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### 03.7.18

*Coming to you from FIRST® LEGO® League Jr. Headquarters in Manchester, NH, USA.*

We are excited to welcome you to the FIRST® LEGO® League Jr. World Festival Expo at the FIRST® Championship in Houston, Texas, USA on April 18– 21! Below is important information that will be helpful to you and your team as you plan your trip.

- Items in **green** are specifically for teams **outside** the United States and Canada.
- Items in **blue** are specifically for United States and Canadian teams.
- Items in **yellow** require action by ALL teams.

### Welcome!

The FIRST® Championship is a culminating celebration for teams from [all FIRST programs](#). From April 18 – 21, teams from around the globe will be together in Houston at the **George R. Brown Convention Center** and **Minute Maid Park** (home of the Houston Astros Major League Baseball team). Many activities are in the works to encourage teams to visit and support the other FIRST programs – we will share information about these activities with you in the coming weeks.

### Schedule of Events

Check out the [FIRST Championship Website](#) for an up-to-the-minute event schedule. Here, you can filter the schedule to show a detailed schedule specifically for FIRST LEGO League Jr. teams. We'll also be sending a more detailed day-to-day team schedule as we get closer to the event.

### Hotel Accommodations and Badging

We are working with Experient Inc. for hotel accommodations and badging. **Please note – Experient receives an updated team list from our registration system every Tuesday and Thursday.** This may cause a delay in-between the time your team is registered and the time you are able to search for your team on their website to book your accommodations [here](#).

### Action Required – Badging

In order to access the event, all attendees (team members, volunteers, families, and friends) must have a badge. Your team's coach must request badges for everyone traveling with your team. These badges will be available for pickup at the Team Registration/Check-In in Houston. You can find information about hotel accommodations and badging [here](#).

**Important Note:** This badging process is separate from the World Festival Expo team payment process.



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**Action Required – Payment Deadline:** The deadline for the World Festival payment of \$300.00 USD is **March 9** or **March 26**. Please make sure your team has completed payment by the deadline date.

#### **Action May Be Required - Traveling Abroad?**



Teams traveling from outside of the United States who need assistance securing visas should contact us as soon as possible. A generic event invitation was sent automatically following initial team registration. Email us at [WorldFestivalExpo@firstinspires.org](mailto:WorldFestivalExpo@firstinspires.org) to get individual, official letters if needed to help speed the visa process along.

#### **All about Houston**



#### **Weather**

In April, Houston's temperature can vary between 57° - 80°F. Springtime can bring rain and storms, and is also one of Houston's windiest months, so make sure you pack your umbrellas and jackets!

#### **Travel**

Teams are responsible for their own transportation. Whether you need a ride from the airport to your hotel or to one of the tourist attractions in Houston, there are plenty of public transportation options. For information about the city's public transportation, local attractions, and restaurants, click [here](#).

#### **Action Required - Team Rosters for United States and Canadian Teams**

All teams from the United States and Canada are required to complete their team roster in your [team's account](#). The team roster will show if team members have completed their electronic *FIRST* Consent and Release forms. If you have not already done so, invite your team members' parents to go into the system to complete the consent form electronically - this will save you time!



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**We're looking forward to seeing you soon! Stay tuned for our next email on Wednesday, March 21st, which will contain more important information about the event.**

**Links**

[CMP Website](#) | [Experient \(Registration & Housing\)](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#)