

# STEM Safety Procedures

To ensure a safe environment for our contestants, we request you review the NAACP ACT-SO Safety Procedures below. The NAACP ACT-SO Program prohibits the use of the following materials for display:

- Living organisms (ex: plants, animals, and microbes)
- Dried plant materials
- Taxidermy specimens or parts
- Human or animal foods
- Human/animal parts or bodily fluids (e.g., blood, urine. Note: dried animal bones, histological dry mount sections, wet mount tissue slides, teeth, hair, and nails are acceptable)
- Soil or waste samples
- Preserved vertebrate or invertebrate animals (inclusive of embryos)
- Laboratory chemicals, including water
- Dry ice or other sublimating solids (i.e., solids that vaporize to a gas without passing through a liquid phase)
- Poisons, drugs, controlled substances, hazardous substances, or devices (i.e., firearms, ammunition, or reloading devices)
- Sharp items (syringes, needles, or pipettes)
- Flames or highly flammable display materials that vaporize to a gas without passing through a liquid phase
- Batteries with open-top cells

Contestants are advised to use photographs and other visuals for presentation. Due to the potential for serious harm to the contestants and others, any project that displays any of the above items at the National ACT-SO Competition will be disqualified.