



Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research

2025 - 2026 Poster Contest

Kindergarten - 12th Grade

Eligibility:

All students in grades K-12th in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and West Virginia including (but not limited to): public and private schools, home and cyber schools, and youth organizations.

Details:

Discover the connection between biomedical research and your life! The poster contest provides the opportunity for students to illustrate different aspects of biomedical research and science through art.

Contest Themes:

The 2026 PSBR Poster Contest has the following themes:

- 3 R's: Replacement, Reduction, Refinement
- Advancements in Biotechnology
- Animal Research Saves Lives
- Careers in Biomedical Research
- Veterinary Advancements: Animal Research Helping Animals

Students are encouraged to illustrate their views on these themes. Poster requirements and more information (including background and theme ideas) are attached below and can be found on our website at www.psbr.org > Contests > Poster Contest.

Winners:

Winners will receive a \$100 cash prize, a copy of the calendar featuring the winning posters, and an invitation to attend our Annual Awards Dinner in Hershey, PA on Friday, June 19, 2026. Winners will be notified by email on or after May 18, 2026.

Submission Deadline: March 8, 2026 at 11:59pm

Questions? Email us at contests@psbr.org or call us at 717-731-3559

PSBR's "Biomedical Research Saves Lives" Poster Contest:

Theme Background and Ideas

Here are suggestions for poster ideas, but students are free to use their imagination, as long as the basic theme is addressed.

3 R's: Replacement, Reduction, Refinement

The 3 R's is a widely accepted ethical framework for conducting scientific experiments using animals. Your poster can feature one of the many ways researchers use the 3 R's. Replacement refers to methods that avoid or replace the use of animals in scientific research by using other methods such as in vitro cell culture, computer modeling, or human volunteers. Reduction refers to methods which minimize animal use and enable researchers to obtain comparable levels of information from fewer animals, or to obtain more information from the same number of animals. Refinement refers to methods which minimize actual or potential pain, suffering, distress, and/or improve animal welfare in situations where the use of animals is unavoidable.

Advancements in Biotechnology

Amazing advancements in biotechnology have resulted through animal research – everything from developing mice that offer models for human diseases to the "pill cam" and functional artificial body parts! Your poster can feature one of the biotechnological advancements that are helping people or animals today (or will be in the future).

Animal Research Saves Lives!

Virtually every major medical advancement of this century was made possible through research with animals. Your poster can feature a specific disease like polio or diabetes. You might illustrate how life is different today due to cures or treatments available for these diseases. Or you can feature a personal story of how animal research (or a medical treatment or cure) has affected you or a close relative.

Careers in Biomedical Research

Most people think of a scientist or a doctor when considering a career in science. There is a very long list of careers that meet a wide range of interests – these careers also advance medicine and science and help people and animals live longer, healthier lives. Some examples are: bioengineers, animal care technicians, veterinary technicians, veterinarians, hematologists, immunologists, many other "ologists," pharmacists, computer specialists, regulatory officers and inspectors, and more! Your poster can feature one or more science careers that support the advancement of medicine.

Veterinary Advancements: Animal Research Helping Animals

Veterinarians, regardless of their field of practice, all play a significant role in human health and animal health. Our pets and other animals in our society benefit from animal research too! Vaccines, antibiotics, and advancements in surgery have all lead to longer, healthier lives for animals. Your poster can show benefits for animals, feature a specific advancement, or share a specific story that has affected the life of an animal you know.

Poster Requirements

Posters created by students must be their own original artwork. Copyrighted characters (such as Superman) or copyrighted clip art will not be accepted. ***A poster release form must be included with the poster submission. The release form is attached below.***

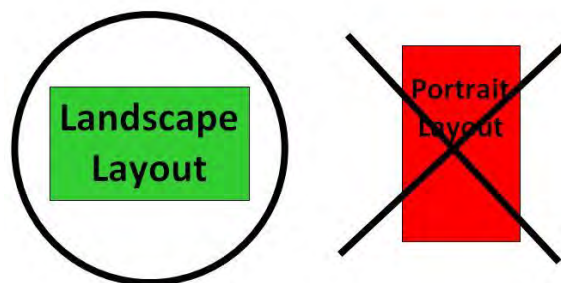
Materials:

Students may use a variety of media, physical (watercolors, pen and ink, crayons, markers, etc.) or computer graphics. No copyrighted images may be used. *Remember, brighter colors will reproduce better for the calendar (i.e. light pencil marks will not show up).* Keep in mind, most posters will likely be on public display, and should be easy to see and read.

Size & Layout:

Minimum: 8 ½" x 11"

Maximum: 11" x 17" **Landscape Layout Only!!**



Judging Criteria:

1. Clear message conveyed by the text and artwork
2. One of the poster themes listed above is addressed
3. Creativity, originality and presentation quality
4. Visual clarity – easy to read (will reproduce well for calendar printing)
5. Bright and colorful

Poster Submission:

Entries may be mailed to PSBR. All mailed items must be postmarked on or before **11:59pm on Sunday, March 8, 2026**. A **release form** must be attached to the back of the poster. Digital creations can be emailed to contests@psbr.org.

USPS mailing address:
PSBR
Attn: Poster Contest
PO Box 1163
Camp Hill, PA 17001

UPS/FedEx/DHL mailing address:
PSBR
Attn: Poster Contest
1675 Camp Hill Byp #1163
Camp Hill, PA 17001

2026 RELEASE FORM – POSTER CONTEST

****This form must be securely fastened to the back of the poster****

Student's Name _____

Student's Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Grade _____

Telephone Number (_____) _____

Student Email _____

Parent/Guardian Email _____

Teacher/Contact _____

School/Organization _____

School/Organization Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Number (_____) _____

Teacher/Contact Email _____

I hereby certify that this poster was created entirely by the student above and is the student's original artwork and there are no copyrighted characters used. I agree that it may be offered for public display or publication at some time during or after the contest. I understand that this poster becomes the property of the Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research (PSBR) and may be reproduced. The only information that may be released is the student's name, school, or grade.

Signature of Student

Signature of Parent/Guardian or Sponsor/Teacher

Print Name

Print Name

Date

Date