

29 October 2024

FCC NTX Update - First steps, Project Plan Parts 1, 2 due soon

All:

Registration will close at the end of the month. At this point, we qualify to send our regional winner to DC in February (minimum 20 registered groups), but our total numbers are down from previous years. If you know of any colleagues who should be participating, tell them to get registered asap.

In any event, NTX is always one of the largest and most competitive regions in the country. You can find a list of the groups participating on the website:

www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_sch.html.

FIRST STEP – if you haven't already done so, **download the handbook from the Educator Dashboard resources.** <https://futurecity.org/future-city-dashboard/>

Then get busy:

- Putting together your overall project goals and developing the schedule.
- Developing an initial city plan for your city.
- Starting your research for the essay problem.

SECOND STEP – Enroll in the NTX Competition Management System.

As soon as possible, enroll in the NTX CMS and enter your teams. You will be uploading all your deliverables to this system. (The Educator Dashboard will only be used for accessing resource information, activities and forms.) NOTE – the NTX CMS is a separate system from the Educator Dashboard. You will not be able to access the CMS from the Educator Dashboard or the national (futurecity.org) site.

To Enroll - <https://secure.dfwfuturecity.org/NorthTX/Teacher>.

You should enroll as soon as possible – before the first deliverable is due – to make sure you have access and can enter your team information.

- If you have used the CMS in previous years, you can re-activate your account using your old username and password.
- If this is your first time using the NTX CMS, you must “enroll” by clicking the link in the menu on the upper left.

DELIVERABLE #1 – THE PROJECT PLAN – Parts I and 2 are due 11 November.

The Project Management Plan is four parts, each submitted separately. You can download Plan forms from the Educator Dashboard or use the blanks in the handbook.

- Part 1: Setting goals for your FC effort.
- Part 2: Developing a Schedule and assigning resources and tasks.

The other two pieces of the plan: 3. Checking in (due 18 Dec) and 4. Reflection (due 13 Jan).

Your score on the Project Plan is based primarily on completeness and timely submission. Be sure to include examples of things like schedules where it asks for you to “show your style.”

Submit the Project Plan to the NTX CMS:

<https://secure.dfwfuturecity.org/NorthTX/Teacher>.

For references on planning, see our Team Center Resources page (www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html). There is a webinar on Project Planning and links under "Where to Learn More" section. There are also some city planning exercises and tips on the Educator Dashboard).

LETTER TO PARENTS – I have posted a letter for educators to print and send to parents of the student competitors explaining the NTX FC program and timeline. You can download it from the Team Center Resources section.

LASTLY – it's not too early to start collecting recyclables to use in building your model. Have students, parents and advisors collect recyclable items and interesting pieces for use in the model. You will want to have a good selection of various sized pieces to work with. Remember you have a maximum budget of \$100 – and you must account for the cost of all materials unless they are recyclable. See the Expense Form for details.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

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