

# *FIRST* 2025 CHAMPIONSHIP

PRESENTED BY **BAE SYSTEMS**

**APRIL 16-19, 2025**

**HOUSTON**

## ***FIRST* LEGO® League Explore 2025 *FIRST*® Championship Update**

**Hi Friend,**

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

### **Welcome World Festival Teams:**

This is the first email blast for the *FIRST*® LEGO® League Explore World Festival at the 2025 [FIRST® Championship](#) presented by BAE Systems in Houston, TX, USA.

From April 16-19, teams from around the world will be together in Houston at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

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.


**We'll be sharing important event information in these email blasts.** Please read **ALL** provided information as it may pertain to your team and/or travel arrangements.


### **What's New?**

#### **Event Guide and Schedule**

Teams are expected to arrive and set up their pits on **Thursday, April 17**, with an optional early-bird check-in on Wednesday, April 16, at 11:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

#### **Thursday, April 17:**

 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Team Check-in and Pit Set-up

 4:30 p.m. – Pits Close

A downloadable Event Guide and schedule will be available [here](#) soon.

### **2025 *FIRST* Championship Team Housing**

A personalized hotel booking link will be sent to each team separately. All teams must book their hotel rooms through *FIRST* Housing. For more information, please review the [FIRST Championship Hotel Program Update](#).

### **Consent and Release Forms**

Teams outside of the U.S. and Canada must have participants complete a Consent and Release Form for every adult coach and mentor and every student on your team by April 2, 2025. A link to the form can be found in your team’s welcome email from [flw@firstinspires.org](mailto:flw@firstinspires.org).

Be sure all persons completing the form list your World Festival registration team number (starting with 7xxxx) in the “Team Number” cell.

You should share the Consent and Release Form link with a parent or guardian of all youth team members for completion.

Please note that this form is required for every student on your team, and the form must be signed by a legal parent or guardian, or the student may not be able to participate in the event. Coaches or mentors may not complete the form for team members unless they are the legal parent or guardian of the team members.

### **Action May be Required – Traveling Abroad?**

To request the VISA Invitation letter, please use the [Visa Letter Form](#). This is for anyone who plans on attending any of the *FIRST* Championship with your team.

This invitation letter acts as a supporting document for your appointment at your local U.S. Embassy. *FIRST* does not assist with the VISA application process and cannot provide guidance for which VISA schedule one qualifies for; kindly check in with your local Embassy.

You can also view the Department of State [VISA categories here](#) to determine your eligibility on your own. For clarifying questions, please email [mcarroll@firstinspires.org](mailto:mcarroll@firstinspires.org).

### **We’re looking forward to seeing you soon in Houston!**

Stay tuned for our next email on **Wednesday, February 26**, which will contain more important information about the event.

**Countdown to the *FIRST* Championship – 63 days!**

**FIRST**<sup>®</sup>

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