

PA High School Computer Fair 2009

Category Rules/Guidelines



Programming

Projects entered into the Programming category must be based on one of the following scenarios:

- 1) Create an interactive educational game such as card games, coin flips, or rolling dice. Use your imagination!
- 2) Create a string manipulation that forms a basic algorithm such as conversions, data sorting, or image manipulation. Be creative!
- 3) Create a database-driven application with user login and registration that will have the capability for the user to submit and display a text entry. Examples would be an interactive blog, forum/chat, or comment/rating functionality. The sky's the limit!

Example Languages:

C/C++, Java, Visual Basic, .pHp, Python

Specific Category Rules:

- Projects **MUST** contain a flow chart (see Programming Scoring Guideline for details).
- No live internet connections will be available; all projects must be contained on a local hard drive and must not rely on an internet connection.
- Projects may be displayed on a single computer.
- Displays and monitors must not exceed 21 inches.
- Space will be assigned and limited to 3 feet per project.
- Spelling and grammar will be judged on narrative and project.
- Directions for re-launching the project must be provided, as well as any passwords. (May use narrative)

A project will **NOT** be judged if any of the following occur:

- The narrative description is missing.
- Copyright information and credits are not included on the narrative.
- A flow chart is not displayed to clarify the process used to create the project.

If a project meets the above rules it will be judged using the *Programming Scoring Guideline*.

Narrative Descriptions

Narrative descriptions are required for all projects. If the narrative is not provided the project will **NOT** be judged. They must be detailed enough to provide the judges with any information to fairly judge the project.

Copyright Requirements

Copyright Sign-off forms are required for each project. This form must accompany each entry into the High School Computer Fair. The form must be signed by all students of the project team and the sponsor.

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(Programming Rules cont'd)

The Pennsylvania High School Computer Fair, although educational, removes the student work from the classroom and therefore requires the student to get permission from the owner to use any copyrighted music, video, graphics etc. Typical limits of 30 seconds for music and 10% or three minutes for video would not be applicable because “fair use” guidelines only apply in educational environments like classrooms or schools. Remember to credit music or items that were created by yourself or friends as well.

Flowchart

All projects need to display the process used to create the project. This should be specific and as detailed as possible to give the judges the necessary background regarding how it was developed. You may choose to put it on your tri-fold display or bring a loose-leaf notebook with your notes.

- The document will not be judged for grammar or appearance, but should be legible and organized.
- This document is **REQUIRED** for this category. Projects without it will not be judged.