Finals
Team Operations Guide
October 26, 2026

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
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1. Overview

This document serves as the Team Operations Guide for the DARPA Triage Challenge (DTC) Finals being held November 5-14, 2026 at Disaster City in College Station, Texas, USA.

This Team Operations Guide is intended for **Systems and Data Competition** teams who qualified to participate in the DTC Finals. **The purpose of this document is to provide details regarding (1) challenge activities, (2) event logistics and team operations, and (3) supporting information to ensure a safe and successful event.**

2. Team Participation

In-person attendance at Finals is required for all DARPA-funded Systems Competition teams. As detailed in the Event Qualification Guide, all Systems and Data Competition teams must have completed two types of qualification – a Team Qualification for DTC Phase 3, and a Finals Event Qualification – in order to participate. Teams were notified directly of their qualification status.

Data Competition Teams will submit their solutions as docker containers images to AWS. Submissions will be run offline against the unreleased Finals scenarios. The solution submission windows for the Data Competition closes October 10, 2026. The submissions will be evaluated, and the results will be announced alongside the Systems Competition results. Data Competition Teams are invited to attend the DTC Finals Stakeholder and Distinguished Visitor (DV) observation days on November 11-13 at Disaster City, to include the Awards Ceremony on November 13. Data Teams may also participate in the Awards Ceremony remotely, as the event will be live streamed.

Event attendance at Disaster City is limited to participants ages 13+.

DTC Finals will be governed based on the rules as outlined in the Competition Rules, so teams should reference those documents for additional technical rules and restrictions. Questions related to the rules and any information provided in this Operations Guide may be submitted to the DTC Community Forum.

3. Systems Competition Task Operations

The DTC Finals will feature component testing, followed by systems testing. Component testing Gates and Human-Machine Teaming (HMT) Lanes are designed to test key technological elements of competitors' systems. Course duration will range from 5 – 30 minutes. Participation in Gates 1-4 is required to advance to the HMT Lanes.

The Phase 3 Systems Competition prizes are divided into two groups. The Grand Prize and 2nd Place Prize go to the two top-placing teams who compete in the Championship Round of the HMT runs. The 1st and 2nd Gate Prizes go to the top two self-funded teams in Gates 1-4. The four (4) remaining prizes go to the top competitor in each individual Gate. The Phase 3 Data Competition prizes will go to the two top-placing teams. All prizes will have a minimum benchmark for winning. Additional details on the courses and prizes can be found in the Competition Rules.

DARPA Staff will be responsible for providing transportation of the teams' systems between the Team Garages and the HMT Lane and Championship Lane Staging Areas. DARPA will provide vehicles to support transport. Teams will be allowed to use their own vehicles for transport of team members as needed. The Team Garages will be used as the Command and Control (C2) portion of the Staging Areas for Gates 1-4. The Launch Zones will be within close walking distance of the Team Garages so transport vehicles will not be required. Per the Competition Rules, all system elements should pack down to be

carried by no more than two (2) vehicles (car, sports utility vehicle, pickup truck), with individual components being easily portable by up to two (2) people.

Additional operational details can be found in Section 9, System Competition Rules, in the Competition Rules document.

4. Schedule

All Systems Competition teams should plan to be at Disaster City in College Station, Texas by 9:00 a.m. CT Thursday, November 5. Scheduled makeup runs on Tuesday, November 10 and Saturday, November 14 will be used as weather or technical delay back-ups. All teams should plan to stay through 5:00 p.m. Saturday, November 14 to ensure they are available to participate in the Championship Round and Awards Ceremony. A detailed schedule will be provided via a web-based event app closer to the event date.

Schedule Overview

Sunday, November 1	**Monday, November 2**	**Tuesday, November 3**	**Wednesday, November 4**	**Thursday, November 5**	**Friday, November 6**	**Saturday, November 7**
				Orientation, Move-in, Systems/ Network Checks & Flight Checks	Systems/ Network Checks & Flight Checks **Scored Runs: Gate Qualifiers**	**Scored Runs: Gate Qualifiers**
Sunday, November 8	**Monday, November 9**	**Tuesday, November 10**	**Wednesday, November 11**	**Thursday, November 12**	**Friday, November 13**	**Saturday, November 14**
Scored Runs: Gate Qualifiers	**Scored Runs: HMT Lanes**	Makeup Runs (as needed)	**Scored Runs: Gates & HMT Lane** **Stakeholder Observation Day**	**Scored Runs: Gates & HMT Lane** **DV Observation Day**	**Scored Runs: Championship Round & Awards Ceremony** **Stakeholder Observation Day** Team Load-out	Rain Backup for November 13

5. Location

All DTC Finals event activities will be held at Disaster City in College Station, Texas.

Disaster City
11000 Stillwater Road
College Station, TX 77845

Teams are not permitted to contact Disaster City for information related to the DTC or the facilities. All questions about Disaster City or the Finals should be submitted to the DTC Community Forum.

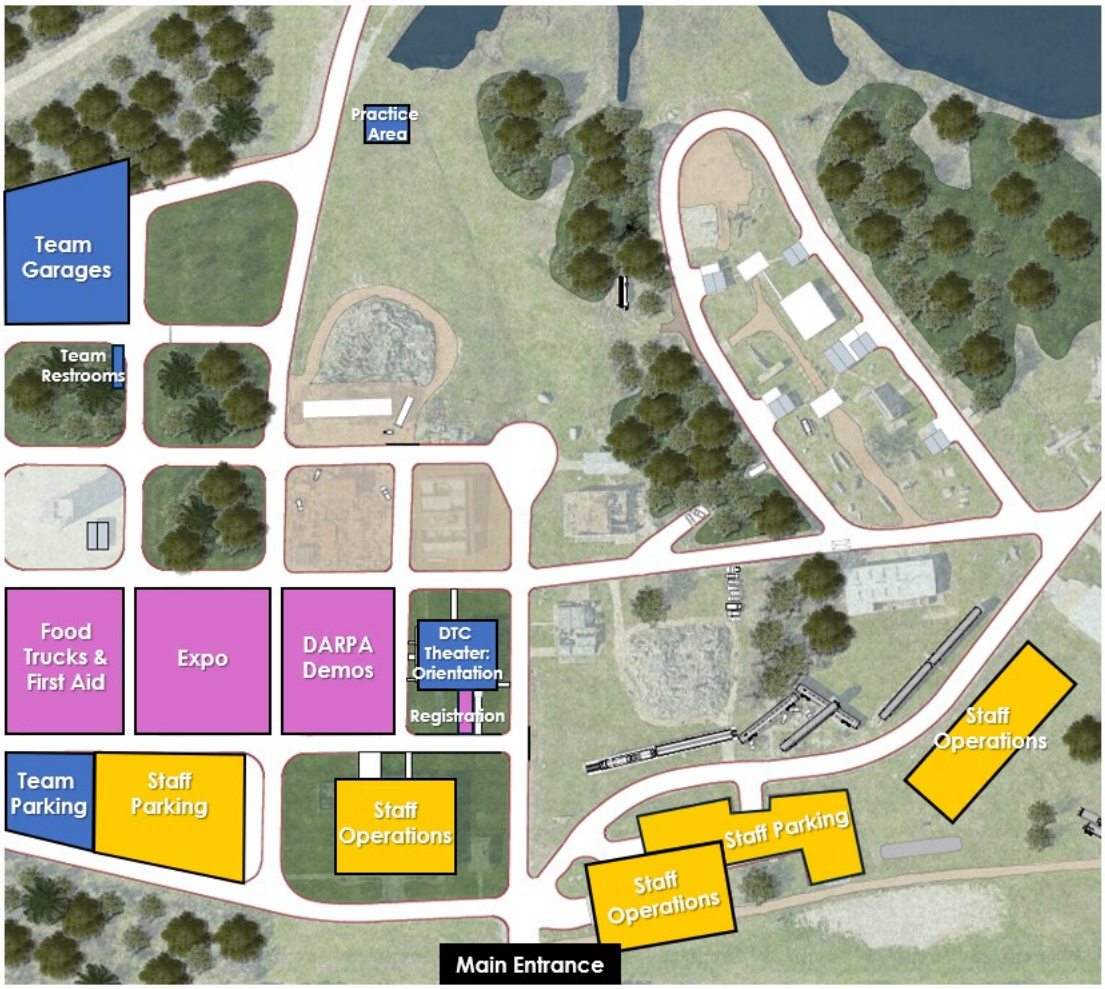

Figure 1: Disaster City Site Map

6. Registration

Systems Competition Teams may register a roster of up to 15 team members to allow for substitutions, but a maximum of ten (10) team members are permitted on site at Disaster City at any one time. Additionally, each team is permitted to register up to five (5) additional people as "Systems Competition Team Guests" for participation in the Championship Day and Awards Ceremony on November 13 only. Each individual participant must register. See registration deadlines below.

Data Competition Teams are limited to two (2) team members in attendance at the Stakeholder and DV Observation Days and/or Awards Ceremony on November 11-13. Additionally, each team is permitted to register up to three (3) additional people as "Data Competition Team Guests" for in-person participation in the Championship Day and Awards Ceremony on November 13 only. See registration deadlines below. Registration is not required for team members planning on joining the Awards Ceremony via live stream. The live stream link will be distributed to all Team Leads in the days leading up to the event.

Systems Team Leads must register their robotic systems separately to their individual registration. All platform types intended to be used in the Finals must be submitted via the Team Portal by 11:59 p.m. ET Sunday, August 30, 2026 to meet the Event Qualification requirements. Team Leads should include updated narrative descriptions and demonstration videos of the platforms successfully completing the qualification tasks listed in Section 4 of the Event Qualification Guide.

Registration Website: https://events.sa-meetings.com/DTCFinals2026/
Username: D@RP@1!
Home Page Password: DTCF!N@L$26
Team Info Page Password: TE@M$26!

Registration Deadlines:

- **Systems Competition Team Members (U.S. Citizens & Non-U.S. Citizens) – 11:59 p.m. ET Friday, October 16**
- **Data Competition Team Members (Non-U.S. Citizens) – 11:59 p.m. ET Tuesday, October 27**
- **Data Competition Team Members (U.S. Citizens) – 11:59 p.m. ET Friday, November 6**
- Systems & Data Competition Team Guests (Non-U.S. Citizens) – 11:59 p.m. ET Tuesday, October 27
- Systems & Data Competition Team Guests (U.S. Citizens) – 11:59 p.m. ET Friday, November 6

7. Systems Team Orientation

All registered Systems Competition team members are required to attend the Team Orientation before participating in any other event activities. Orientation will take place Thursday, November 5, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. CT at the DTC Theater (see Figure 1). Venue access and check-in will begin at 9:00 a.m.

During the Team Orientation, teams will receive:

1. Overview of the DTC Finals
2. Staff introductions
3. Information on move-in and move-out procedures
4. Information on systems and network checkout procedures
5. Event details
6. Safety brief

8. Systems Team Garages

Teams will be provided with a tent in a grass/gravel field as their Team Garage for their time at the Finals. Teams will have specific windows during which they will be able to access their Team Garage (see table below) on event days *after* they have attended team orientation.

Date	Venue Access Hours
Thursday, November 5	10:45 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Friday, November 6	7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 7	7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 8	7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Monday, November 9	10:00 a.m. – 11:15 p.m.
Tuesday, November 10	6:30 a.m. – 10:15 p.m.

Wednesday, November 11	7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 12	7:30 a.m. – 11:15 p.m.
Friday, November 13	6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 14	6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Team Garages will be located near the Gates and are available to teams at all times. Their usage is split between general collaboration and formal operations as follows:

- Continuous Collaborative Workspace: The overall tent remains available to teams at all times as a collaborative workspace when formal runs are not active.
- Designated C2 Space: A specific, designated area within the tent is reserved exclusively for formal Command and Control (C2) operations during scheduled Gate runs.

Each Team Garage tent will notionally be 19 feet (5.8 m) x 35 feet (10.7 m) and will have opaque plastic siding. Each Team Garage will be outfitted with enough banquet tables and chairs to accommodate the number of registered team members. No computers, monitors, or power distribution equipment will be provided. Team Garages will be located outdoors and will not have heat or air conditioning. Teams may bring and utilize their own heaters or fans; however, teams will receive limited power and will be responsible for prioritizing their power needs. Teams are not permitted to bring gas or diesel fueled generators.

Teams may operate ground robots within their assigned Team Garage as long as operations are deemed safe as determined by DTC Staff and such operations do not interfere with adjacent teams. Teams operating multirotor platforms or other aircraft should note that such aerial vehicles are *not* permitted to launch or fly in or around the Team Garages.

DARPA will not control wireless interference in the Team Garages. A single, wired Internet connection will be provided to each team. Teams are permitted to bring their own unmanaged switches to expand ports available. Teams are prohibited from using wireless access points (APs) and other wireless connections in their Team Garage, including but not limited to: any Wi-Fi/802.11 connection, cellular hotspots, and Wi-Fi tethering. Cellular service will be available throughout the venue.

DARPA will provide power to the teams in the Team Garages and in the C2 Tents. Each Team Garage will have one (1) 120V, single-phase, 20A circuit and NEMA 5-20R T-slot receptacles. Teams should plan accordingly to have the correct adapters, chargers, and power strips to match their individual team needs. International teams should pay special attention to voltages common in the United States and bring any necessary equipment. If teams have additional power needs/requests, they should notify DARPA via TriageChallenge@darpa.mil before Wednesday, September 30, 2026.

Teams are only permitted in the Lane Staging Areas and Practice Area during their scheduled time slots and must otherwise remain in their Team Garages while on site. DTC Staff (Team Liaisons) will be available during all event hours in the Team Garage area to answer questions or assist with on-site issues.

9. Systems Team Systems, Network, and Flight Checks

Prior to operating their systems in the designated Practice Area or in the Gates/Lanes, teams will be required to complete Systems, Network, and Flight Checks. Time will be allocated for each team to complete these tasks within the first two days of their arrival. If a team fails to successfully pass their checks, they will be required to use their scheduled runs to complete these tasks.

The Registration and Network Check will take place in the Team Garages. Teams should plan for the following:

- Confirmation of platform roster and qualifications based on the Event Qualification Guide
- Successful demonstration of connectivity between OCS and Command Post (CP) by successfully submitting a casualty report to the Scoring Server.
    - DARPA recommends submitting all casualty reports to eliminate potential typos or formatting issues prior to entering the Gates/Lanes.
- Successful connection of OCS display(s) to HDMI encoder(s)

The System Check will take place in one of the Gate Staging Areas. Teams should plan for the following:

- Successful operation of the Tier 1, Tier 2 (UGSs only), and Tier 3 E-Stops (see Section 10)
- Successful demonstration of the following fail-safes:
    - Geofence (DARPA will provide GPS coordinates to define a geofence for the Gates, HMT Lane, Championship Lane, and Practice Area)
    - Loss of communications
    - Low battery
    - Manual takeover from hand controller
- Compliance with FAA regulations on all UAS
- Successful demonstration of connectivity between Operator Control Station (OCS) and systems

10. Systems Team E-Stops

DARPA has established a set of emergency stop (E-Stop) requirements to ensure the safety of personnel, equipment, and the Gate/Lane environments. These requirements are designed to address common and/or anticipated modes of failure and provide a consistent, predictable method to disable equipment without creating additional hazards. All systems participating in the Finals will be required to demonstrate and utilize a Tier 1 wireless E-stop and Tier 3 on-platform E-stop as described in the Competition Rules. The Tier 2 recovery wireless E-stop is optional for UASs but required for UGSs.

11. Systems Team Staging Areas

The course Staging Areas will include at a minimum a 10'x10' tented and netted space for the team operators (C2 Tent) and a 20'x40'space for launching platforms (Launch Zone). All systems will be required to start in the Launch Zone behind the Starting Gate at the course entrance. No systems will be permitted to operate outside of the competition course boundaries except within the Staging Area. In the C2 Tent, teams will be provided at a minimum two (2) banquet tables, six (6) chairs, and one (1) 120V, single-phase, 20A circuit with NEMA 5-20R T-slot receptacles. Teams are permitted a limited number of personnel in the Staging Area; these personnel are designated as the Pit Crew. See section 9.5 of the Competition Rules for Pit Crew details.

For the Gates and Championship Lane, the C2 Tent and Launch Zones will not be co-located. Instead, the C2 Tent will be separated from the course and Launch Zone. Direct communication between the Launch Zone and C2 crews will be limited. All communication will be mediated through DARPA-provided radios. This communication will be permitted for safety, discussing system needs (e.g., battery changes) and troubleshooting issues requiring collaborative problem-solving.

In the HMT Lane, the C2 Tent will be co-located with the Launch Zone. However, the Launch Zone may be up to 350ft from the course entrance. Teams will be required to launch all of their systems from the Launch Zone and all systems will need to return to the Launch Zone for any repairs. Systems that are unable to return to the Launch Zone must remain in place until the end of the run.

DARPA will be responsible for moving data from the Team OCS to the CP. Teams must provide these data streams to DARPA via hardwire connection with their OCS:

- HDMI encoder connection(s) to the OCS display(s)
- A wired Ethernet connection between OCS and Scoring Server

DARPA will work with teams while on site to make the appropriate connections and verify them before their first run.

12. Systems Team Practice Area

There will be one (1) Practice Area available at the Finals where teams may operate all their systems, both air and ground (see Figure 1). Platforms will be able to take off and fly within Practice Area for practice flights. The space is approximately 20'x20' and 50 m in height. The Practice Area will include a 10'x10' tented and netted space with one (1) table and two (2) chairs for the team operators. Power and scoring server connectivity will not be provided in the Practice Area.

Teams are required to have a Safety Officer who is responsible for preserving the safety of personnel and property during all practice runs. No personnel are permitted to be inside the Practice Area while systems are active. Personnel will operate and monitor their active systems outside of the outlined Practice Area. Teams will be able to sign up for practice time slots when they are on site as available.

13. Travel

There are four airport options for getting to Disaster City.

- George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) is the closest major airport and is 88 miles southeast of Disaster City. IAH serves more than 100 US destinations and more than 70 international destinations.
- Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) is the next closest major airport and is 102 miles west/southwest of Disaster City. AUS serves more than 75 US destinations and several international hubs.
- William P. Hobby Airport (HOU) is 107 miles southeast of Disaster City. HOU serves more than 85 US destinations and a few international routes, mainly in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Easterwood Airport (CLL) is owned by Texas A&M University and is located in College Station. It offers direct flights to/from Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) and Houston (IAH).

14. Area Map

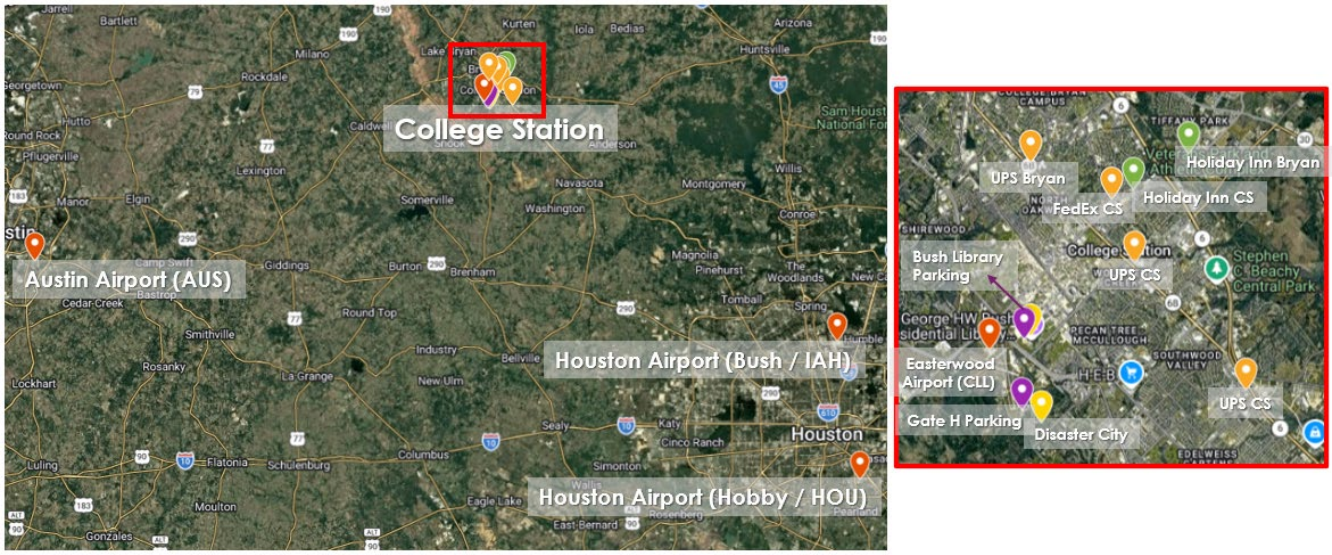

Figure 2: Area Map with Key Locations

15. Lodging

Due to the high demand for hotel rooms during the Texas A&M football season, the following room blocks have been secured and are available to Systems and Data Competition Teams. Teams are responsible for making their own hotel reservations or other sleeping arrangements. Please email DARPATriageChallenge@sainc.com for assistance with room blocks.

All rooms have been reserved at the prevailing government per diem rate of $110+ tax per night.
Booking Deadline: Friday, October 16, 2026
Group Name: DARPA Triage

Name	Address	Available Dates	Booking Link & Phone	Distance to Venue
Holiday Inn Express & Suites Bryan - College Station by IHG	3041 Plaza Centre Ct, Bryan, TX 77802	Oct 30-Nov 14	Booking Link (979) 703-4774	8.8 miles
Holiday Inn Express & Suites College Station	1203 University Dr E, College Station, TX 77840	Nov 3- Nov 14	Booking Link (979) 846-8700	7.7 miles

Additional local hotels and distances to Disaster City are listed below for your convenience.

Name	Address	Phone	Distance to Venue
Texas A&M Hotel and Conference Center	177 Joe Routt Blvd, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 260-2235	4.0 miles
Wyndham Garden College Station	2829 Texas Ave, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 485-5777	5.0 miles
Drury Plaza Hotel College Station	705 University Dr E, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 321-8865	5.1 miles
The George	180 Century Ct, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 500-5700	5.6 miles

Embassy Suites by Hilton College Station	201 University Dr E, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 260-6000	5.6 miles
Home2 Suites by Hilton College Station	300 Texas Ave, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 703-8288	6.1 miles
Courtyard by Marriott Bryan College Station	3939 Texas 6 Frontage Rd, College Station, TX 77845	(979) 895-8111	6.3 miles
The Stella Hotel	4100 Lake Atlas Dr, College Station, TX 77807	(979) 421-4000	6.5 miles
Hilton College Station & Conference Center	801 University Dr E, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 693-7500	6.5 miles
Calvary Court	200 Century Court, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 500-3950	6.5 miles
Residence Inn by Marriott Bryan College Station	720 University Dr E, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 268-2200	6.5 miles
TownePlace Suites by Marriott Bryan College Station	1300 University Dr E, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 260-8500	6.5 miles
Aloft College Station	1150 University Dr E, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 704-6400	6.6 miles
Hyatt Place College Station	1100 University Dr E, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 846-9800	6.6 miles
Best Western Plus College Station	950 Arrington Rd, College Station, TX 77845	(979) 704-6444	7.9 miles
Hampton Inn and Suites College Station/US 6-East Bypass	925 Earle Rudder Fwy S, College Station, TX 77845	(979) 694-2100	8.3 miles
Hilton Garden Inn College Station	3081 University Dr E, Bryan, TX 77802	(979) 703-7919	8.8 miles
stayAPT Suites College Station	3051 Plaza Centre Ct, Bryan, TX 77802	(979) 426-4400	8.9 miles
The LaSalle Hotel	120 Main St, Bryan, TX 77803	(979) 822-2000	10.2 miles
Best Western Premier Bryan College Station	1920 Austins Colony Pkwy, Bryan, TX 77802	(979) 731-5300	10.8 miles

16. Systems Team Move-in/Move-out

Teams will move into their Team Garages at Disaster City on a staggered schedule from 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Thursday, November 5. A detailed move-in schedule will be provided closer to the event date. Move-in times will also align with the systems, network, and flight check schedule, so teams are asked not to arrive before their assigned time slot.

Teams must check in/out with the Team Liaison(s) when they are arriving/departing the venue for the day (each day).

Teams must return their workspace to its original condition and check out with the Team Liaison(s) on or before 5:30 p.m. Friday, November 13 if the rain day is not used, or 5:30 p.m. Saturday, November 14 if the rain day is used.

17. On-site Parking

Each Systems Team is permitted to bring up to five (5) total vehicles to park at Disaster City. Teams are permitted to park two (2) vehicles and one (1) trailer (up to 20 feet) in the designated Team Parking Lot. The three (3) remaining team vehicles must be parked in the Gate H Parking Lot. A shuttle bus will be provided to transport team members between the Gate H Parking Lot and Disaster City. All team vehicles

parked on site should fit in a standard parking spot. Parking passes will be distributed to the identified Team Lead at Team Orientation.

Team Guests must park in the Bush Library Parking lot. Upon arrival at the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library & Museum, follow the signs for DTC Parking. A shuttle bus will be provided to transport guests between the parking lot and Disaster City.

Team Parking (Rescue Building)
11000 Stillwater Road
College Station, TX 77845

Gate H Parking

Bush Library Parking
2450 Research Pkwy
College Station, TX 77840

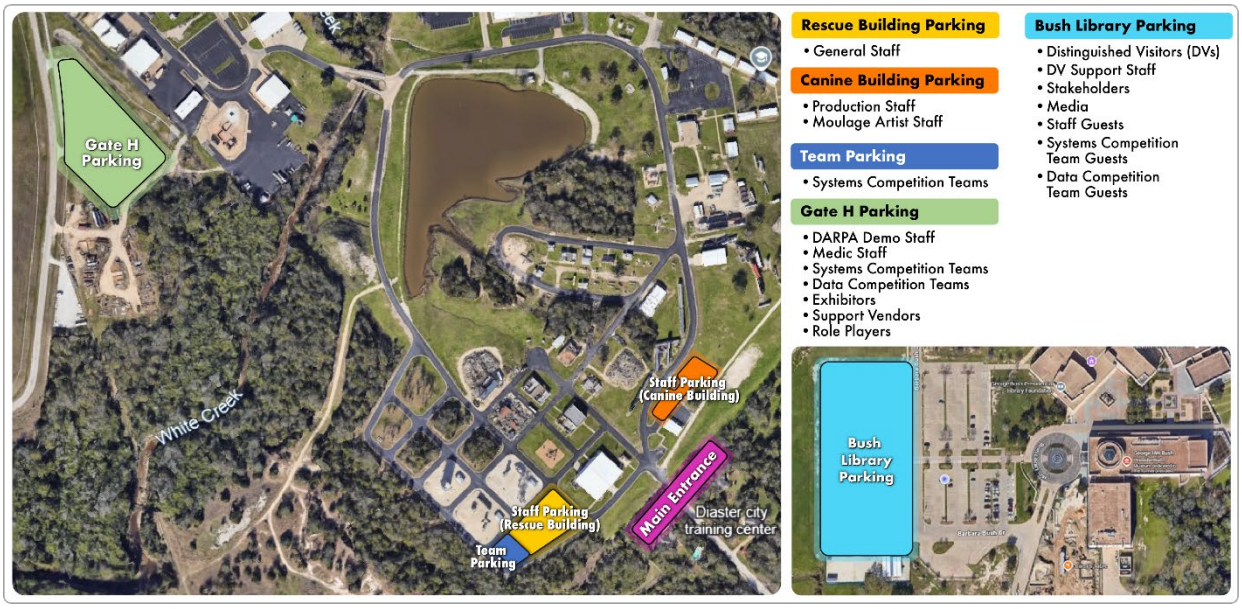

Figure 3: Parking Map

Shuttle Schedule:
November 5, 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM
November 6, 6:30 AM - 6:00 PM
November 7, 6:30 AM - 6:00 PM
November 8, 6:30 AM - 6:00 PM
November 9, 9:30 AM - 11:45 PM
November 10, 6:00 AM - 10:45 PM
November 11, 7:00 AM - 5:30 PM
November 12, 7:00 AM - 11:45 PM
November 13, 6:00 AM - 6:00 PM

18. Shipping

Teams are responsible for shipping their equipment to an outside provider as well as pickup and transfer of the equipment to and from Disaster City. Due to liability reasons, Disaster City staff will be unable to receive or sign for any team shipments. Local shipping centers are listed below and illustrated in Figure 2. DARPA does not promote or prefer any shipping provider below.

Name	Address	Phone	Distance to Venue
The UPS Store – College Station	1511 Texas Ave S, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 764-6107	4.9 miles
The UPS Store – College Station	3515 Longmire Dr, Ste B, College Station, TX 77845	(979) 680-1410	6.1 miles
FedEx Office – College Station	711 University Dr E, College Station, TX 77840	(979) 846-8721	7.5 miles
The UPS Store – Bryan	801 Dellwood St, Bryan, TX 77802	(979) 775-5100	7.5 miles

19. Systems Team Operational Considerations

Teams are responsible for assessing the potential dangers and/or real-world limitations of their technical solutions to be tested, in the context of safety, to both personnel and equipment. If a team is unsure if a specific piece of equipment is allowable, the team should check with DARPA via the DTC Community Forum prior to arrival at the event.

Standard radio frequencies (i.e., ISM bands) are permitted for use in and around the site. Teams should note that technologies that either require amplification or non-standard frequencies may be limited to within the courses and possibly not be allowed for use within the Team Garages. If communication interference is discovered between systems, priority will be given to the team experimenting on the course.

Teams may only conduct flight operations in the following locations at Disaster City: the one (1) Practice Area, the four (4) Gates, the HMT Lane (Day and Night), and the one (1) Championship Lane, to include associated Launch Zones and Recovery Areas.

Platforms that rely on fuel-based power sources are not permitted at the Finals.

20. Systems Team Safety

DARPA will provide a safety brief at the Team Orientation. No manual physical intervention or entry by any (human) team members onto the course area will be permitted during a run. Once a run has finished the Course Official will notify the teams when it is safe for up to two (2) team members to retrieve any UxSs that remain within the course boundaries.

DARPA will provide reflective safety vests, hard hats, and protective eyewear that will be required to be worn in the Gate/Lane Staging Areas, including Launch Zones, and in the Practice Area at all times. Team members are also required to provide and wear their own long pants and closed-toed shoes in these areas.

DARPA encourages teams to devise their own battery safety protocol to follow on site. When not in use, teams should store lithium batteries in fire retardant battery bags, no more than five (5) batteries per bag. Batteries should be stored at room temperature between 40°F (4°C) and 70°F (21°C).

Safety is one of the most important facets of the event and the Chief Official and/or Test Director will have the final authority to determine if any team is operating in an unsafe manner or is not operating in the spirit of the DTC.

21. Security

Disaster City is a fenced in facility with security controlling access during all DTC event hours and 24-hour roving security. Systems Teams are encouraged to secure their equipment when they are not in their Team Garages or bring their equipment with them if they leave the venue.

Team Garages are open spaces. Teams must respect each other's privacy and property. If Systems Teams do not want their systems viewed, they are encouraged to bring covering material for when they are being transported or stored in their tent.

DARPA is not responsible for any lost or stolen equipment. Nevertheless, acts of theft or sabotage will not be tolerated and will result in immediate disqualification.

22. Spectator Presence

The DTC Finals & Expo will be open to stakeholders, to include venture capitalists, media, and DVs on November 11-13.

Please be aware there may be representatives of foreign governments at the event. Contact the DTC Staff at triagechallenge@darpa.mil if you have any questions or concerns.

Meet the Teams:
Data Competition Teams will be assigned a time slot when they can talk to spectators from a Data Competition booth within the DTC Expo. Specific dates and times will be provided closer to the event date.

Systems Competition Teams will be able to interact with spectators from within their Team Garages. Please ensure a Team Representative is available for discussion during the below dates and times.

Date	Time	Activity
Wednesday, November 11	11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	"Meet the Teams" with VCs
Wednesday, November 11	2:40 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.	"Meet the Teams" with Media
Thursday, November 12	11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	"Meet the Teams" with DVs

23. Expo

To spur technical interchange within the scientific community, the DTC Finals Expo will incorporate booths and demos focused on the DTC competition as well as other DARPA programs and non-DARPA exhibits related to robotics, autonomy, and/or combat casualty care. The Expo will be open during the following dates and times.

Date	Expo Hours
Wednesday, November 11	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 12	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday, November 13	8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

24. Photo/Video Collection

DARPA intends to capture photographs and video during the DTC Finals for use in production materials and to provide situational awareness of progress throughout the courses. Systems Teams may collect video and photographs of their systems operating within the Gates, Lanes, Launch Zones, Practice Area, and their Team Garage. Teams are not permitted to take photographs or video of other teams' equipment or operations without explicit permission. Teams are also not permitted to take photographs or videos of other groups or events at Disaster City.

Teams shall not post DTC Finals content on any personal, commercial, or public social media platform (including, but not limited to, Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, X/Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Snapchat, or online forums) without the prior express consent of DARPA Public Affairs. Teams can request a Public Affairs review through the Team Liaisons.

Teams should be aware that spectators (stakeholders, media, and DVs) will not be permitted to capture any photos or videos. As such, no Team member shall use their phones for purposes of taking photos while on DTC event grounds on the 11th, 12, nor 13th of November.

25. Food & Beverage

Systems Teams are encouraged to bring food with them each day, or travel off site to purchase food and beverages. There are many food outlets within short driving distance (15 minutes) of the venue.

Food trucks will be available for on-site purchase of food and beverage on the Stakeholder and DV observation days, November 11-13, 2026, 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

DARPA will provide bottled water daily for all participants.

26. Weather

The weather in early November in College Station, TX typically brings comfortable, mildly warm autumn weather, with daytime temperatures usually sitting in the low-to-mid-70s°F (23-25°C) and the overnight lows dropping to the low-to-mid-50s°F (11-13°C), making evenings and early mornings crisp and cool. In November, the relative humidity in College Station averages around 70-73% and the average chance of precipitation is 23-24% on a given day. All activities at Disaster City will be located outdoors. Participants should be prepared for all types of weather by bringing layered clothing, umbrellas, rain jackets, hats, gloves, sunscreen, fans, etc.