

Key Information for Registration

- The link to the registration form is available at <https://form.jotform.com/CTAHEC/26CTHSSHs>
- **Avoid uploading “placeholder”** (blank or partially completed) documents on the registration form.
- On the last page of the Jotform registration form, you can click the **“Save” button** (see below image) to work on your registration over time, until the deadline (Monday, December 15, 2025, 11:59 PM), at which time the registration will close.
- **Avoid** creating multiple registrations for yourself which may endanger your registration completion. Instead, “Save” your in-progress registration as a draft to return to it later.

Back

Save

Submit

- When you click “Save”:
 - 1) you will see the screen below, requiring you to create a Jotform account or login if you already have one:



Sign up to save submission as a draft

 Sign up with Google

 Sign up with Microsoft

OR

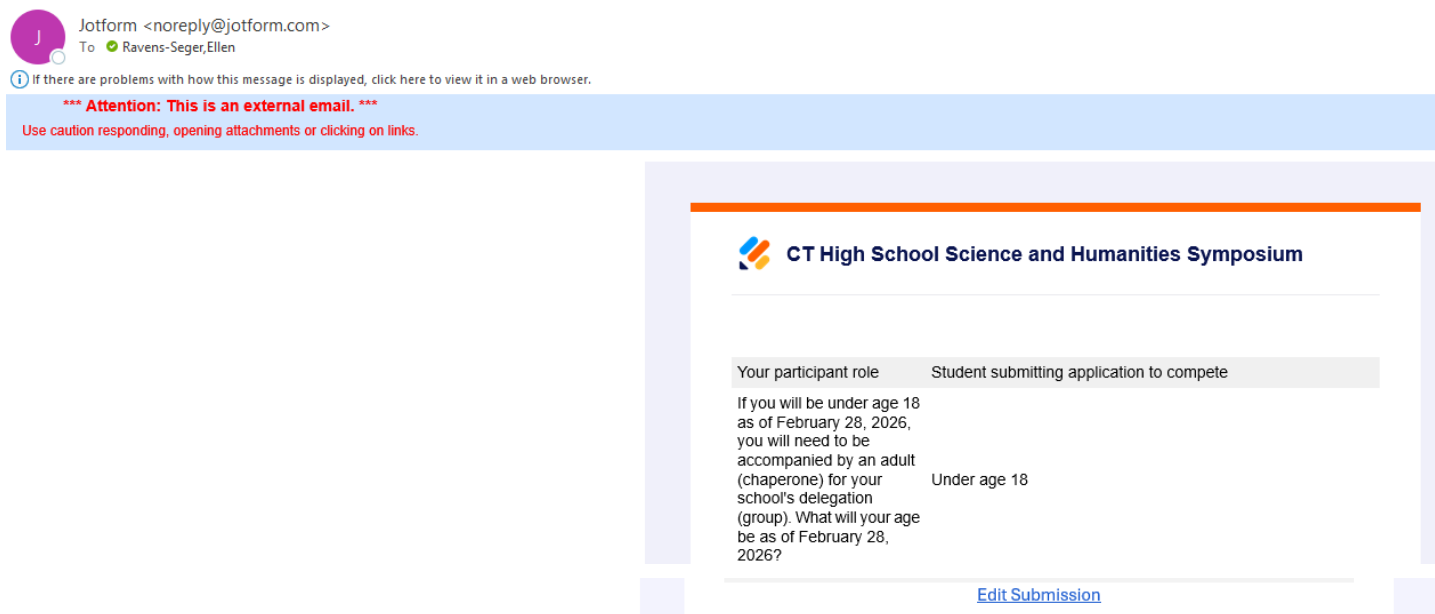
 Sign up with Email

Already have an account? [Log in](#)

[Skip Create an Account](#)

- 2) you will then receive an email similar to the below, which has an “Edit Submission” link at the bottom which you will use to complete your registration prior to the deadline:

We have received your response for CT High School Science and Humanities Symposium



- You must submit **all** materials through the Jotform registration form and click the “Submit” button by **12/15/25 11:59 PM ET**. The registration form will close at midnight and will no longer be editable.
- If you need help during your registration submission process, the CT AHEC office at UConn Health (ravensseger@uchc.edu) will assist you during regular work hours.
- **Avoid** waiting until the deadline to ask for help, as they will likely be unable to get back to you immediately.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are a minor (under 18 years old) when you register, you will be asked to add your parent/guardian’s email address to your registration in the portal. **Your parent/guardian will receive a “permissions” email sometime later that must be completed prior to the symposium (deadline to be announced).**

For **Team or Group Projects**, please visit [Team or Group Projects](#) for more information.

The following checklist is in order of the form on the registration page.

- ☐ **Your participant role** - Students registering who wish to have an abstract reviewed to participate in the competition must select “**Student Presenter (submitting application to compete)**” (first option listed).
- ☐ Complete any and all required registrant details, contact information, demographics information, school, etc.
- ☐ If under age 18:
 - ☐ Provide parent/guardian information for future “permission” email(s).
 - ☐ If you indicated a teacher/chaperone will accompany you/your school delegation to the symposium, which is ideal, provide their contact information. (If you performed research at the high school you are representing, this **may** be the same information as you provide for your mentor information later on the form.)

ABSTRACT – The abstract should accurately convey the essential nature of the research conducted and the most significant conclusions reached. A further purpose of the abstract is to attract the interest and curiosity of the non-specialist reader and thus encourage exchange, discussion, and elaboration between various authors and between authors and readers. Symposium proceedings will include abstracts. Please carefully proofread your submission since abstracts will not be edited after submission. If selected to compete, you may edit your abstract later.

- ☐ Your abstract must be saved with the following name format: LastName_FirstName_Abstract
- ☐ Your abstract must be a PDF (.pdf) or Word Document (.doc/.docx)
 - ☐ 1-inch margins
 - ☐ Single-spaced
 - ☐ 11-point, Arial font
- ☐ The heading preceding the abstract body must include the following:
 - ☐ 1. Title of the research
 - ☐ 2. Student/author name(s)
 - ☐ 3. High school name, city and state
 - ☐ 4. Name of teacher/mentor/sponsor and the mentor’s organization. Precede the individual’s name with a subheading (i.e., teacher, mentor, sponsor).
 - ☐ 5. Include one line of space between the heading and the abstract body.
- ☐ Abstract content includes:
 - ☐ 1. Introduction to the topic
 - ☐ 2. Explanation of why the topic is important
 - ☐ 3. Statement about the knowledge gap
 - ☐ 4. Research question(s)/aim(s)/hypothesis
 - ☐ 5. Indication of research methods and approach
 - ☐ 6. Brief summary of key findings
- ☐ Abstract must contain a **maximum** of 250 words.

Categories – You must choose **one** of the eight available categories that best fits your project.

1. *Environmental Science*
Environmental Science/Engineering: Bioremediation, Ecosystems Management, Environmental Engineering, Land Resource Management, Pollution, Toxicity; Impact upon ecosystem
2. *Biomedical Sciences*
Biomedical Medicine, Microbiology, Cellular/Molecular Biology, Genetics, Immunology, Pharmacology, Virology, Bacteriology
3. *Life & Behavioral Sciences*
Developmental Biology, Plant Physiology, Population Genetics, General Biochemistry, Microbiology, Behavioral Sciences
4. *Medicine & Health*
Biochemistry, Bioengineering, Disease Diagnosis and Treatment, Epidemiology, Immunology, Neuroscience, Physiology, Pathology
5. *Engineering & Technology*
Aerospace, Aerodynamics, Electrical Engineering, Energy – Solar, Vehicle Development, Devices, Mechanical Engineering, Robotics
6. *Mathematics & Computer Science*
Probability and Statistics, Mathematics, Computer Science – Algorithms, Databases, Networking, Computer Engineering
7. *Physical Sciences*
Astronomy, Physics – Theoretical, Physics – Solid State, Acoustics, Optics, Thermodynamics, Particle Physics, Quantum Physics, Nuclear; Internet of Things (network of physical objects or “things” embedded with electronics, software, sensors, and network connectivity)
8. *Chemistry*
Physical Chemistry, Materials, Alternative Fuels, Organic Chemistry (possibly in Life Science), Chemical Engineering, Earth Science, Geochemistry, Energy – Alternative Fuels, Material Science

STATEMENT OF OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE FORM

- ☐ [Statement of Outside Assistance Form](#) - Please download and complete this Word document with a computer. Please **DO NOT** print and fill out by hand. Signatures may be signed by hand after you have completed the form. You will need to upload your final signed form.
- ☐ Must be saved with the following document name format: LastName_FirstName_SOA
- ☐ Must be submitted as a PDF (.pdf, can be scanned in if needed) or image file (.jpeg) if necessary.
- ☐ Each of the following questions has been answered sufficiently and in detail. Most questions require a multi-sentence answer!
 - ☐ Student name (*Your name*)
 - ☐ Title of Project (*The title of your project you are submitting*)

- ☐ School (*The high school you are representing. If you are homeschooled, please write "homeschool."*)
- ☐ Teacher and/or Mentor Name(s), Phone Number(s), and Email(s) (*Name and contact information for the teacher and mentor [if different from the teacher] who most closely supervised your research project*)
- ☐ 1. Please explain your role in the development of the project idea. (*What ideas did you and your teacher/supervisor/parent discuss? How did they guide you in the development of the project idea? Was this an existing research question in their class/lab, or is it something they haven't worked on yet?*)
- ☐ 2. What steps led you to formulate your research question? -or- What steps led you to develop the design for your project? (*Was it something that came about in a class? Literature review? On the news? etc.*)
- ☐ 3. Where did you conduct the major part of your work? (*home, school, or other institutional setting – university lab, medical center, etc.*)
- ☐ 4. Describe any assistance that you received throughout the project. (*Was your mentor with you the entire time? Were there parts you were able to complete without supervision?*)
- ☐ 5. If you conducted your research in an institutional setting (i.e., university lab, medical center, etc.), describe your role on the team AND what role each person played in the research investigation. (*This is only for students who DID NOT complete their work through the high school they are representing. If you conducted research outside of your high school, please clearly explain the environment where you did your research. Were there other high school students? Graduate students? Post-docs? Did you work directly with your supervising mentor or with someone else on the team? How did each of these team members contribute to the completion of your project? Each person who participated in the project - including teachers, mentors, and/or parents - should be listed with a description of their contributions to the project. If you conducted your research through your high school or at home, please put "N/A."*)
- ☐ 6. Describe what parts of the research you did on your own and the parts with which you received help. (*Please explain who contributed to each of the listed topics and how much - literature search, hypothesis development, experimental design, use of equipment, data collection, evaluation of data, statistical analysis, conclusions, and preparation of written report, abstract, and/or paper.*)
- ☐ 7. Was any data set from an outside source (literature, handbooks, publicly available or privately shared tables, etc.) used in the research? If so, what data set(s) was used and from where was it sourced? What was its purpose in this research? (*Please include a description of the data used, how you obtained access to it, and why it was important to your project completion. If you did not source any outside data [i.e., ALL data used in the project you generated], please put "N/A."*)
- ☐ 8. Was the data set sourced outside this research the only way to obtain the data required for the research? Please explain. (*If you provided an answer besides "N/A" to the question*

above [#7], please expand here. Could you have generated this data yourself? Were there multiple data sets to choose from?)

- ☐ 9. If this research is a continuation of an investigation that was previously submitted to CT JSHS (2025 or earlier symposium), describe how you have expanded your investigation. *(This is only for students who have previously submitted the same project to the CT JSHS competition. If you have submitted the same project to CT HSSHs in this application, please explain in detail the new aspects of the project. If you have not submitted the same project to CT HSSHs, please put "N/A").*
- ☐ 10. If this is a continuation project, please submit your previously submitted abstract here (copy/paste). *(If you provided an answer besides "N/A" to the question above [#9], please copy and paste the abstract you previously submitted to CT JSHS for review, even if it was not selected as an oral or poster presentation.)*
- ☐ 11. Did you utilize any form of AI in your research or paper? If so, explain what tools were used AND for what purpose. *(If you used any form of artificial intelligence to complete your project, please detail here. This can include, but is not limited to, generating a title, searching for relevant literature, generating code, and many other uses. Please note, software like ChatGPT has been known to produce fake citations - you should not be relying on it to conduct a literature review.)*
 - ☐ I have reviewed the "Academic Integrity" statement in the [Core Rules of Competition](#) (pages 6-7).
- ☐ 12. Is there an IRB determination on file for this research? *(If Institutional Review Board [IRB] approval was required to complete all or part of your project, please put "Yes." If an IRB was not required for any portion of your project, please put "No.")*
- ☐ 13. Provide the IRB determination details including IRB number, name, institution, and dates. *(If you answered "Yes" to the question above [#12], please list the IRB number, name, institution, and dates. If you answered "No" to the question above [#12], please put "N/A.")*
- ☐ 14. Provide full details about the processes and procedures utilized for your research, including usage and disposal of materials. *(This is for all students to complete. Please describe here the methods used to complete your research. Be sure to include computational methods for data analysis when relevant. If your research used consumables or reagents, please explain how you disposed of any waste.)*
- ☐ Teacher and/or Supervising Mentor OR Parent Comments - Commentary should include a description of the student's individual contributions to the research investigation or engineering/computer science project.
 - If you performed research at the high school you represent, the teacher who supervised you should comment here.
 - If you performed research at a different school/institution besides the high school you are representing, your supervising mentor and the teacher you most closely worked with at the high school you are representing should comment here.
 - Your parent/guardian should comment here if you did the work **without** a teacher or supervising mentor.

- ☐ Statement by the teacher and/or supervising mentor acknowledging that the student conducted the research in accordance with proper procedures and protocols for the conduct of animal research or human research. - **Please include IRB/IACUC approval numbers.** *(This is only for students whose project included animal research or research involving human subjects. If your project did not include animal research or research involving human subjects, please instruct your teacher/mentor to confirm this by putting "N/A.")*
 - If you performed research at the high school you are representing, the teacher who supervised you should comment here.
 - If you performed research at a different school/institution besides the high school you are representing, your supervising mentor and the teacher you most closely worked with at the high school you are representing should comment here.
- ☐ Signature section - THIS MUST BE COMPLETED OR YOUR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE REVIEWED. A **minimum** of two signatures are required. The student presenting MUST ALSO sign this form.
 - 1.) If you performed research at the high school you are representing, you need the signature of your teacher who supervised you and your signature.
 - 2.) If you performed research at a different school/institution besides the high school you are representing, you need the signature of your supervising mentor (along with their position and institution of employment), the signature of the teacher you most closely worked with at the high school you represent, and your signature.
 - 3.) If you did the work **without** a teacher or supervising mentor, you will need a signature from your parent/guardian (along with a brief description of their role in the research in the designated comment section above) and your signature.

(BACK ON THE CT HSSHS APPLICATION/REGISTRATION FORM (From the Statement of Outside Assistance))

- ☐ Research Mentor information (First & Last Name, Organization or School Name, and Email) - If you performed research at the high school you are representing, please provide information of the teacher you most closely worked with at the high school you are representing. If you performed research at a different school/institution besides the high school you are representing, this should be the information from your supervising mentor. If you are homeschooled or completed your project without a teacher or supervising scientist, this information can be that of your parent or legal guardian.
- ☐ Tell us about your project as you would explain it to a friend or local newspaper. (i.e., Project Description)
 - ☐ I provided an explanation of my project as if I was explaining it to a general (**non-scientific/non-STEM**) audience. [Here](#) are some tips for how to communicate your research effectively to a general audience.
 - ☐ I DID NOT just copy and paste my abstract as my answer to this question.

- ☐ What actual research have you completed, or is it only planned? Was at least part of this research conducted after February 2025? (i.e., Completed Research)
 - ☐ Explain ***specifically and in detail*** which parts of your project have been completed. (How much data collection is complete? How much data analysis is complete?)
 - ☐ Confirm that at least some of this research was performed after February 2025 (ex., “I have completed all/some of this research after February 2025”). If only some of this project was conducted after February 2025, please describe what experiments/research was conducted after February 2025.
- ☐ Has a report of this investigation been presented at a science fair, in an award application, or to any other group? (i.e., Outside Group Presentation) - Please explain any other places where this research has been submitted or presented. If CT HSSHS is the only place this project has been submitted or presented, please state, “CT HSSHS is the only place this project has been submitted.”
- ☐ How long have you been collecting data? (i.e., Data Collection) - Please state the ***month*** and ***year*** you started collecting data for this project. This DOES NOT include your project’s hypothesis development or project planning phase.
- ☐ **Review**
 - ☐ Check your application over one last time before submitting it as a final submission.

If you have any questions, please email Dr. Brittany Knight, the CT HSSHS Co-Director, at ctjshs.knight@gmail.com.