



Ohio Regional Qualifying Tournament Registration FAQ

Q. Who can register for a qualifying tournament in Ohio?

A. Only Ohio *FIRST*® LEGO League teams that have registered with FIRST for the 2018 INTO ORBIT season may participate in the Ohio tournament system.


Q. How many official qualifiers can my team attend?

A. **Short Answer:** while a team may end up competing in three Ohio tournaments, they may only compete in **one regional qualifier**.

Regional Qualifiers (1st level qualifiers): These are the events that you will actively register to attend. They range in size from as small as 12 teams to as large as 30 teams. The regional qualifying tournament season in Ohio runs from as early as November 10 through December 16. Teams may only attend one regional qualifier. Approximately 30% of the teams that attend these tournaments will advance to the district level tournament (2nd level qualifier). *FIRST* LEGO League's [Advancement Policy](#) will be used to advance the remaining teams to the next level.

District Qualifiers (2nd level qualifiers): Teams may only compete at a district qualifier if they have first qualified to advance from a regional qualifier. District qualifiers range in size from 20 to 40 teams, depending on the percentage of teams that compete within that district. District qualifiers are typically held in January (the Akron event is scheduled for December this season). Please check to see which district tournament your team would advance to from the regional tournament you attend. Approximately 30% of teams will advance from the district to the *FIRST* LEGO League Ohio Championship. *FIRST* LEGO League's [Advancement Policy](#) will be used to advance the remaining teams to the next level.

***FIRST* LEGO League Ohio Championship:** The *FIRST* LEGO League Ohio Championship is the final official tournament in Ohio, although teams will have an opportunity to advance to events outside of the state. Our Champion will advance to *FIRST* LEGO League World Festival in Detroit, Michigan in April 2018. Additional teams may have an opportunity to advance to World Festival, Open Championships and Invitationals. Teams will be selected based on Champion's Award criteria and *FIRST* LEGO League's [Advancement Policy](#).



Sixty teams will compete at the Ohio Championship for the 2018-2019 HYDRO DYNAMICS season.

Q. Where and how do I register for an Ohio regional tournament?

A. You will receive an email from the Ohio FIRST LEGO League Director that includes a link to the registration website the week prior to the opening of registration on October 1st. This link is the ONLY way to register for an event in Ohio. You will not be able to register for an event using your coach dashboard at *FIRST's* website. The link will also be posted on the competitions page at WPAFBSTEM.com.

When registering, you will select a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice for tournament. You must also pay your \$80 per team registration fee. This one-time fee will cover your team if you advance through the tournament structure in the state. You will be prompted to pay this fee when you register. You can either pay by check, purchase order, or credit card.

Purchase Order: You will be required to upload a PDF of your Purchase Order as proof of impending payment.

Credit Card: You will be directed to pay your fee via PayPal. A small processing fee will be added to your bill.

Check: You can mail your check, made payable to **The Ohio Educational Outreach Foundation**, to:

The Ohio Educational Outreach Foundation
ATTN: Linda Lange
1270 North Fairfield Road
Dayton, Ohio 45432-2600


Make sure you include your *FIRST* LEGO League team number on all communications, especially on your check, if you choose to pay by this option. If you choose to mail your payment, your team will not be officially placed into a tournament until your payment is received in this office. If you would like to avoid any delay, you can send your check in early. If the check is received by October 1, it will be processed immediately.

Regional tournament registration will run from September 29, 2018 through October 8, 2018. All payments (checks) must be received by October 15, 2018.

Q. When does tournament registration open for Ohio tournaments?

A. *FIRST* LEGO League regional qualifying tournament registration in Ohio will open on September 29, 2018 and close on October 8, 2018. Coaches will receive email instructions with a link one week before registration opens from the Ohio FIRST LEGO League Director, Brenda Ronnebaum. This link will be posted on the competitions page at WPAFBSTEM.com.

Q. Can my team attend more than one regional tournament in Ohio?



A. No. Your team may only attend one regional qualifying tournament. Your team may have additional opportunities to compete by advancing to the district tournament and then to the *FIRST* LEGO League Ohio Championship.

Q. Can my team compete in the Ohio tournament program in addition to qualifying or championship tournaments in another state?

A. No. If you choose to register as an official *FIRST* LEGO League tournament in another state, you are not eligible to compete in the Ohio tournament system. (Exceptions: Open Championships or World Festival, which occur after the Ohio tournaments have ended).

Q. How much does it cost to attend a tournament in Ohio?

A. Cost for competing in the Ohio tournament system for the entire season is \$80. This one-time fee is due at the time of tournament registration. You can pay this fee by credit card, purchase order, or check:

Credit Card: You can pay online when you register. A small processing fee will be added to your charges.

Purchase Order: You must upload a PDF of your purchase order at the time of tournament registration. If your purchase order covers more than one team, upload the PDF each time you register a team listed on the document.

Check: You can mail your check, made payable to **The Ohio Educational Outreach Foundation** to (If you select this option, you will be placed into a tournament and a spot in a tournament will be held for your team until October 15. If the check is not received by October 15, the spot may be given to another team).

The Ohio Educational Outreach Foundation
ATTN: Linda Lange
1270 North Fairfield Road
Dayton, Ohio 45432-2600


The \$80 Tournament Fee for the entire Ohio tournament season is due at the time of team registration and no later than October 15, 2018.

Make sure you include your *FIRST* LEGO League number on all communications, especially on your check, if you choose to pay by this option.

Q. How will teams be placed into a regional qualifying tournament?

A. When you register your team for a regional tournament, you will indicate a 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice for tournament. Tournament placement will be made based upon the following criteria:

1. Timeliness of registration

- 
2. Timeliness of registration payment
 3. Balanced tournament numbers

No tournament placements can be finalized until tournament payment is received. If you register and pay on or close to October 1, you are more likely to receive your first choice of tournament. The longer you wait, the more likely you are to be placed into your second choice, third choice or other tournament, depending on space availability and minimum tournament number requirements.

Please note to which district tournament your team would advance, if you qualify, from each regional tournament you select. There are six district tournaments throughout the state, and each regional tournament will advance teams to a specific district tournament, regardless of a team's physical location within the state.

Q. If my team decides not to compete after we have registered and paid, can we get a refund?

A. No. Team registration fees are non-refundable, as these fees go to pay for tournament competition Challenge Sets, awards, event insurance, and other supplies.

Q. When will we receive notification that we have been placed into a tournament?

A. As soon as your tournament requests and payment are confirmed and your placement has been finalized, you will receive an e-mail notification of your placement. All placements should be finalized by October 15, 2018.

Q. Does my team have to attend a regional tournament in the region in which we live? For example, if our team resides in Dayton, do we have to attend a Dayton area tournament?

A. No. Your team may register for any of the regional tournaments in Ohio.

Q. If we want to pay by credit card, how will I receive that information?

A. You may pay by credit card as early as September 29, 2018 through October 8, 2018 through the online registration system. A small processing charge will be added to your transaction when you choose the PayPal payment option. The credit card option will not be available for you to access until registration opens on September 29, 2018.


Q. Will a Purchase Order number alone finalize my tournament placement?

A. Yes. Your team can be placed into a tournament as long as you uploaded a PDF of the Purchase Order at the time you register your team for competition.

Q. My school needs a W-9 form and an invoice before it will release funds for payment. How do I request this information?

A. Your organization can request a W-9 and/or an invoice for payment by sending an e-mail to brenda.ronnebaum.ctr@us.af.mil or by calling 937-656-2273.

Q. Where can I find details about each of the official tournaments in Ohio?



A. All of the official tournament information, including event sizes, location, awards, team and parent information packets, forms, schedules, etc., will be housed on the “Competitions” page of the Ohio FLL website, located at http://wpafbstem.com/pages/k12_FLL_competitions.html. By late September, you will be able to click on the name of each event to get to information about that event. As the season progresses, more information related to each tournament will be posted for the convenience of teams and spectators. Check back to your event site frequently to find updates.

Q. How do I register for a district qualifier or the FIRST LEGO League Ohio Championship?

A. The district and *FIRST* LEGO League Ohio Championship tournaments are invitation-only events. A team must qualify at a regional tournament to advance to the district. A team must qualify at a district tournament to advance to the *FIRST* LEGO League Ohio Championship. No additional fees are required from teams that advance to the next level in the Ohio tournament structure.

Approximately 30% of teams will advance from a regional tournament to the district tournament. Approximately 30% of teams will advance from the district tournament to the Ohio Championship using *FIRST* LEGO League’s [Advancement Policy](#).

Q. Who do I contact if I have additional questions about tournament registration?

A. Contact the Ohio *FIRST* LEGO League Director and WPAFB Educational Outreach Office Robotics Program Manager at brenda.ronnebaum.ctr@us.af.mil or 937-656-2273.