

Continuation/Research Progression of Projects

1. As in the professional world, research projects may build on work performed previously. A valid continuation project is a sound scientific endeavor. Students will be judged only on laboratory experiment/data collection performed over 12 continuous months beginning no earlier than January 2016 and ending May 2017.

2. Any project based on the student's prior research could be considered a continuation/research progression project. These projects must document that the additional research is a substantive expansion from prior work (e.g. testing a new variable or new line of investigation). Repetition of previous experimentation with the same methodology and research question, even with an increased sample size, is an example of an unacceptable continuation.

3. The display board and abstract must reflect the current year's work only. The project title displayed in the finalist's booth may mention years (for example, "Year Two of an Ongoing Study"). Previous year's databooks, research papers and supporting documents may be at the booth, but not openly displayed, if properly labeled as such.

4. Longitudinal studies are permitted as an acceptable continuation under the following conditions:
 - a. The study is a multi-year study testing or documenting the same variables in which time is a critical variable. (Examples: Effect of high rain or drought on soil in a given basin, return of flora and fauna in a burned area over time.)
 - b. Each consecutive year must demonstrate time-based change.
 - c. The display board must be based on collective past conclusionary data and its comparison to the current year data set. No raw data from previous years may be displayed.

5. All projects must be reviewed and approved each year and forms must be completed for the new year.

6. NOTE: For competition in the Intel ISEF, the Continuation/ Research Progression Project Form (7) is required for projects in the same field of study as a previous project. This form must be displayed at the project booth. Retention of all prior years' paperwork is required and must be presented to the Intel ISEF SRC upon request.