Ibdaa Registered Participants 2025

Official Statement on the Use of ChatGPT and AI for Scientific Research Projects

Please see the following guidelines this year for using AI tools, including ChatGPT, for the development of all scientific research projects at Ibdaa.

1. AI tools should be used entirely as a supplementary resource and not as the main tool to write and present a study. Some examples of acceptable use are; generating research questions, rephrasing background research and obtaining general knowledge on a subject matter. The students must write the background by themselves and AI can help in rephrasing it. Copying and pasting AI-generated content without proper sourcing will be considered a violation of Ibdaa research ethics.

2. Students should always double check any information provided by AI tools for accuracy and relevance to make certain that the research projects meet all associated standards. This should be accomplished through credible global sources to ensure any claims are supported with valid scientific principles.

3. Students should adhere to the following guidelines for citing AI tools;

   a. **Using AI to generate ideas:** Students should cite the AI tool itself, not the external sources the AI may have drawn from. However, as noted guideline #**1** above, the type of use for conducting the entire research is not acceptable.

   b. **Using AI to generate content**: AI-generated content may pull from external sources, even if those sources are not immediately visible. It is essential that students track down and cite the original sources referenced by the AI. Students should treat it like any other research: if an external source is referred to, it needs proper citation.

   c. **Using AI to rephrase content**: Proofreading or editing using AI is allowed and no citation is required, as long as it is simply improving the readability or style of the work and not changing the content significantly.

4. ISEF has posted the following standard as part of their ethics statement for the **2024-2025** student research year; *"Honesty, objectivity, and avoidance of conflicts of interest are expected during every phase of the research. The project should reflect independent research done by the student(s), and represent only one year's work. The project should reflect independent research done by the student(s) and presented in their own words with proper citation, most particularly if artificial intelligence is used. The project may only represent one year of work and must not include fraudulent data, plagiarism or inappropriate use of AI in presenting work that is not their own."*

5. Mawhiba reserves the right to disqualify any student whose actions, in any written form of project communication, violate the research ethic policies and integrity of the Ibdaa competition.