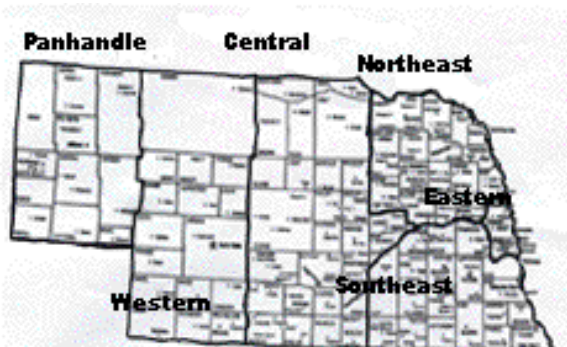


MAP OF NJAS REGIONS



STUDENT SCIENCE FAIR

COMPETITIONS

A Regional Science Fair Competition is held by each region. Each region is responsible for organizing and conducting the competition. The primary purpose of this competition is the student presentation of scientific research. Students who compete at the State Competition are identified at each of the six Regional Science Fairs.

The Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences State Competition is held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences. The primary purpose of this competition is to bring young minds together from across the state to present their scientific research. At this competition, high school students are selected to represent the NJAS and present their research at the AAAS/AJAS national meeting.

The rules and regulations handbook, required forms, and other support materials are available for guiding students participating in NJAS science fairs on our website: <http://www.neacadsci.org>.

FUTURE DATES

NJAS State Competition: April 15, 2011

AJAS/AAAS National Meeting: February 16-20, 2011 in Washington, D.C.

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT

Independent student research requires that students combine processes and scientific knowledge with scientific reasoning to develop their understanding of science. While conducting research, students establish connections between the natural and designed worlds linking science and technology. Student research builds a foundation for future decision making as students understand and act on personal and social issues. Finally, independent student research illustrates different aspects of scientific inquiry and the human aspects of science.

*Jim Woodland, Director of Science Education
Nebraska Department of Education*

The Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences (NJAS) fosters science by encouraging student research, sponsoring local and statewide science competitions, and providing scholarships and awards. The mission of NJAS to the youth of Nebraska is one of the highest missions of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences. Our future lies with a scientifically literate society and with creative, inspired scientists. NJAS has contributed greatly to developing our future. The Academy unreservedly supports the NJAS in its work and applauds its great success.

George Veomett, Past NAS President

Science fairs are one way for students to apply their knowledge of inquiry to search for meaning. Science fair competitions at the local, regional, state, or national level offer students in the middle and high schools incredible opportunities to share their research and results. Guidelines are provided by the Nebraska Junior Academy of Science (NJAS) to assist students, teachers, parents, and mentors with the scientific process. In addition, workshops on inquiry and scientific research are available through the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Science (NATS) annual fall conference. These sessions provide teachers with training and assistance as they pursue science fair options with their students.

Wanda M. Clarke, Past NATS President

NJAS

NAS/NJAS Website:
<http://www.neacadsci.org>

NEBRASKA JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Division of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences

2005-2006 NJAS Executive Board

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Southeast Region

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Western Region

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NEBRASKA JUNIOR ACADEMY

OF SCIENCES

MISSION STATEMENT

Science as Inquiry is an integral part of science education. Students doing experimental research exemplifies what is intended by both the State and National Science Standards. The Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences provides support for students to problem solve, plan and conduct research investigations, and use appropriate tools to gather and analyze data. The Junior Academy provides an audience of peers, adults, and scientists for the students to communicate the results of their investigations at the regional, state, and national levels.

LEVELS OF STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Local: To identify 6th-12th grade students for regional competition.

Regional: To identify the top five high school and top five middle school projects for state competition.

State: To identify the top senior high school students for national presentation of research and to recognize the top middle school students.

National: To participate in:

- the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) National Meeting.
- presentation of research at the American Junior Academy of Sciences (AJAS) National Meeting.
- interaction with internationally renowned scientists at the AJAS/AAAS National Meeting.
- interaction with peers from other states.

PURPOSE

The purpose of NJAS is to encourage and support student involvement in scientific pursuits at the 6th-12th grade levels.

MEMBERSHIP

Students

Any student in grade levels 6 through 12 in the state of Nebraska interested in science may become a member by paying required annual dues of \$1.00.

Adults

Teachers and other adults who are members of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences serve as directors of the Junior Academy. Only students may be members of the Junior Academy, but the adults are encouraged to join the Academy (NAS).

STATE AND REGIONAL STUDENT AWARDS

- Trophies, medals, certificates, and ribbons
- Natural and Social Science Award for Distinguished Student Research in the Great Plains
- Nebraska Wildlife Federation Award
- National Youth Science Camp—three-week camp with all expenses paid for graduating male and female
- NAS Scholarships for High School Seniors
 - √ Loren Eisely Memorial Scholarship
 - √ Marie and Howard J. Taylor Scholarship
 - √ Lincoln Gem and Mineral Scholarship
 - √ Marian Schultz Memorial Environmental Scholarship
 - √ Marian O. and Bertrand Schultz Scholarship
 - √ Robert S. Kubicek Memorial Scholarship
- Present research at the American Junior Academy of Sciences National Meeting
- College Scholarships