



14th IESO 2021
25-30, August, 2021



1st Circular

Dear all,

After a successful event in 2019 with 43 countries participating, IESO 2020 was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Currently, we are proposing the IESO 2021 edition in an online format. At this point, 30 countries have expressed an interest in participating and we expect that this number will increase as the online format may be attractive, especially for countries that have difficulty in attending in-person events due to the high cost of travel.

The 2021 International Earth Science Olympiad was planned to be in-person in Tyumen, Russia with the support of Tyumen University. Due to the situation of the Covid-19 pandemic, the event will take place online. Tyumen University will kindly provide the website and other facilities.

The Examination Board has been working on the new format of this special edition since last year. The activities have been adapted and new activities have been also added. We will follow the rules of IESO statutes (<https://www.ieso-info.org/statutes/>) with several additions:

- Each national team can participate with up to 8 students (all official students).
- Students can choose to participate in one or more proposed activities.
- No medals will be provided. However, students for **Data Mining Test** and the Team for the **ESP, Mission to Mars** and **NTFI** the team will be graded as Excellent, Very good and Good; accordingly, the graded team members would receive certificates. Others would get participation certificates.
- Some activities will be simultaneous, while others will be held following three time zones: 1) Asia and Oceania, 2) Africa and Europe, and 3) North-Central-South America.

This event will be focused on the educational perspectives introduced by IESO. We hope that this practice could be introduced and disseminated in your countries to improve the earth science teaching and learning experiences of your teachers and students. We count on all of you, mentors, as IESO ambassadors in your countries!

Below, you'll find some basic information about IESO 2021.

Earth, 23/05/2021

The IESO Examination Board

1) Be informed.

All the communications provided to mentors/country coordinators will be through the gmail group of IESO. If you are a mentor/country coordinator and are not yet in this group and would like to be added, please email greco@unicamp.br).

2) Participate.

In order to participate with your national team you will have to:

- a. Provide information about your students and the 2 mentors (the link for the sign-up will be provide in the group mail. If you join later you can ask for the link at greco@unicamp.br). **Sign up is open.**
- b. Pay the registration fee: registration fee this year is 1,000.00€. We are aware that times are difficult and not all of the delegation is in a position to pay the full registration fee. If this is your case, please get in contact with Jean-Luc Berenguer <jean-luc.berenguer@geoazur.unice.fr>, to discuss reducing or waiving the registration fee (no one will be left behind due to the registration fee). Details for the payment of the registration fee:

BANQUE POPULAIRE MEDITERRANEE				
Titulaire du compte/Account holder		Ce relevé est destiné à être remis, sur leur demande, à vos créanciers ou débiteurs appelés à faire inscrire des opérations à votre compte (virements, paiements de quittances, etc.).		
ASSOC ASTER		Son utilisation vous garantit le bon enregistrement des opérations en cause et vous évite ainsi des réclamations pour erreurs ou retards d'imputation.		
CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DE VALBONNE BOITE POSTALE 97 06560 VALBONNE		This statement is intended for your payees and/or payors when setting up Direct debit, Standing orders, Transfers and Payment. Please use this Bank account statement when booking transactions. It will help avoiding execution errors which might result in unnecessary delays.		
Relevé d'identité bancaire / Bank details statement				
IBAN (International Bank Account Number)		BIC (Bank Identification Code)		
FR76 1460 7003 3769 0197 4104 815		CCBPFRRPMAR		
Code Banque	Code Guichet	N° du compte	Clé RIB	Domiciliation/Paying Bank
14607	00337	69019741048	15	BP MED VALBONNE ANTIPOLIS

Registration fee payment is open.

3) Deadlines:

30/06/2021 – Student and mentor sign up (Registration form)

30/06/2021 – Registration fee payment due

20/08/2021 – Mentors send:

- NTFI presentations to Nir Orion (nir.orion@weizmann.ac.il)
- Students and mentors Earth science and art presentations to Tom Tailer (tbtailler@hotmail.com)
- Students Earth System Pledge to Tom Tailer (tbtailler@hotmail.com)

4) This year's activities:

What we've done in the past	What we'll do this year	How people will participate
Written test	Data Mining Test	Individual
Practical test	No practical test	n/a
International Team Field Investigation	National Team Field Investigation	National team
Earth System Project	Earth System Project	International team
-	Mission to Mars	International team
-	Earth System Pledge	Individual
-	IESO Art and Science	Individual/team

5) Tentative schedule:

25/08/2021	26/08/2021	27/08/2021	28/08/2021	29/08/2021	30/08/2021
Opening ceremony	Data Mining Test	Mission to Mars	ESP presentation	NTFI presentation	IESO pledge
Earth science and art	ESP preparation	ESP preparation	Seminar		Closing Ceremony

6) In this section, you will find detailed descriptions about the activities offered in IESO 2021:

Data Mining Test

This test will give you the opportunity to solve a scientific investigation on your own, using online data that you will have to analyze.

The test consists of two independent investigations (or case studies). A series of questions will guide you, step by step, through each investigation. For each question, you will need to explore online data. Your knowledge can help you ... but analyze of the data may be sufficient!

Let yourself be guided by the questionnaire, explore and analyze the data... all you have to do is complete the online answer form.

The test takes 3 hours to complete and you must do it alone in front of your computer.

For the pleasure of science and discovery!

National Team Field Investigation (NTFI)

Your country will get to create its own field investigations for presentation during the IESO.

Each country can have up to four different field investigations. Other high school students who are not on the 8-person country team can work with at least one of the 8 country team members on each of the 4 possible field investigations. Each country can have none or up to four different investigations. The field investigations will be presented for international jury evaluation during the IESO program.

The presentations may be live on Zoom, or pre-recorded totally or partially, depending on the countries and students' ability to have good Zoom access.

Mentors are welcome to discuss their ideas about NTFI with Nir Orion (nir.orion@weizmann.ac.il).

The Earth Systems Project (ESP)

Your students will have the opportunity to participate with students from other countries in one of three or four topics on the Earth System Project.

The ESP will be evaluated by an International Jury during the IESO.

The presentations should be live on Zoom/ other platforms; but they may be pre-recorded totally or partially, depending on the countries and students' access to good Internet connectivity

Mission to Mars

The 8 team members from your country will have the chance to work with students from other countries to go on a virtual mission to establish a settlement on Mars. The team will work with a real space expert to plan and then carry out the mission. Each team member will be given a team role such as a hydrologist, a medical officer or a geologist. At different times during the mission, each team member will have to make choices regarding the successful outcome of the mission. The mission controller will guide the students on the choices they have to make.

At the end of the mission, each team will get a certificate of completion, and a team score for the quality of their work. Time period is two hours.

The Earth System Pledge

We work with all of our students to teach them about Earth Systems and the solar system. The pledge is a place for the students to let us, and their peers, know how they are going to use their knowledge and skills in the future. The students will be asked to submit their Earth System pledges to their mentors for approval before being submitted to the IESO Jury. Several Earth System Pledges will be selected for public recognition during the closing ceremony. The student Earth system pledge is helpful in applications for jobs and to go to university. It is not just what you know, but what you plan to do with it that is important. Will your students plan to help an issue facing their community, country or the world? Will they work on earthquake warning or mitigation? Which Earth systems spheres interest them the most? The more specific the better. A good pledge is less than 200 words long.

All pledges considered worthy by the IESO Jury will be recognized as such. This can be helpful for students in their future.

IESO Art and Science - Sharing of Earth Systems Art and Creativity.

All of our students are excellent at Earth Science, but their talents do not end there. Many of them are excellent artists in various media including the visual arts, writing, and theater arts. This is an opportunity to share some of their poems, paintings, sculptures, rap songs, earth science memes etc. Submissions should be socially appropriate, and address environmental or Earth systems issues or concepts. Many of the submitted artistic pieces will be included in the closing ceremony. Artistic submissions need to be submitted to the country's mentor and then the mentor will submit them to be posted on the IESO art site.

This is a great place for students to communicate their emotions regarding the science that we study. Students can also use this international publication of their art on their resumes.

7) The following test is the IESO 2021 Student Virtual Behavior Modeling.

In order to take part in the IESO 2021, all students will be invited to accept and sign the agreement below.

IESO 2021 - Modeling Ideal Student Behavior in Virtual Setting

Congratulations! We are excited that you will be part of the IESO Virtual Program in 2021. You are the best High School Earth Science Students in the world. As part of this global elite, we are sure that you will serve as role models and we want to remind you of the following aspects of virtual behavior:

When on Zoom Meetings: During group time, please be mindful of others. This means mute yourself unless you have something to say. We may establish further zoom and group protocols for different events as needed.

Alcohol/Drugs/Smoking: Any reference, visual images or jokes about use, possession, storage, or attempt to purchase alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, any tobacco product, or drugs is prohibited. Please be mindful that what may be acceptable behavior in your country may be illegal in other countries.

Developing Friendships during the Program: Our goal is to develop a cohort or community of students. Students will be working together on projects and will need to be able to communicate with each other outside of mentor supervision. Thus, students will have access to other student's email addresses or other social media. We expect that all students will be respectful and not share other's email addresses or social media access outside of the IESO group.

Harassment: We take very seriously the importance of providing for all of our students and staff a working and learning environment based on mutual respect and one that is emotionally safe, comfortable, and free from intimidation, hostility or other offenses. Therefore, no form of harassment, whether visual, verbal, written, sexual, based on gender, gender identification, race, religion, ethnicity, country of origin, etc. either between, or among students and/or staff is acceptable.

Development of Interpersonal Skills This program is designed to assist all participants - both students and staff -in the development of: Responsibility, Accountability, Integrity, Self-Control, Stamina, Endurance, Resolve, Tolerance, Common Sense, Practicality, Courage, Respect for Self and Others, and Courtesy.

You will have the opportunity to develop international friendships that can, and should serve you for the rest of your lives. Please be respectful of others now that you are part of this international community.