

SCHD Frequently Asked Questions

What should I expect for my interview for Junior & Senior Division Students?

Keep in mind that this is an interview - judges lead the discussion. The only category that needs to have a prepared presentation are performances.

Although your total session will be 10-20 minutes (depending on your category), your interview portion with the judges will be about 5 minutes in length. You will be asked questions from 2-3 judges who are volunteers from the community. The judges will ask you questions that allow you to showcase your knowledge of your topic and highlight your project. They will not "quiz" you. Remember, the judges are just there to learn about your project!

Typical questions might include:

- How did you choose your topic?
- How did you go about researching your topic?
- What were your most helpful sources?
- How does your topic connect with this year's theme?
- How did you create your project?
- They may ask specific questions about your topic or what you discovered during your research.
- What did you learn that surprised you?
- What would you like to know more about?

Please do not say what school you are from.

What should I expect for my interview for Elementary Division students?

Please see the *Elementary Poster Interviews Document* on the website.

What if I can't make my interview time?

All students must be interviewed on the day of the competition in order to qualify for awards and advancement to the state finals. We do not allow students to be interviewed before or after the competition or to be interviewed remotely by phone or Zoom. You **MUST** be present.

If you have a legitimate conflict on the scheduled date, you can request a specific time frame within the interview window (10:00 am - 12:00 pm) for your interview and if possible we will accommodate your needs. Note: For group projects, at least one member of your group must be present to qualify for awards and advancement to the state finals.

Do I need to stay all day?

No, you will need to be present to set up your project and participate in your interview. You are free to leave and then come back to the awards ceremony.

Are Interviews open to the public?

- Documentary, Performance, and Podcast rooms are open to the public.
 - Be seated by the beginning of each presentation and remain until its conclusion.
 - Silence all cell phones. Quiet must be observed at all times.
 - No conversations, texting, electronic games, or flash photography.
 - Parents and other guests are to have no interaction with the students or judges during the interview.
- There will be a Public Viewing for Exhibits and Posters from 2:00-3:00 pm in the Main Gym.

What do I need to bring with me?

Documentaries, Websites, Podcasts:

You submitted your project before the competition. Please bring **1 copy** of your Title Page, Process Paper, & Annotated Bibliography. Podcasts must also bring Show Notes. See podcast rules.

Exhibits, Performances & Posters:

You should bring your project, props and costumes (if applicable). In addition, please bring **4 copies** of your Process Paper/Bibliography with title page and leave these on your project when you set them up (exhibits & posters). Performance students can hand them to judges during their interview.

Please consult the NHD-CA rulebook to see the requirements for your title page, process paper & bibliography.

<https://www.nhdca.org/contest-rules>

What time should I arrive to SCHD?

If you have an exhibit or poster these must be set up the night before the competition OR by 8:45 a.m. the morning of the competition. For all other projects, or if you are set up, then you will just need to show up in time to check in and report to your room for your scheduled interview.

What are final rounds?

If a category has more projects than can be evaluated by one group of judges (10 or more) we divide the projects into 2 or more heats. The preliminary round judges select 2-3 projects from these heats to move on to a Final Round to determine the winning entries. Check the "Schedule of Events" for a list of categories that will have a finals round.

We will post entries that move on to the final rounds in the Atrium and online around lunch time. If your project was listed as a

finalist, we encourage you to attend the Awards Ceremony.

When can I set up my Exhibit or Poster?

There are two options for setting up your Exhibit or Poster:

1. Early check-in and set up will take place the Friday before competition day from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. – OR -
2. You can check-in from 7:00 - 8:45 am. and set up your project the morning of the competition prior to the start of interviews/judging.

Note: Parents can help carry objects, but exhibits must be set-up by students.

When can I take down my Exhibit or Poster?

Check the contest schedule for specific times.

In general, you cannot take your exhibit or poster down until after all judging (including finals judging) has concluded. We also ask that you leave it up until after the public viewing.

Any projects left after Sacramento County History Day will be discarded.

What should I know about performances?

Students doing a Performance will need to get all props set up on stage. We recommend coming early and getting your props prepared so you are ready when it is your turn to set up. Students are given 5 minutes to set up, 10 minutes for their performance, and 5 minutes for the interview. Students must set up their own props.

Continued . . .

What types of Awards are given?

Champions

We will award 3 projects as champions for each Jr./Sr. Division category for both groups and individual projects.

We will award 4 projects as champions for each Elementary Division category for both groups and individual projects.

Champions will advance to the NHD-CA competition that takes place at Sac State in April.

Runner-Up

We will award 1 Runner-Up medal for Elementary Division Posters.

Special Awards

We will recognize projects and provide special awards. Special award judges look for projects that fit the criteria of the award.

Examples of Special Awards:

- California History Award
- Medical History Award
- Civil War History Award
- Women's History Award