

Science Talent Search - 2017

The Science Teachers' Association of Western Australia (STAWA), the professional body representing primary and secondary teachers of Science, invites primary and secondary students to participate in the **59th Science Talent Search competition**.

The Science Talent Search is a wonderful opportunity for students from Kindergarten to Year 12 to develop their interests in Science through a competition with a range of categories to suit a wide variety of abilities and interests. The Science Talent Search also provides students with an opportunity to expand their scientific literacy, by showing interest and understanding in the world around them and engaging in discussions about Science.

Entry categories

There are three entry categories.

1. Research investigation

An investigation is an attempt to find, in a scientific way, the answer to an original question. Investigations always look for reliable results that can be used to explain or predict events.

2. Scientific communication

Communication is important in the scientific community to inform the public and other scientists about science ideas. Scientific communication can take many forms. They can be written reports, articles for journals, posters or digital presentations. In the Science Talent Search Scientific Communication category entries can take the form of:

- Science Poster (Years K-2 only)
- Science Video (Years K-12)
- Science Photography (Years K-12)

3. Engineering

Engineering is the application of Science, Mathematics and Technology to invent new products or modify existing products that benefit society. The scope for inventions is limited only by imagination.

Category prizes

Early Childhood (Years K-2)

- up to 10 prizes of \$50.00 each across all categories

Middle Primary (Years 3-4)

- up to 10 prizes of \$50.00 each across all categories

Upper Primary (Years 5-6) *

- up to 10 prizes of \$50.00 each across all categories

Junior (Years 7-8) *

- \$200, \$150, \$100 in each category

Intermediate (Years 9-10) *

- \$200, \$150, \$100 in each category

Senior (Years 11-12) *

- \$200, \$150, \$100 in each category

Open (Years 7-12)*

- \$200, \$150, \$100 Research Investigation only

Major prizes

STAWA Young Scientist

Each year one primary and one secondary student are named the STAWA Young Scientists.

Science Talent Search School of the Year

Each year STAWA awards the Science Talent Search School of the Year to one primary and secondary school based on their participation into the Science Talent Search competition.

Other prizes

- Prizes will be awarded to finalists in regional competitions. Regional finalist and meritorious entries will be forwarded STAWA for Science Talent Search Final Judging.
- All students entering receive a Certificate of Participation (non-winners), a Merit Certificate (outstanding entries) or a Prize Certificate (winners).
- Finalists in the Research Investigation* and Engineering categories may be eligible for entry into the BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards.

Scientific Communication: Science Poster theme

The 2017 Science Poster theme is **Future Earth** (National Science Week theme) or **Earth Science** (from WA Curriculum Earth & Space Sciences)



For ideas about the National Science Week theme, Future Earth visit – Future Earth <https://www.scienceweek.net.au/schools/>

Key dates

Date	Event
Monday 13 March	School registration opens – online at STAWA website
Friday 30 June	School registration closes
Monday 12 June – Friday 21 July	Student registration opens Online - linked sent to registered schools only
Friday 21 July	Student registration closes
Monday 19 June – Monday 31 July	Entry labels for registered entries sent to school coordinators
24 July – 11 July	Registration of judges - Regional judging – online at STAWA website
TBA	Regional entries due to regional coordinator Check with regional coordinator for delivery dates and address in your region.
Monday 7- Sunday 20 August	Regional judging Check with regional coordinator for the judging date and venue in your region.
Friday 18 August	STAWA BHPBSEA Teacher nominations Emailed applications due by 5.00 pm. Details on how to nominate are available on the STAWA website.
Monday 31 July – Wednesday 23 August	Registration of judges – Final judging - online at STAWA website
Monday 14 August	Metropolitan school and non-regional competition school entries for final judging Due to STAWA Office by 5.00 pm - Unit 6, 10 Mallard Way, Cannington, WA, 6107
Saturday 26 August	STS final judging Curtin University – Chemistry and Resources Precinct ???
Monday 11 or 18 September	STS Presentation Ceremony Scitech Discovery Centre/Curtin University ???
Friday 13 October	BHPBSEA entries uploaded by school coordinators. Online – BHPBSEA website Link sent to school coordinators
October	Entries not collected will be returned to schools

For more information about the Science Talent Search, including the STS Rules, category information and entry guidelines, go to the STAWA website <http://stawa.net/>

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