



# SUMMER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING SYMPOSIUM | 2026



### Organized By:

Mississippi Academy of  
Sciences and Mississippi  
State University

### Thematic Areas:

Science and  
Engineering

### Who Can Participate:

Students, Researchers/Scholars,  
Scientists, Academicians,  
Policymakers, Stakeholders,  
and Farmers

## July 21, 2026

**9:00AM – 5:00PM**

Mississippi State University,  
Bost Conference Center  
Mississippi State  
(Starkville Campus), MS 39759

## Symposium Chairs

Dr. K. Raja Reddy, Chair

Dr. TBA Co-Chair

Dr. Scott T. Willard, Co-Chair

Dr. Ham Benghuzzi, MAS Divisional Advisor

## Program Committee Coordinators

### Scientific Committee Coordinators

Dr. Jamie Larson, Chair

Dr. Raju Bheemanahalli, Co-Chair

Dr. Shrinidhi Ambinakudige, Co-Chair

Mississippi State University

### Awards Committee Chair

Dr. Michelle Tucci

University of Mississippi Medical Center

## Major Events

- Invited Lectures by Eminent Speakers
  - Poster Presentations
- 3-Minute Oral Presentations
- Awards and Recognitions

## Registration Fees & Important Dates

Registration	Fee	Deadline
Mentors	\$50	7/10/2026
Presenters	\$40	7/10/2026
Attendees and Non-Presenter	\$65	7/10/2026
On-site Registration	\$75	7/21/2026

\*Registration fee includes Lunch, Coffee, Tea, Beverages, Snacks, program booklet and info, and access to all events. Exciting Door Prizes will be provided during coffee breaks.

Note: All presenters must register upon acceptance of their abstract.

**Abstract submission deadline: July 1, 2026**



**Registration deadline: July 10, 2026**



Abstract submission    Registration

[abstract.msacad.org](http://abstract.msacad.org)

[pay.msacad.org](http://pay.msacad.org)

## Exhibits offered:

Standard: \$300

Gold: \$400

Diamond: \$500

[msacad.org](http://msacad.org)

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**Goal:** The symposium is designed to bring students (undergraduates and graduates) and postdoctoral researchers across all branches of science divisions to present their research findings through poster presentations, interact with their peers and the scientific communities; explore career opportunities; make personal contacts that can lead to job opportunities; receive information from potential employers; enhance communication and networking skills; establish professional relationships; find out about internships and job opportunities with companies, universities, and the USDA-ARS. Are we not encouraging high school kids?

**Who can attend:** Students conducting research in the areas of agriculture and plant sciences; molecular biology, pathology, entomology, genetics, chemistry, health sciences, outcomes, and population; all divisions of engineering or related subjects are highly encouraged to participate and compete for prestigious awards. Exhibitors from local vendors, institutions, and companies interested in recruiting young students for their programs are offered.

**Abstract Submission:** The participants

have to submit the abstracts of their work in any of the above thrust areas, through email only. The abstract should be typed in English using MS word (Single space; Font- Times New Roman; Font size- 12) and should not exceed 250 words. The abstracts must contain the title of the paper, name(s) of the author(s) followed by their affiliation, and e-mail. The name of presenting author should be underlined. All abstracts will be reviewed, and applicants will be notified of their abstract acceptance end of June 2023.

**Poster Presentation Guidelines :** Standard poster landscape 48" x 36"

**Student Awards:** Best poster presentations will be selected by expert judges according to MAS guidelines. There will be three student award categories with five winners in each. In each category, the first, second, and third place winners will receive cash and certificates, and fourth and fifth places will receive an honorable mention certificate. The three categories for outstanding student poster presentations are (1) High school, (2) Undergraduate, (3) Graduate - MS, and (4) Graduate - Ph.D. (5) Postdocs

## Mississippi Academy of Sciences



### Communication Among Scientists

Each year, the Academy holds an annual meeting to present addresses, symposia, workshops, scientific papers, and exhibits of interest to its members. Research is presented in divisional meetings in a podium or poster format. The meeting provides an excellent forum for members to exchange ideas and information. MAS publishes abstracts of the presented papers as part of the meeting program and as a supplement to its annual Journal.

The Academy also publishes Science in Mississippi (the Journal of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences). Science in Mississippi contains news and articles of interest to members and the scientific community. The Academy also helps to coordinate and organize scientific seminars and symposia in Mississippi.

### Science Education:

The Academy encourages potential scientists, engineers, and mathematicians through its youth activities. MAS sponsors the Mississippi Junior Academy of Science and participates in the Westinghouse Science Talent Search and other science-related programs at several educational levels. Several research awards and grants are also available from MAS. The Academy encourages science education activities and programs throughout the state and maintains a liaison with the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science.

### Assistance to the Community:

MAS provides an inventory of science and technology expertise within the state. This information is available to members, state government agencies, the state legislature, and other appropriate organizations and institutions. When called upon by the state government, the Academy also offers information and counsel concerning science-related problems.

## Major Sponsors:

- Cotton Incorporated
- Mississippi Research Consortium
- Mississippi State University:
  - Bagley College of Engineering
  - DAFVM (Division of Agriculture, Forestry, & Veterinary Medicine)
  - Graduate School
  - MAFES (Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station)
  - Office of Research and Economic Development