**2021 Nelson Team Grant Application**

**Nelson Team Grants** seek to enable Title I and STEM-focused elementary and middle schools (grades 4-8) in the Los Angeles area (especially LAUSD) to start robotics teams to participate in the VEX IQ Challenge. Only schools that have not previously registered VEX IQ Challenge teams are eligible. Our goal is to motivate students to pursue STEM degrees and careers. We provide schools with the resources needed to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers.

**Note**: **VEX IQ Super Kits** were discontinued on 08/30/21, so **Additional Team Awards** are severely limited.

**Returning-Schools**

Schools that received **Nelson Team Grants** previously and that pay to register one or more teams for the 2021-2022 season are eligible to apply for the **Returning Teams Award**. This award offers each school a **VEX IQ Challenge Field Upgrade Kit** ($100), which is required to expand the VEX IQ Challenge field from 4'x8' to 6'x8'. Schools that already purchased the **Field Upgrade Kit** can be reimbursed by submitting a copy of their paid invoice with the grant application. The award also offers an additional **VEX IQ Robot Battery** ($23) for each registered and paid team. Old Robot Batteries that have not been recharged since the 2019-2020 season are unlikely to take a full charge if they can be recharged at all.

Schools that received **Nelson Team Grants** previously and that register more teams for the 2021-2022 season than they did for any prior season are also eligible to apply for the **1st Additional Team Award.** Schools that register at least two more teams are also eligible to apply for the **2nd Additional Team Award**. Schools that already paid their team registration fees for additional teams can be reimbursed for one or two additional teams by submitting a copy of their paid invoice with the grant application. The items included in **Additional Team Awards** are listed in the table below.

**New-Schools**

Schools that have not previously registered any VEX IQ teams and that are interested in starting one or two new teams for the 2021-2022 season are eligible to apply for the **New Team Award**. Those that are interested in starting a second new team can also apply for the **1st Additional Team Award**. The items included in these awards are listed in the table below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Items Included in Awards** | **New Team Award** | **Additional Team Award** |
| VEX IQ Challenge Team Registration | $150 | $100 |
| VEX IQ Super Kit | $379 | $379 |
| VEX IQ Competition Add-on Kit | $115 | $115 |
| VEX IQ Foundation Add-on Kit | $150 |  |
| Extra VEX IQ Robot Battery | $23 |  |
| VEX IQ Challenge Full Field Perimeter & Tiles | $320 |  |
| VEX IQ Challenge Full Field & Game Elements Kit | $100 |  |
| **Participating School Award Totals** | **$1,237** | **$594** |

Schools that receive a **New Team Award** are required to register one VEX IQ Challenge team ($150 registration fee paid by grant the first year) and to register that team for and to attend an official event (typical fee $155) each year. Schools that receive a **New Team Award** should plan to spend up to $155 the first year for event registration and $480 each subsequent year for team registration ($150), event registration ($155), field and game element kit ($120), and for additional robot parts ($55). The recommended team size is 3-6 students the first year and up to 12 students in subsequent years.

Schools that receive an **Additional Team Award** are required to register one additional VEX IQ Challenge team ($100 registration fee paid by grant the first year) and to register that team for and to attend an official event (typical fee $155) each year. Schools that receive an **Additional Team Award** should plan to spend up to $155 the first year for event registration and $310 each subsequent year for team registration ($100), event registration ($155), and for additional robot parts ($55).

Schools should have at least one background-checked adult coach (usually a teacher) for each team attending an event.

**2021 Nelson Team Grant Process**

* School submits **Nelson Team Grant** application with receipts if seeking reimbursement.
* LeRoy Nelson notifies school of decision.
* LeRoy sends approved schools [instructions to register team](http://link.roboticseducation.org/vrcteams_teamresources_registrationinstructionsfornewteams)(s) if they have not already done so, [How to Start and Organize a VEX IQ Challenge Team](http://link.roboticseducation.org/vexiqchallengeoverview_vexiqteamsandevent_howtostartandorganizeavexiqteam) (PDF), and [Frequently Asked Questions](http://larobotics.org/resources/Frequently_Asked_Questions.pdf) (PDF).
* School registers team(s) and team contacts. No payment or student names are needed.
* School forwards team registration order confirmation to LeRoy.
* LeRoy pays or reimburses the team registration fee(s) for approved teams.
* A small box containing Team Welcome Kit(s) should arrive approximately one week after payment of fee(s).
* One or more new coaches attend **Coach Basic Training**.
  + Training provided by LeRoy Nelson and experienced coaches.
  + Covers robot building, programming, and team logistics.
  + No prior robotics or technical experience is required to be a VEX IQ coach.
  + VEX IQ Super Kits will be provided for the training.
  + Coaches bring portable computer (Windows, MacBook, iPad, or Chromebook) that team(s) can use later.
  + Coaches need to know how to use a computer browser, preferably Chrome.
  + Everything else that coaches need to know their first year will be covered at this training.
  + Offered the week before school starts.
  + Additional sessions may be scheduled as needed.
  + Attendance is optional for coaches with experience at another school or for coaches that attended similar training. Discuss with LeRoy.
  + New schools may receive some VEX IQ equipment after this training.
* Coaches may attend **Coach** **Advanced Training**.
  + Training provided by LeRoy Nelson and experienced coaches.
  + This training is intended for coaches with one year of experience and/or experienced or GATE students.
  + Covers programming, Online Challenges, Awards.
  + Coaches that attended **Coach Basic Training** may attend this training if space is available.
  + Coaches with more than one year of experience coaching robotics teams may attend this training.
  + Coaches bring portable computer (Windows, MacBook, iPad, or Chromebook) that team(s) can use later.
  + VEX IQ Super Kits will be provided for the training.
  + Offered the week before school starts.
* In August, LeRoy orders additional VEX IQ robot equipment, full field, and game kits for schools with trained coaches and registered teams. Most equipment will be shipped directly to schools. The complete equipment order for new teams ships in 6-8 boxes that weigh a total of 70-90 pounds.
* LeRoy sends school shipping confirmations.
* School organizes team(s) to learn how to build and program VEX IQ robots.
* LeRoy works with Local Districts to organize and post leagues for local schools to attend.
* LeRoy sends school instructions to register team(s) for leagues and other events.
* School registers team(s) for at least one official event (league or tournament).
* School forwards event registration order confirmation(s) to LeRoy.
* Team(s) attend(s) event(s).
* Top teams qualify for State Championships, U.S. Open Championship, and/or VEX World Championships.

Note: The first three pages do not need to be scanned and submitted with your application.

**2019-2020 LAUSD VEX IQ Leagues**

Our goal is to start 1-2 new LAUSD leagues and maintain the 10 continuing LAUSD leagues. Some continuing league host sites may change.

Each new league should have 16-24 teams. Continuing leagues should have 20-36 teams. Each league needs at least 16 teams to qualify top teams for State Championships.

All new schools are expected to send one or more coaches to attend **Coach Basic Training**.

Coaches that attended Coach Basic Training may attend the **Coach Advanced Training**.

All schools participating in a league are expected to send one or more coaches to attend the **League Orientation**.

Robot Batteries may be available for existing teams at **Coach Advanced Training** and **League Orientations**.

Leagues will meet after school for at least four sessions between October and January:

* September: **League Orientations** for coaches.
* October: **Qualifying Session 1**: Practice Teamwork Matches and Qualification Teamwork Matches
* November and December: **Qualifying Sessions 2-3**: Qualification Teamwork Matches
* January: **Championship Session**: Skills Matches and Judging followed by Finals Matches and Awards
* All league sessions start at 4:00 PM.
* **League Orientations** end by 6:00 PM.
* **Qualifying Sessions** end at 7:00 PM.
* **Championship Sessions** end at 7:45 PM.

**Nelson Team Grants by Year**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | **2015-2019** | 2021 Goals |
| New Recipient Schools | 19 | 16 | 68 | 132 | 47 | **277** | 12-24 |
| New Teams | 19 | 16 | 68 | 132 | 86 | **316** | 36-72 |
| New Leagues | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | **10** | 1-2 |

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**Nelson Team Grant Agreement**

If my school receives a Nelson Team Grant, I understand that my school will have use of the provided robotics equipment for as long as my team fulfills the conditions listed below. A new VEX IQ Challenge season starts after the VEX Robotics World Championships at the end of April each year.

* The coaches/mentors and administration at my school support creating a sustainable VEX IQ Challenge program.
* The robotics equipment will be stored in a safe, clean location.
* The robotics equipment will be used for official VEX IQ Challenge events or activities each season.
* My team will complete and pay team registration each season (paid by the grant the first year).
* My team will complete and pay event registration and will attend at least one official event each season.
* My team will participate in post-season surveys to assure that the above conditions have been fulfilled.

In the future, if my team no longer fulfills the conditions listed above, I will return the robotics equipment so that it can be made available to another school.

**Nelson Team Grant Application**

My school is applying for: My school is also applying for:  
 **New-Team Award** (new school only)  **1st Additional-Team Award** (new or returning school)  
 **Returning Team Award** (returning school only) **2nd Additional-Team Award** (returning school only)  
 for Team Numbers:

At least one coach needs to attend a **Coach Basic Training** session to receive **New Team Award** robot equipment:

1. Coach name:

2. Coach name:

E-mail:

E-mail:

Which League(s) would your school prefer to attend? Indicate up to three choices (1st, 2nd, 3rd) in the **Prefer** column:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Prefer** | **#** | **Local District** | **Level** | **League Hosts** (Some league hosts may change) |
|  | 1 | Central | ES&MS | 10th Street Elementary School |
|  | 2 | Central | ES&MS | Estrella Elementary School |
|  | 3 | East | ES&MS | Boyle Heights STEM Magnet HS |
|  | 4 | East | ES&MS | Maywood Center for Enriched Studies |
|  | 5 | Northeast | ES&MS | Chavez Learning Academies: Academy of Scientific Exploration |
|  | 6 | Northeast | ES&MS | *-- Seeking new host in South half of LD Northeast* |
|  | 7 | Northwest | ES | Mulholland Middle School |
|  | 8 | Northwest | MS | Mulholland Middle School |
|  | 9 | South | ES&MS | *-- Seeking new host in North half of LD South* |
|  | 10 | South | ES&MS | Steven M White Middle School |
|  | 11 | West | ES&MS | Augustus Hawkins High School |
|  | 12 | West | ES&MS | Mark Twain Middle School |

Note: This application should be signed by a school administrator, preferably by the Principal.

Signature:

Printed Name:

Title: Date:

School:

E-mail:

Phone: Local District:

Please scan and email this completed page to [LeRoy@LARobotics.org](mailto:LeRoy@LARobotics.org) by **Friday, September 3, 2021**.

For additional information, please see <http://larobotics.org/resources/Frequently_Asked_Questions.pdf> or contact:

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