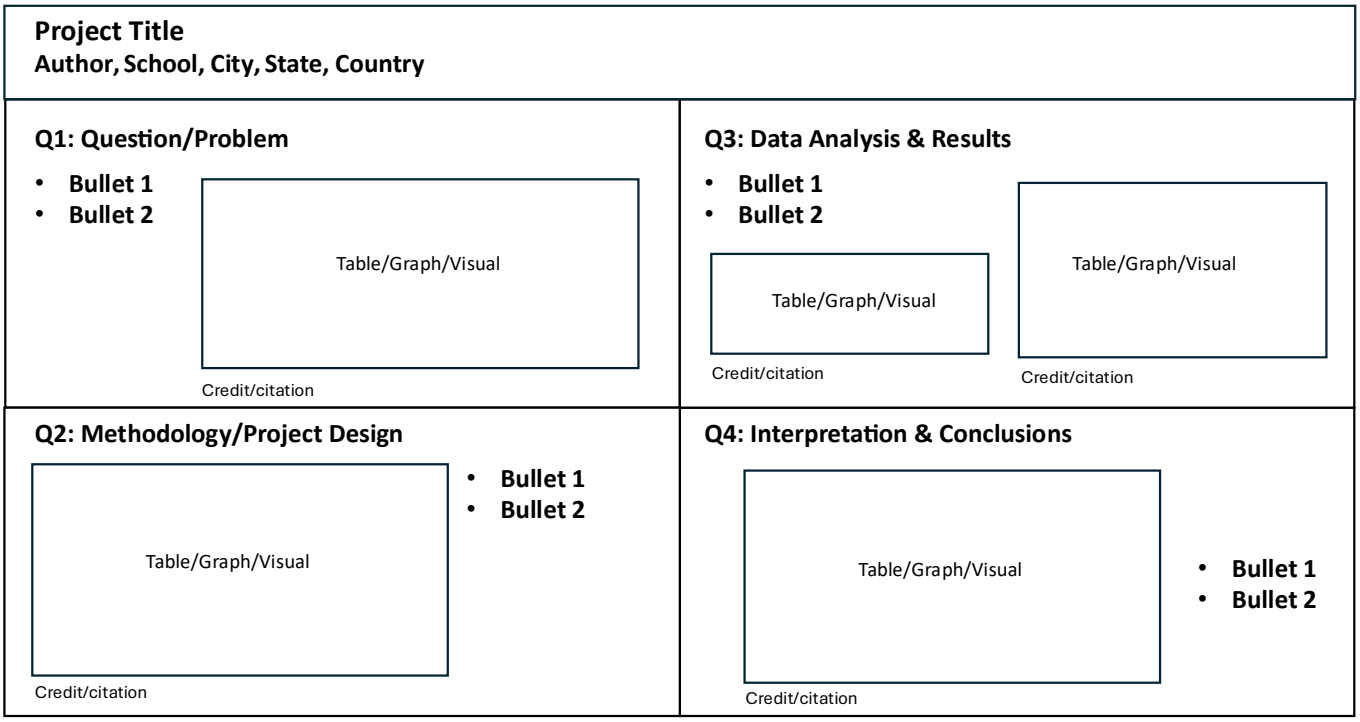
- Please provide a succinct, bulleted summary of the methodology/project design.
- A visual of the project set-up, prototype, testing apparatus, etc. is encouraged.

Quadrant 3: Data Analysis & Results

- This should be primarily a graphic of data and/or results, such as a diagram, chart or table. Text should be kept to a minimum.

Quadrant 4: Interpretation & Conclusions

- This should be a succinct, bulleted summary of conclusions.
- A visual from the project may be included if it aids understanding..



Project Video Instructions

Record a video (maximum duration 2 minutes) explaining your project. The target audience for this video is members of the general public who will view the projects virtually during Regeneron ISEF and in the months following. While judges will have access to this video, it will not be the focus of their project review. This video must comply with all Display & Safety Rules, particularly those involving logos, acknowledgements and properly crediting images/graphs/photos.

What to include in your video:

1. Introduce Yourself: State your full name and your city/state/country. Rather than reciting your project title, consider explaining your project in a single sentence. The video should feature you presenting your project orally as if in front of your physical project board presenting to a judge or a member of the public.

2. **Explain Your Project:** Summarize your research into main points:
   a. What did you do?
   b. What did you find?
   c. What conclusions did you draw?

To note:

- Videos can either be uploaded directly to ProjectBoard or you can embed a YouTube video. The YouTube link will need to be public, but it is not required that it be listed. It is recommended that the video be named the project short title. If uploading directly, videos must be less than 500 MB in size.
- We encourage you to be prominently displayed in the video (as opposed to having the video be prominently your slides).
- You can use any props or visuals you may have that are within the Display & Safety guidelines.
  - *Tip: This video is a summary statement about your project and the scientific or engineering design process you followed; it is not intended as an advertisement or sales pitch.*
- Do not include anyone in your video other than the student researchers of the project.

Best Practices for Filming:

These videos will not be edited. To ensure your video is the best representation of your work, please keep these best practices in mind while filming:

- Please speak in English or provide English sub-titles.
- Film yourself in a well-lit and non-distracting environment so the viewer's focus stays on you and your work.
- For best results, film your video horizontally (landscape).
- Keep the camera still and in place during filming.
- Speak clearly and loudly enough that the recording is able to pick up every word you say.
- Avoid long pauses.
- Listen to your video after recording to ensure your voice is clear and audible, and that the video has not picked up too much background noise.
- Confirm the size of the video is less than 500 MB.

Appendix I: Project Presentation Templates

Choose one of the following templates to create your presentation. Do not include information not specified in this template. If you are submitting a continuation project, include only information related to this year's research unless otherwise directed in the instructions below. You may include graphical elements as they would explain or illustrate your work and can be contained within the overall page limits.

Each of the required sections in each template must start on its own page and be in the order provided. Titles per section are provided as recommended titles, but alternate titles may be used. Each section may extend beyond one page as long as the total does not exceed 12 maximum pages.

TEMPLATE I: Science Projects
TEMPLATE II: Engineering Projects
TEMPLATEIII: Mathematics/Computer Science Projects

Project Presentation Template: **Science Project**

1. **Project ID and Title**
   - The following should be included:
     - Project ID. This ID will be provided by Society for Science upon submission of ISEF paperwork.
     - Project Title
     - Finalist Name (s)
     - School(s)
     - City, State, Province, Country

2. **INTRODUCTION - What is your research question?**
   - Explain what is known or has already been done in your research area. Include a brief review of relevant literature. If this is a continuation project, a brief summary of your prior research is appropriate here. Be sure to distinguish your previous work from this year's project.
   - What were you trying to find out? Include a description of your purpose, your research question, and/or your hypothesis.

3. **METHODS - Explain your methodology and procedures for carrying out your project in detail.**
   - What did you do? What data did you collect and how did you collect that data? Discuss your control group and the variables you tested.
   - DO NOT include a list of materials.

4. **RESULTS - What were the result(s) of your project?**
   - Include tables and figures which illustrate your data.
   - Include relevant statistical analysis of the data.

5. **DISCUSSION - What is your interpretation of these results?**
   - What do these results mean? Compare your results with theories, published data, commonly held beliefs, and expected results.
   - Discuss possible errors. Did any questions or problems arise that you were not expecting? How did the data vary between repeated observations of similar events? How were results affected by uncontrolled events?

6. **CONCLUSIONS - What conclusions did you reach?**
   - What do these results mean in the context of the literature review and other work being done in your research area? How do the results address your research question? Do your results support your hypothesis?
   - What application(s) do you see for your work?

7. **REFERENCES/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**
   - This section should not exceed one page. Limit your list to the most important references.
   - List the references/documentation used which were not of your own creation (i.e., books, journal articles).
   - The format for reference citation is to be IEEE, CAS, AIP, APA, etc – as pertinent to the field/category. DOI should be present when available. MLA or formats not complying with a recognized standard should be avoided.
   - It is permissible to include a short statement acknowledging support from supervisors, research groups and others that had a direct role in your project.
   - It is imperative that all sources are verified as correct and can be searchable.

Project Presentation Template: **Engineering Project**

1. **Project ID and Title**
   - The following should be included:
     - Project ID. This ID will be provided by Society for Science upon submission of ISEF paperwork.
     - Project Title
     - Finalist Name (s)
     - School(s)
     - City, State, Province, Country

2. **INTRODUCTION - What is your engineering problem and goal?**
   - What problem were you trying to solve? Include a description of your engineering goal.
   - Explain what is known or has already been done to solve this problem, including work on which you may build. You may include a brief review of relevant literature.
   - If this is a continuation project, a brief summary of your prior work is appropriate here. Be sure to distinguish your previous work from this year's project.

3. **METHODS - Explain your methods and procedures for building your design.**
   - What did you do? How did you design and produce your prototype? If there is a physical prototype, you are encouraged to include pictures or designs of the prototype.
   - If you tested the prototype, what were your testing procedures? What data did you collect and how did you collect that data?
   - DO NOT include a separate list of materials.

4. **RESULTS - What were the result(s) of your project?**
   - How did your prototype meet your engineering goal?
   - If you tested the prototype, provide a summary of testing data tables and figures that illustrate your results.
   - Include relevant statistical analysis of the data.

5. **DISCUSSION - What is your interpretation of these results?**
   - What do these results mean? You may compare your results with theories, published data, commonly held beliefs, and/or expected results.
   - Did any questions or problems arise that you were not expecting? Were these problems caused by uncontrolled events? How did you address these?
   - How is your prototype an improvement or advancement over what is currently available?

6. **CONCLUSIONS - What conclusions did you reach?**
   - Did your project turn out as you expected?
   - What application(s) do you see for your work?

7. **REFERENCES /ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**
   - This section should not exceed one page. Limit your list to the most important references.
   - List the references/documentation used which were not of your own creation (i.e., books, journal articles).
   - The format for reference citation is to be IEEE, CAS, AIP, APA, etc – as pertinent to the field/category. DOI should be present when available. MLA or formats not complying with a recognized standard should be avoided.

- It is permissible to include a short statement acknowledging support from supervisors, research groups and others that had a direct role in your project.
- It is imperative that all sources are verified as correct and can be searchable.

Project Presentation Template: **Mathematics/Computer Science**

1. **Project ID and Title**
   - The following should be included:
     - Project ID. This ID will be provided by Society for Science upon submission of ISEF paperwork.
     - Project Title
     - Finalist Name (s)
     - School(s)
     - City, State, Province, Country

2. **INTRODUCTION - What is your research question?**
   - Explain what is known or has already been done in your research area. Include a brief review of relevant literature.
   - If this is a continuation project, a brief summary of your prior work is appropriate here. Be sure to distinguish your previous work from this year's project.

3. **FRAMEWORK - Notation and framework.**
   - Introduce the concepts and notation needed to specify your research question, methods, and results precisely.
   - Define relevant terms and explain prior/background results. (Novel concepts developed as part of your project can be presented here or in Section 4, as appropriate.)

4. **FINDINGS - Present your findings and supporting arguments.**
   - What did you discover and/or prove? Describe your result(s) in detail. If possible, provide both formal and intuitive/verbal explanations of each major finding.
   - Describe your methods in general terms. Then:
     - Present rigorous proofs of the theory results – or, if the arguments are long, give sketches of the proofs that explain the main ideas.
     - For numerical/statistical results, include tables and figures that illustrate your data. Include relevant statistical analysis. Were any of your results statistically significant? How do you know this?

5. **CONCLUSIONS - What is your assessment of your findings?**
   - How do the results address your research question? And how have you advanced our understanding relative to what was already known?
   - Discuss possible limitations. Did any questions or problems arise that you were not expecting? What challenges do you foresee in extending your results further?
   - What application(s), if any, do you see for your work?

6. **REFERENCES /ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**
   - This section should not exceed one page. Limit your list to the most important references.
   - List the references/documentation used which were not of your own creation (i.e., books, journal articles).
   - The format for reference citation is to be IEEE, CAS, AIP, APA, etc – as pertinent to the field/category. DOI should be present when available. MLA or formats not complying with a recognized standard should be avoided.

- It is permissible to include a short statement acknowledging support from supervisors, research groups and others that had a direct role in your project.
- It is imperative that all sources are verified as correct and can be searchable.

Appendix II: Quad Chart/Visual Summary Templates

- The minimum allowable font size is 18 pt. and larger fonts are encouraged for readability.
    - *Exception*: You may use a smaller font size, down to 12 pt., for figure captions or photo credits.
- Text should be in list or bulleted form and as brief as possible. This 1-page document is intended to be a visual high-level summary that can be read at-a-glance.

Quad Chart

Project Title
Author, School, City, State, Country

Q1: Question/Problem

- **Bullet 1**
- **Bullet 2**

Table/Graph/Visual

Credit/citation

Q3: Data Analysis & Results

- **Bullet 1**
- **Bullet 2**

Table/Graph/Visual

Credit/citation

Table/Graph/Visual

Credit/citation

Q2: Methodology/Project Design

Table/Graph/Visual

Credit/citation

- **Bullet 1**
- **Bullet 2**

Q4: Interpretation & Conclusions

Table/Graph/Visual

Credit/citation

- **Bullet 1**
- **Bullet 2**

Visual Summary V1

Project Title
Author, School, City, State, Country

Question/Problem

Description

Table/Graph/Visual

Credit/citation

- **Bullet 1**
- **Bullet 2**

Methodology/Data

Description

Table/Graph/ Visual

Credit/citation

Table/Graph/Visual

Credit/citation

- **Bullet 1**
- **Bullet 2**

Outcomes

Description

Table/Graph/Visual

Credit/citation

- **Bullet 1**
- **Bullet 2**

Summary of Outcomes/Conclusions

Visual Summary V2

Project Title
Author, School, City, State, Country

Project Process Steps or Timeline

Text → Text → Text → Text

Table/Graph/Visual — Credit/citation

Table/Graph/Visual — Credit/citation

Table/Graph/Visual — Credit/citation

Table/Graph/Visual — Credit/citation