



*How will the digital format work?*

*State Competitions:*

State-level competitions will remain the same as years past: students may [self-submit](#) a 20 page research paper (PDF, 2MB limit). The deadline remains April 15<sup>th</sup>. Winners will be selected by panels of water quality professionals, organized for each state competition by local volunteer WEF members. State winners will be posted to [www.sjwp.org](http://www.sjwp.org) on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

*National Competition:* After state winners are announced, state winners will have until May 12<sup>th</sup> to submit their papers to the national competition, and until May 18<sup>th</sup> to upload a 3-minute video. The video should introduce the student, their research, the social/technical value of the work, and give the judges a general sense of the student's ownership over the project and its implications. State winners should understand that this year, due to circumstances, the video will weigh more heavily in the scoring of project and selection of a national winner. The [online portal](#) for National Paper submissions will open May 1st. State winners will receive information directly from WEF staff regarding uploading of project videos.

*What equipment do I need to participate?*

To participate in a State Competition, you will need to upload your project by April 15th. For the National Competition, state winners will need to be able to film and upload a video explaining their project. While video production will not be a determining factor in choosing a National Winner, a strong video will need to clearly explain the dimensions of

a project, give judges a sense of the depth of student understanding, and reflect ownership of polished research. It is possible that students competing in the National Competition will also be asked to be available, during a specified time, for brief electronic interviews with judges. Our panel of 20 judges may need more exposure to a student's project to choose a winner. During this interview window, Students will need access to a web camera and internet.

*Is this a permanent change? If not, will it be an option?*

No, this is not permanent. We expect a complete return to an in-person program in 2021.

*My school cancelled my science fair; am I still eligible to compete?*

Yes, you are eligible to compete. The US Stockholm Junior Water Prize accepts and even encourages self-submissions.

*I am scheduled to be a judge. How does judging work in a digital format?*

WEF Staff and Jeanette Brown, head of the judges' panel, will be in contact with judges regarding timelines and processes.

*What role will organizers/volunteers play in a digital format of the competition?*

We are currently exploring options for digital participation, especially for Ohio-based volunteer coaches. Our goal is to incorporate the expertise of volunteers into digital programming that exposes student participants to the water sector.

*Will the international Stockholm Junior Water Prize be in a digital format as well?*

The Stockholm International Water Institute is closely monitoring the situation and will communicate any changes to the annual program. Currently there are no announced changes to World Water Week programming, scheduled for August 23-28, 2020.