
Load Out Guide

2026 FIRST® Championship
George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX

START HERE!

How did your Robot arrive?

- If you shipped your robot to Championship using the FedEx Voucher, read Section A.
- If you brought your Robot to Championship with your own vehicle, read Section C.

How do you want to return your Robot?

- To ship your robot back in its crate, read Section E.
- To carry your robot back to your transportation vehicle, read section F.

PREPARE FOR LOAD OUT BEFORE SATURDAY

A – Shipped to Championship on the FedEx Voucher

1. Visit the *FIRST* Ship Desk to build shipping documentation for your Robot Crate.
2. The *FIRST* Ship Desk will be open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9:00AM to 5:00PM. There is usually no line on Thursday and Friday. We encourage you to come early and avoid the rush!
3. Bring with you the return address for the Robot Crate and contact information for onsite personnel.
4. Fill out and give the included Load Out Sign to your team vehicle driver to have for Saturday Load Out.

Important Notes:

- All teams who shipped their robot using the FedEx Voucher must visit the *FIRST* Ship Desk before Saturday Load Out, even if the robot is not shipping back with the FedEx Voucher.
- The FedEx Voucher is only available for your Competition Robot.

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to FedEx for their generous donation. With contributions like theirs, we can make a meaningful impact and create positive change. Thank you, FedEx, for being a valued partner in our mission!

B – Brought Robot to Championship with you

1. Teams that hand-carry their Robot with their own vehicle must also return their Robot this way too.
2. Teams that brought their Robot to Championship do not have any task prior to Saturday Load Out. These teams do not need to see the *FIRST* Ship Desk.
3. Fill out and give the included Load Out Sign to your team vehicle driver to have for Saturday Load Out.

C – Ship Robot, and Load Out Pit Materials

1. Begin the process of Load Out only when your team is no longer competing.
4. Teams that completed their shipping paperwork will have received a Load Out Ticket. Bring this Ticket to the Load Out Desk within your team's pit when your team is fully packed and ready to leave.
5. Confirmed teams will receive an Access Code at the Load Out Desk. Message the Access Code to your team vehicle driver, and the driver may enter Chartres Street for Loading Dock access.
6. When your Driver has parked in the Loading Dock, your team may bring your pit materials out to the loading dock and into your vehicle.

D – Carry Robot and Load Out Pit Materials to your Vehicle

1. Begin the process of Load Out only when your team is no longer competing.
2. Visit the Load Out Desk within your team's pit only when your team is fully packed and ready to leave the door. Teams will only have access to enter the Loading Dock once.
3. Confirmed teams will receive an Access Code at the Load Out Desk, located at the loading docks. Message the Access Code to your team vehicle driver, and the driver may enter Chartres Street for Loading Dock access.
4. When your Driver has parked in the Loading Dock, your team may bring your pit materials out to the loading dock and into your vehicle.