



Paper, Website, and Documentary

Your evaluations are available through the ZFairs Contest Website at www.md.nhd.org. Follow these steps to access your project.

1. Log into the State Contest website (md.nhd.org). Make sure you're logging into the Maryland State Contest site and not your district contest website.
2. On the top left of the page, click "Evals."
3. You will see your evaluations. Click on the project number to open your evaluation. If you have two options, click both of them to see your first round and finals evaluation.

Exhibit and Performance

Your evaluations have been emailed to your teacher(s) at your school. They should be sharing them with you soon. If you're unable to work with your teacher, please let us know and we will send them to you directly.

How to Read the Evaluations

You may have questions about the evaluation form. Judges are asked to fill out an evaluation individually, and then review them as a team. You may see some slight differences between each of your judges' evaluations, but they decided your overall ranking together. Some judges are naturally more critical than others based on their personal background and experience.

Please be aware that as we transition back to in person contests, you may notice that there are less comments compared to the reviews from virtual judging. At the in-person contests, judges have much less time to write comments. Please see the FAQ below for more info.

FAQs

What do the rubric marks mean? If you see a term on the sheet you do not understand, we encourage you to look at [this glossary](#) provided by NHD. This will help you to better understand the rubric marks.

Why didn't I get a top mark? If the judges gave you a mark in the middle range, but did not offer a comment about why, you might be wondering what you could have done to make your project better. We recommend reading the descriptions in the rubric boxes very closely to find clues. For example, if you got a middle score on the Variety of Sources, consider what kinds of sources you could have added to reach that goal.

I got so many Novice marks, was my project bad?: This doesn't mean your project was bad! Novice means that you have room to develop those skills, not that the skills weren't present.

Read the descriptions on the rubric mark for more details and think about how you might improve future projects.

Why are my rubric marks different than the district contest? You may see rubric marks that are lower than what you received at the district contest. This is because the level of competition is higher at the State Contest. You're expected to have improved your project from districts, and so the judges expect a higher level of adherence to the rules and rubric descriptions.