

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) GUIDANCE FOR NATIONAL HISTORY DAY® (NHD®) STUDENTS

Students who participate in NHD agree to present work that is their unique academic product. Academic integrity is at the core of NHD.

**As of October 1, 2026, generative AI is strictly prohibited and, if used, may result in disqualification.
All aspects of student work must be their own.**

What is Generative AI?

Generative Artificial Intelligence (sometimes called Gen AI or gen AI) is an emerging technology and tool that can hallucinate or produce made-up or incorrect information, especially with recent information or when prompted with phrases it does not know. You may or may not realize you are being given false information. However, even if the Gen AI tool produces accurate information, the creation, thinking, or analysis is being done **for** you, not **by** you.

Intentionally using generative AI, including but not limited to ChatGPT, Claude, Perplexity, or Gemini to help with a project is **strictly forbidden**.

Ways You May Use AI



- ✓ Using spelling and grammar-checking programs
- ✓ Using bibliography generators like EasyBib and NoodleTools
- ✓ Using Canva to design project text, adjust an existing image for brightness and clarity, or add decorative designs, such as borders

Ways You May Not Use AI



- ✗ Asking Gen AI platforms to brainstorm topic ideas
- ✗ Using Gen AI platforms to find potential sources, archives, or libraries
- ✗ Letting Gen AI platforms create written text, images, audio, or videos for your project
- ✗ Using Gen AI tools to substantially revise or rewrite text
- ✗ Requesting feedback on a project from Gen AI companion chatbots

What to Do if You Used Generative AI Before October 1, 2026

If you used a Gen AI tool before October 1, 2026, you will not be penalized or disqualified, but you are **required** to cite the tool and explain in your process paper and annotated bibliography how you used Gen AI to develop your project.

Questions?

Please visit nhd.org/resources/ai for NHD's complete policy on AI Guidance for NHD Projects and reach out to registration@nhd.org with any additional questions.