Official Rules

General:
- Students must be registered to participate in the Brain Bee at MSU.
- All questions will be based upon information found in Brain Facts (PDF, Audio and web site).
- All recording devices, including video cameras, are prohibited. Note taking by students or other members of the audience is also prohibited. This will result in an immediate disqualification.
- All members of the audience (students, parents, teachers, etc) should refrain from conversations during the competition. During Session I, all non-participating individuals will be asked to leave the testing area.
- Any student that is being disruptive during the competition will be disqualified.
- Disruptive members of the audience will be asked to leave.
- All electronic devices (cell phones, pages, mp3 players, etc) must be turned off and put away during the competition.
- Students will not be excused to use the restroom during the competition. There will be breaks between sessions.
- Students must leave all bags (backpacks, purses, laptop bags, etc) with their parents, teachers, or in a designated area in the lecture hall during the competition.
- Any student found cheating in the competition will be disqualified immediately.

Session I: Written Exam
- Students will be provided with a scantron form and writing utensil.
- Exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions.
- Students will have one hour to finish the exam.
- Only participating students will be allowed in the testing area.

Session II: Oral Exam
- The eight students scoring the highest in Session I will move on to Session II.
- All students will be asked the same thirty questions. All questions will be short answer (1-2 words or a short phrase.)
- Students will have 15 seconds to write down their answer for each question.
- Questions will be read twice, and timing will begin after the question is repeated.
- After the 15 seconds, each student will show the judges their response and the moderator will read each student’s answer out loud, indicating “correct” or “incorrect.”
- After all thirty questions, the two students with the most correct answers will advance to the final round. In the case of a tie, an elimination question will be given to determine who advances.
- A panel of official judges will be consulted for decisions on any ambiguous answers.
- Any disagreement on judging of correct answers can be brought to the attention of the judges’ panel after Session II but before the start of Session III.
Session III: Championship Round
-The top two students from Session II will compete in a head to head oral examination championship round.
-A coin toss will determine who chooses the starting position.
-If one student answers incorrectly, the second student will be given a chance at answering the question.
-If neither student is able to answer a question correctly, the question will not be counted towards the total incorrect answers.
-Elimination is based on three incorrect answers.
-If both students give a third incorrect answer in the same round, the competition will continue until one student answers correctly and one incorrectly in the same round.
-If, after the set number of questions, neither student has three incorrect answers, the competitor with the fewest incorrect answers will be declared the winner. If both students have an equal number of wrong answers, the scores from Session I will be used as a tie breaker.
-A panel of official judges will be consulted for decisions on any ambiguous answers.
-Any disagreement on judging of correct answers can be brought to the attention of the judges’ panel for the 15 minutes following Session III.

I understand and agree to the rules and guidelines outlined here:

________________________________________
Student Participant Signature

I understand and agree to the rules and guidelines outlined here and allow my child to participate in the Brain Bee at Michigan State University:

________________________________________
Parent Signature