



Information Pack 2

Dear Water is Life Participants,

September 2019

The preparations for Water is Life 2020 are well underway. We look forward to you joining us for an interesting, informative and thought provoking conference. Florida is an ideal location for a conference about water. Our featured speakers and excursions will provide valuable learning opportunities and a good measure of fun as we learn from each other and from the local environment.

This information pack includes:

FULL REGISTRATION

DUE OCTOBER 15, 2019

- Full registration Information
- Financial Information
- Research guidelines and project information

Call for Abstract- DUE

October 31, 2019

- Conference preparation time-line
- List of pre-registered schools

- Saint Stephen's student interaction with international school teams
- Airport Information
- FAQ's - Frequently Asked Questions
- Appendix A - T-shirt size chart
- Anticipated content of IP3 and IP4
- Form Links, Website link

Full Registration DUE OCTOBER 15, 2019

payment due by January 31, 2020

All schools are asked to complete the full registration as soon as their projects are identified and research teams are formed. **Payment is not required immediately to participate in the full registration.** Payment can be made at the time of registration for those who choose. All payments must be completed by January 31, 2020. Payment information can be found at:

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Directions-for-Payment-of-Conference-Registration-Fees.pdf>

Completion of the full registration form allows the conference organizers to better plan for the exact number of conference participants. Thank you for submitting this information as soon as possible.

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/FULL-REGISTRATION-FORM.pdf>

Conference Financial Information

Conference Costs

The conference registration fee is **\$300 USD**, this includes each student **and** each adult chaperone. This conference fee pays for:

- Conference registration - all costs associated with scheduled conference activities
- Housing - ALL registered conference participants, students and adults, will be housed at the New College of Florida dormitory housing at no additional cost.
- Food - ALL meals beginning at 6pm on June 21 and ending at 10am on June 27, 2020. Accommodations for special diets will be made upon request.
- Airport transfers - Transfer from SRQ or TPA to New College on June 21 and return to those same airports on June 27, 2020.
- Transportation between conference venues June 22-26, 2020

Paying Registration Fee Wire Transfer Information will be provided in Information Pack 3. It can also be found at www.waterislife2020.us under Forms and in the Forms section at the end of this Information Pack 2

Anticipated Costs *NOT* Covered By Conference Fee - funded by each conference participant

- Visa fee OR ESTA fee to enter the United States
- Round trip flight to SRQ (Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport) or TPA (Tampa International Airport)
- Travel insurance for trip cancellation, medical insurance,
- Travel beyond the scope of that covered by the conference costs listed above
- Personal travel money
- Housing, meals and transportation other than on June 21-27, 2020

Student Research - A Local Approach

A key component of the Water is Life conferences is the presentation of research completed by each school team. Students are encouraged to choose water topics and issues that are important in the areas where they live. This local approach provides students with in-depth study of local areas of concern. Presenting their local understanding at Water is Life broadens the awareness of those who participate in the conference who may otherwise never have the opportunity to consider those issues. Just as a small pebble dropped into a pond generates ripples that extend far beyond its initial impact, the sharing of local research to a global audience brings new ideas that can be applied to world-wide water concerns.

Quality research takes time to gather data and to make a good consideration of the results. School teams are encouraged to start in the autumn of 2019. Some teams will continue research presented at the previous Water is Life conference in Tokyo, Japan. Researchers should use the International Science and Engineering Fair rules and guidelines as a reference for best practices. They can be found at:

<https://student.societyforscience.org/international-rules-pre-college-science-research>

Conference Research Themes - Students are expected to focus their local projects in one of the following research areas. These will be the categories for award recognition by the international panel of judges.

Engineering and Technology - water quality, treatment, monitoring, waste water management

Biodiversity - bioremediation, ecosystems, biodiversity

Communities- service learning, community involvement projects, water and recreation, urban water design

Education- corporate social responsibility, awareness and advocacy

Leadership, Economics and Policy- water related leadership, national strategies, historical and geopolitics of water, water conflicts, economic scope of water policies

Research Project Information

Research projects should fit into one of the conference research themes, but may engage multiple facets that touch on broad topics. Expectations for each team project are:

1. Submission of an abstract that anticipates the research project by October 31, 2019
2. Completion of the research project, using the ISEF rules as a research guideline
3. Submission of a completed research report using the Scientific Report Template by March 31, 2020
4. Preparation of a 10 minute oral presentation of research results that should include a visual component. Oral presentations will be made to an international judging panel on Tuesday, June 23, 2020.
5. Preparation of a scientific poster based on the research. Posters will be also be judged by the international judging panel during a Poster Session held on Thursday, June 25, 2020.
6. Awards will be decided by the international judging panel. First, second and third place awards will be made in each conference research theme. One poster will also be awarded for clear communication of the research project.

This information with associated hyperlinks available on the Water is Life 2020 website at:

www.waterislife2020.us

The final research report is due for submission by March 31, 2020.

Research report guidelines can be found at:

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Research-Report-Guidelines.pdf>

Call for Abstract - Due by October 31, 2019

Submit to waterislife2020@saintstephens.org

The requested abstract is meant to anticipate your research project. It should include the topic you plan to investigate, your research methodology and anticipated outcomes. You will also declare the Research Theme in which you will do your work. You are encouraged to complete projects that are connected to your **local** water situation, either scientifically, politically, economically or an integrated multidisciplinary approach. Guidelines on how to structure your 200 word or less abstract, example abstracts from previous conferences and submission directions are found at

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Abstract-Guidelines.pdf>

At the top of your Abstract include

- **Title** - the title may be the question being researched or a more generally descriptive title
- **Conference Theme addressed by the research**
- **Team Name, Team School, Team Country**
- **Student Team members**

A suggested format for a research proposal abstract

- **Sentence One/Two:** A one sentence rationale for the project. Why is this important or interesting?
- **Sentence Three/Four:** A statement of the problem to be solved or question asked and a working hypothesis
- **Sentence Five/Six :** A brief summary of the methods and materials that will be used to complete the project. Use prose format, not list format.
- **Sentence Seven/Eight:** Expected outcomes.
- As long as all of this information is provided, following the suggested format sentence by sentence is not necessary.

General Advice

- Check to make sure that your summary is **200 words or less**.
- Be descriptive, but be concise.
- Use formal language, avoiding slang or abbreviations

Submit each team's research proposal abstract, digitally using **Microsoft Word** or **Google Doc**, to waterislife2020@saintstephens.org by October 31, 2019.

Sample abstracts can be found at

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Abstract-Guidelines.pdf>

or online at <https://waterislifeassociation.nl/appl/projects.php>



Participation Timeline

✓	Conference Preparation Items	Timeframe for completion
✓	Pre-registration	March 15, 2019 - September 1, 2019
	Full Registration of school team	September 6, 2019 - October 15, 2019
	Submit research proposal abstract	By October 31, 2019
	Complete research	August 1, 2019 - February 28, 2020
	Secure flights to Bradenton, Florida, USA	suggested January 2020
	Completion of payment for conference	By January 31, 2020
	Completion of ALL forms	By March 31, 2020
	Submit research report	By March 31, 2020
	Secure ESTA or request an Invitation letter for VISA processing IF NEEDED	by April 1, 2020
	Print poster BEFORE arriving at conference	May -June 15, 2020
	Arrive in Bradenton, Florida, USA	June 21, 2020
	Water is Life 2020	June 22-26, 2020
	Depart from Bradenton, Florida, USA	June 27, 2020

Schools Pre-Registered for Water is Life 2020

Arundel School	Zimbabwe
Canterbury School of Florida	USA
Center for Young Scientists	Indonesia
Colleqi Mare de Deu del Carme	Spain
Detroit Country Day School	USA
Dillmann-Gymnasium	Germany
Eisbjerghus Internationale Efterskole	Denmark
Hatfield Christian/Woodhill College	South Africa
John Monash Science School	Australia
Liceum Ogolnoksztalce im Mikolaja Kopernika	Poland
Lycee Saint Joseph	France
Mahidol Wittayanusorn School	Thailand
Makuhari Senior High School	Japan
Maurick College	The Netherlands
Oak Bay High School	Canada
d'Oultremontcollege	The Netherlands
Punahou School	USA
River Valley High School	Singapore
Riverview High School	USA
St. Odulphuslyceum	The Netherlands
Saint Stephen's Episcopal School	USA
Shibuya Senior High School	Japan
Vespucci College	Netherlands Antilles
Vordingborg Gymnasium & HF	Denmark
Wiedner Gymnasium	Austria

Saint Stephen's Student Interactions

Before the Conference - Team Supporters

Saint Stephen's Episcopal School is a Pre-Kindergarten through grade twelve school. Students range in age from 3-19. As each conference team registers they will be assigned a young student class who will act as Team Supporters during the research process. These young students and their teachers will send messages of support and welcome to each team. Opportunities for conference teams to make broader connections with their Team Supporter class will be available.

During the Conference - Student Ambassadors

Each participating school will be assigned one Saint Stephen's Upper School student to serve as an ambassador for the entire week. The student ambassador is familiar with the school, the conference events and venues, and local customs. The ambassador will serve as a quick communication link for questions and a source for advice from the student's perspective.

During the Conference - Volunteers

Saint Stephens' Upper School students will serve in many volunteer roles to assist in the smooth production of the conference.

Airport Information

SRQ

The international airport closest to the conference is the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport -SRQ. SRQ is 10 minutes from the New College housing. Major airlines that service SRQ are Delta, American, United and Air Canada. Regional airline Jet Blue connects to SRQ from JFK in New York, EWR in Newark and BOS in Boston.

TPA

Tampa International Airport - TPA - is located 1.5 hours from New College housing. A link to all of the airlines that service TPA is found at: <https://www.tampaairport.com/airlines-tpa>

Airport transfers will be provided from both SRQ and TPA. Transportation from any other airport in Florida will not be provided by the conference.

Frequently Asked Questions - FAQ's

Categories: Conference Details, Travel, Dress Code, Housing/Meals, While at the Conference

Conference Details

1. Q: Where can the forms for Water is Life be found?

A: ALL forms can be found at www.waterislife2020.us as well as in Information Packs

2. Q: How many teams may a school send to Water is Life 2020?

A: Each school may send ONE team. An additional team may be sent if space is available. This will be determined by October 31, 2019.

3. Q: Is there a teacher's program?

A: Yes! During conference events that involve student interactions there will be a separate opportunity for teachers to participate in professional development and sharing of ideas. The full schedule of teacher focused events will be published in Information Pack 4 and at www.waterislife2020.us Suggestions are welcome to waterislife2020@saintstephens.org Teachers are also welcome to remain with their students.

4. Q: May we replace one student with another after full registration is submitted?

A: Yes. Please revise and submit your registration form accordingly and notify us by email at waterislife2020@saintstephens.org that you have made changes to your form.

5.Q: What does the conference registration fee cover?

A:The conference registration fee, paid by each adult and student, covers **all** meals, housing, transportation and excursions from 6pm on June 21 to 10am on June 27, 2020. Meals on June 21 and June 27 are limited.

6.Q: How will the participants be grouped during the conference?

A: Student participants will be grouped differently each day to maximize the opportunities to work with students from other countries and schools.

7.Q: What is the “International Afternoon”?

A: The International Afternoon is a celebration of sharing. Students can share songs, stories, dances, and music performances with their conference peers that reflect their own culture. While not mandatory, each team is encouraged to enrich the conference experience with a presentation that represents the culture of their country. Performances that include pre-recorded music must provide the music on a thumb drive to their Student Ambassador on the first day of the conference. Presentations are usually in the range of 5 minutes or less.

While at the Conference

8.Q: What technology support is available at the conference?

A: Each presentation room is equipped with a PC laptop, lcd projector and speakers. PC laptops will have Microsoft Power Point and Internet connection for presentations. Students must bring their presentation on a thumb drive which they will give to their student ambassador on the first day. Students preferring to use Mac style computers must bring their own computer and the appropriate VGA adaptor for the lcd projector.

9. Q: What is the dress code for the conference?

A: All participants, students and adults, are expected to treat the Water is Life 2020 conference as a professional trip. Students are expected to wear their formal school or business attire if their school does not have uniforms, for the opening and closing ceremonies and for oral judging of their projects. A conference shirt will be provided for each participant which should be worn during outdoor activities. The rest of the time students and adult chaperones are expected to dress in casual clothes that are suitable for a professional experience. Bathing suits will be needed for our beach excursion with appropriately modest outer clothing.

10.Q: Will there be a cost to the teacher chaperones for housing at New College?

A: NO. Housing for teacher chaperones is included in the registration fee. There will be NO additional cost for adult housing.

11.Q: Who is responsible for students while attending Water is Life 2020?

A: Teacher chaperones are responsible for students for the entire conference, day and night. Night time security will be provided, but teachers will always be responsible for their students.

12.Q:What will the weather be like for Water is Life 2020?

A: Temperatures will range from 75°F to 95°F (24°C to 35°C) in a single day.

13.Q: Will there be a room for prayers?

A: Absolutely. A quiet space for prayer and meditation will be available.

14.Q: What if a student becomes sick or injured during Water is Life 2020?

A: Students who become ill or injured will be attended by medical personnel on campus and be transported to a doctor or hospital as needed. ALL conference participants, adults and students, are expected to purchase comprehensive travel insurance that includes medical insurance to cover participants during the conference.

15.Q: May we use the copying or printing machines at Saint Stephen's or New College?

A: No, all copies and printings must be completed prior to arrival.

16.Q: Will we need an electrical convertor/adaptor?

A: Electrical power in the United States is provided at 120 Volts. All power outlets will accept a two pin, non-polarized plug. Some outlets include a third prong grounding pin. Adaptors are recommended for all electrical devices that do not match this configuration or voltage.



17. Q: Is the water safe to drink in Florida?

A: All tap water is very safe in the entire United States.

18. Q: What other costs should be expected?

A: All participants are expected to make and pay for their own flight reservations.

All participants are expected to purchase comprehensive travel insurance that includes medical and trip cancellation insurance.

All participants are required to determine if they need a VISA or ESTA to visit the US. Please refer to this website for border requirements. <https://www.usa.gov/visas#item-213289> or ESTA requirements. <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/>

19.Q: What happens if a hurricane is expected?

A: Conference organizers will monitor the weather and will cancel or delay the conference if a hurricane is anticipated. This cannot be known until immediately prior to the conference, but will usually be able to be determined at least 3 days prior. Saint Stephen's has an experienced weather emergency plan in place for use prior to or during the conference.

Housing and Meals

20. Q: Where will students and teachers stay while at Water is Life 2020?

A: ALL students and ALL teachers will stay in dormitory housing on the New College campus near Saint Stephen's. Host families are not available during June.

21.Q: May we bring food to share with others during Water is Life 2020?

A: Due to concern for food allergies and dietary restrictions we request that NO food be brought and shared during the conference.

Travel

22. Q: Will assistance be provided to make private transportation arrangements?

A: No, Saint Stephen's and New College staff may not make private transportation arrangements.

23. Q: Could our trip to the United States be extended prior to or after the conference?

A: Yes, Schools may make their own arrangements for further US travel or they may take advantage of the services of a local travel agent who can help extend US travel.

24.Q: Which airport should we use to arrive at Water is Life 2020?

A: We strongly recommend using our local airport - Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport (SRQ). It is 10 minutes from the New College housing and very convenient for travel. An alternate airport is the Tampa International Airport (TPA) located approximately 1.5 hour drive from New College housing.

25. Q:Will transfer from SRQ and TPA airports be available?

A: Transfers from SRQ and TPA are included in the conference cost on July 21 and July 27, 2020. These are the only two Florida airports from which transportation will be provided by the conference.

26. Q:Which countries require a visa and which may use the Visa Waiver Program to enter the USA?

A: Please see the official website for VISA information at <https://www.usa.gov/visas#item-213289> Teachers must make sure to submit all official papers for both students and adults to enter the US. Failure to do so will result in denial to fly to the US. In cases where a VISA is required it is recommended that the application process begin as soon as possible. If you need a letter of invitation please email a request to waterislife2020@saintstephens.org Please note that most travelers to the US will be required to apply for an Electronic System For Travel Authorization (ESTA) which may take up to 14 days to process. The ESTA application website is found at <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/>

27.Q: The conference is from June 22-26, 2020. When should participants arrive?

A: Conference participants should arrive on Sunday, June 21 and leave on Saturday June 27, 2020.

28Q: May teams or individual students extend their stay in the US before or after the conference?

A: Yes, conference participants may choose to travel in the US before or after the conference. All travel arrangements are the responsibility of the individuals who are extending their travel. All participants must extend travel from one of the two airports serving the conference. Those will be the only pick up or drop off locations. Please notify the conference of ALL travel plans that fall outside of the expected.

29. Q: May teams arrive one day early to ease travel fatigue?

A: Arrangements **are being investigated** to allow teams to arrive one day early. Cost of housing and meals on June 20 are the responsibility of teams choosing this option. A separate email will be sent this fall if arrangements can be made. Transportation from SRQ or TPA can be provided by the conference.

Appendix

Appendix A - t-shirt size chart

T-Shirt SIZE	Extra Small	Small	Medium	Large	Extra Large	2xExtraLarge
Shirt length	69 cm/ 27 in	71 cm/ 28 in	74 cm/29 in	76 cm/ 30 in	79 cm/ 31 in	81 cm/ 31 in
Shirt width	48 cm/ 19 in	51 cm/ 20 in	56cm/ 22 in	61 cm/ 24 in	66 cm/ 26 in	71 cm/ 26 in
Sleeve Length	81cm/ 32 in	84 cm/ 33 in	86 cm/ 34 in	89 cm/ 35 in	91 cm/ 36 in	94 cm/ 36 in
Chest circumference	84cm/ 33 in	94 cm/ 37 in	102 cm/ 40 in	112 cm/ 44 in	122 cm/ 47 in	130 cm/ 51 in
Order Size	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL

Conference Links

Conference Coordinator Ann Marie Shields waterislife2020@saintstephens.org

Water is Life 2020 website www.waterislife2020.us

Registration form - Due Oct. 15, 2019

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/FULL-REGISTRATION-FORM.pdf>

Wire Transfer/ Fee Payment Information

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Directions-for-Payment-of-Conference-Registration-Fees.pdf>

Flight Details

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Flight-info-landscape-form.pdf>

Liability waiver

coming soon

Media release

coming soon

Research Links

International Science and Engineering Fair Rules

<https://student.societyforscience.org/international-rules-pre-college-science-research>

Abstract Guidelines

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Abstract-Guidelines.pdf>

Judging Criteria for Oral and Poster presentations

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Oral-and-Poster-Judging-criteria-For-students.pdf>

Research Report Guidelines

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Research-Report-Guidelines.pdf>

Poster Guidelines

<https://www.saintstephens.org/waterislife2020/forms/Prepare-Your-Poster-Guidelines.pdf>

Questions????

Please email questions to Mrs. Ann Marie Shields at waterislife2020@saintstephens.org

Information Pack 3 - October 2019, FAQ's, Names of registered schools, VISA information, judging criteria for oral and poster presentations, Wire transfer information

Information Pack 4 - March 2020, Conference Agenda, Dress code guide, packing guide, wifi connections, expenses and insurance information, student ambassador information, Teacher Program