

Virginia Junior Academy of  
Science and Research  
Symposium (Juried Science  
Experience)

**Updates for Symposium 2024**

# Introduction and Overview

- All schools are members. There is no membership fee.
- The VJAS Symposium is like a professional conference. Individuals attending can be presenting research, attending research presentations, or both.
- Students submitting papers that are accepted will present (as has always been the case, in the same format as in the past). Students submitting papers that are not accepted for presentation, will be attendees at the Symposium.
- Students will have the opportunity to see other research, interact with scientists, etc.
- Participation in VJAS is one way to fulfil the Virginia requirements for the Science Seal.

# Sponsors and School Membership - Major Change

- There is NO school membership fee.
- Sponsors still need to go into Reviewr and register their school.
  - Link for school registration:  
<https://my.reviewr.com/site/VJAS/SchoolMembership/2024>
  - How-to Instructional Demo:  
<https://app.storylane.io/share/h3wmbqdxoyfa>
  - Once registered, sponsors will receive a link that students must use to submit their papers.
  - **Students cannot submit** applications until the school is registered.
    - Individual students whose schools are not registered contact [associate.directorvjas@gmail.com](mailto:associate.directorvjas@gmail.com)

# Student Paper Submission - Major Change

- **February 23, 2024:** Deadline for students to submit papers, apply for officer positions, apply for scholarships, and apply for honor awards. This is a major change from last year.
- Students with mentors will be prompted to download the mentor form from Reviewr. It is the responsibility of the student to get the form filled out and uploaded to their application in Reviewr prior to deadline.
- Students applying for scholarships that require a recommendation will need to upload their recommendation letter to Reviewr.
- Students WILL NOT be prompted for payment.

# Sponsor Access to Student Applications

- Sponsors will have access to their students' applications much sooner this year.
  - Upon completion of school registration, sponsors will receive an email from Reviewr ([associate.directorvjas@gmail.com](mailto:associate.directorvjas@gmail.com)), inviting them to be a judge. This email will provide the correct link for sponsors to log in and see their students' applications. This access must be set up manually and will take a few days to process.
  - Sponsors will be able to make comments on student submissions in Reviewr and will receive notifications from Reviewr when a comment has been left for them.
  - Sponsors and students will have until March 4 to make any edits before the formal DQ process begins.

# Symposium Fee - Major Change

- The fee PER PAPER is \$45.
- Schools will submit ONE payment for all of their entrants by March 24, 2024. Payment will be done on Reviewr via credit card, check, or P.O.
  - Credit cards payments will be made through PayPal.
  - Checks will need to be mailed to: VJAS, Associate Director, 4127 Wiffet Way, Williamsburg, VA 23188
  - P.O. can be provided through Reviewr.
- VJAS received a grant aimed at encouraging underrepresented groups to pursue STEM careers. The demographic questions (optional) are meant to identify students who qualify for the grant money.
- Once the application deadline has passed, sponsors will be sent an invoice and payment link. The invoice will include any reduced price VJAS fees.

# Other Important Dates

- **November 1, 2023:** Phil Robinson Research Grant Application Deadline
- **May 3, 2024** - 7:00 pm - Opening Ceremony and Jeffers Memorial Lecture (virtual via Zoom)
- **May 4, 2024** - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm - Student Research Symposium and presentations to judges (virtual via Zoom)
- **May 19, 2024** - 7:00 pm - VJAS Awards Ceremony (virtual via Zoom)