

1 November 2018

FCC NTX Update: First steps, Virtual City deadline, Essay next

All:

If you haven't already done so, bookmark the NTX FCC website: www.dfwfuturecity.org/teamcenter.html for regional information and resources you won't find on the national site. Check out the **Schedule** and **List of Organizations** registered for this year. We have more than 60 schools and organizations signed up for 2018-19.

ENTER TEAM INFORMATION INTO TEAMCENTER

Many of you have already entered your team info into the online system – thank you. For those of you who haven't, please log in and "create" your teams. Note: team names must be unique – you will get an error message if the team name has already been used.

You will need to have the teams enrolled before you can upload any files – so don't wait until the last minute.

Also, please tell your mentors to register as well.

<https://secure.futurecity.org/NorthTX/MentorBin/Mentor/Enroll>.

SIMCITY DOWNLOADS AND INSTALLATION

All of you should have downloaded the SimCity. If you are installing the program on a school computer, there may be a problem with the school firewalls. Future City has some suggestions for working around the firewall (see <http://futurecity.org/resources> and filter on "SimCity"). Also, please feel free to have your IT people give me a call for ideas and workarounds.

VIRTUAL CITY SLIDESHOW – DUE 16 NOVEMBER

Initial deadline for the slideshow deliverable is 16 November. Late submissions of the slide show are acceptable through 14 December with a small penalty. (See the complete NTX regional schedule at www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_sched.html.)

Upload the pdf file through the team center.

VIRTUAL CITY RESOURCES are available at <http://futurecity.org/resources> and include:

- Slideshow template
- Benchmark assessment form
- Sample virtual city slideshow

Also, please consult the rubric (in the handbook or online) and the background information and rules in the handbook.

NTX has a training video (http://www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html#orient) that will give you background info and tips for constructing the slideshow.

SPECIAL NOTE ON SCREENSHOTS: If you find that your screenshots don't include the tools and information items along the bottom of the screen, check the "Options" menu under the "Settings" tab. Make sure the item "turn off UI when taking screenshots" is not checked.

NEXT PHASE – CITY ESSAY

The City Essay is the next deliverable, due on 12 December. Powering the Future – you can find information and rules in the handbook and reference links online at <http://futurecity.org>. There is also a training video recorded online (<https://youtu.be/oOfZ7K36mOg>) and copies of past winning essays from the NTX region on our Team Center Resources page (http://www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html#more).

FINALLY – it's not too early to begin planning your model. Start collecting recyclables for building materials.

Good luck to everyone. Contact me or Jill if you have any questions.

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