Hello Future City Educators:

Thanks to all of you for working with students on the Future City project this year! I would like to share some news, reminders, and deadlines for the Indiana Regional.

If you are a new school or youth organization, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone with any questions about the program.

In this update, you will find details regarding these items:

1) Registration Payment/ # of teams allowed to attend the Indiana Regional per school/organization

2) Mentor registration

3) Reminder of deadlines

4) Reminders about SimCity requirements and some other Q & A items of note

5) Returning Award: Future City Alumni Award

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1) Registration Payment and Teams allowed to attend the Indiana Regional per school/organization

a) Payment: If you have not paid your $25 per school/organization for participation in Future City either via the national website or sent to IPFW, please do so by sending in a check ASAP made payable to IPFW with Future City on the memo line or attachment to:

   IPFW
   Attn: Becky Notestine, ET 243
   2101 E. Coliseum Blvd
   Fort Wayne, IN 46805

b) Each school/organization is allowed up to 3 official teams at the Indiana competition unless you have more than 100 students participating in the program in which case you may have 4. Please contact me if you plan to have 4 teams attend.

   An “official” team includes: 3 middle school student presenters, 1 educator, 1 mentor.

   There may be more than 3 students working on a team project but only three are considered the official presentation team (according to national rules). The names of these three students will appear in the regional program, included in receiving team participation items and any team awards at the competition, and also will have travel expenses paid if the team advances to National Future City Finals as the Indiana representative.

   Other team members are very welcome to attend the competition and, if in the room during the presentation, will be acknowledged by the judges.

   Educators will be contacted with the option to purchase Future City t-shirts for other team members and pizza if they are at the event for lunch (these are free for official presentation team members). A participation certificate template will also be available if educators would like to print some for the other team members working on the project.

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2) Mentor Registration

Please have your mentor(s) go online to National Future City and register as a mentor selecting your school/organization.

The link: [http://futurecity.org/register](http://futurecity.org/register) This is the same place that all schools and youth organizations registered to participate.

I am also attaching a document that you can use if you are still trying to find a mentor. This will explain the benefits and commitment.

A recent question was asked whether a team can still compete without a mentor. The answer is yes but it is not preferred by National Future City and can actually be a disadvantage since mentors really do help bring a perspective to the team that is very important. We have repeatedly found that the teams who are successful in helping students to understand the design process, give advice on the construction of a really good model, and explaining the role of engineers in the essay topic.

A parent, school board member, city engineer, university student in engineering, or other technical professional can be a mentor.

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3). Reminder of Indiana Regional Deadlines: these can be found (along with other Indiana information) on the Indiana regional website: [www.etcs.ipfw.edu/fll](http://www.etcs.ipfw.edu/fll)

**SimCity Virtual City Map Design Submission Deadline**

**Wednesday, December 17, 2014 by 5 p.m. EST**

Virtual City Upload Instructions are on the Indiana and national website

**Team Registration Deadline**

**December 17, 2014 by 5 p.m. EST**

**Essay and City Narrative Deadline**

**Thursday, January 15, 2015 by 5 p.m. EST**

See [Home Page](http://futurecity.org/resources) for instructions on how to submit online using the National FC Team Management System.

**Regional Competition**

**Saturday, January 24, 2015**

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4). SimCity requirements and other items of note.

Please make sure you check the Program Handbook on page 15 to make sure you are following all the “basics” with your team’s virtual designs. All registered educators were sent a book. Other mentors may find the book for download at the link below for National Future City resources. Lots of other good information on that resource page.

a. Teams must use Whitewater Valley Region (15 pt. penalty if your team’s city is not in this region: see page 51 of handbook #14)

b. Teams must play in Single-Player Mode

c. Teams must design one virtual city that you designate will be judged (even if you develop multiple cities)

d. Teams must submit their city via the educator’s national website page for that team. Teams must provide Origin username, password, and city name REQUIRED for judges to access your city.

Look under [www.futurecity.org/resources](http://www.futurecity.org/resources) for directions regarding the submission on national website.

e. Teams must not attempt to “transfer” all their pollution and budget busters in other cities.

See page 51 of handbook #15: “Teams may share resources with other cities that they create in a region but may not “game the system” by placing all or the majority of their polluting industries or budget busters in an adjacent city within the region.”
Follow these benchmarks to get a good score or better according to the Program Handbook, page 15 in Competition Checklist:
Make sure that City Hall is at least level 5 (you will need a population of 37,000 Sims for this level);
Make sure you develop all three zones (residential, commercial, and industrial) and all three wealth levels;
Make sure you have adequate safety services (police, fire, health)...i.e. # of crimes, # of buildings burned, # of deaths =0;
Make sure you have adequate city utilities (water, power, waste, sewage) meaning they are in “green”;
Make sure your education level is at least at 3; try for a Mayor rating better than 70; and provide public transportation for your Sims.

Questions recently asked:
Q. Can we create multiple cities in that region and, if we do, how do we tell judges about the city we want judged?
A: Yes, you may develop other cities but make sure that when you submit the city to the judges, you are very clear on using the city name that will become your team’s name.
Make sure the name is different from all the other cities you create and that it is the SAME NAME that you plan to use for team registration, the essay, the city narrative, and the final city model.
YOU CANNOT CHANGE NAMES ONCE YOUR SIMCITY IS SUBMITTED SO CHOOSE YOUR NAME CAREFULLY.

Q. Can we use “missions”?
A: Yes, but the missions all come with a trade-off so if you gain something (ex. cash) you will need to be prepared to handle the implications (possible results) of a mission.

Q. Are we allowed to use “cheat codes”?
A. See page 52 of the program handbook #16: cheat codes are not allowed; including playing in the Sandbox mode is not allowed

5. Returning Award: Indiana Future City Alumni Award

We will be honoring one Future City Alumni with a plaque this year as we did two years ago. An alumni is considered any student who participated in the program for one year and is no longer in middle school. This means that this person must now be in high school, at a university, or in the work force.

Considerations for winning this award: The contributions this person has made in terms of supporting Future City after they leave the middle school program.

This can be volunteerism at the regional event or other Future City activity, mentoring or advising teams, or sponsoring the program if they are in the community.

The coach, other current Future City students, or an engineer mentor may nominate the alumni by writing a 250 page explanation about why they deserve this award.

The more specific the nomination is, the better. All nominations will be read by members of the Indiana Future City steering committee and voted on by this same group.

A nomination form will be posted on the Indiana Future City website by Dec. 16 and will be available for submissions until January 16th. This year’s Indiana Alumni may also be considered for submission to the National Future City organization for their national alumni award in 2016. Their deadline for submitting a regional nomination is in mid-November.

This is all the news for now. Be looking for other future Indiana Future City Team News Updates.

Thanks to all of you for your participation!
Carol Dostal
Indiana Regional Coordinator