International Space Apps Challenge FAQ for Baltimore/Washington D.C Local Event

Questions

Answers

What is the International Space Apps Challenge (ISAC)?

- The International Space Apps Challenge is a global event composed of more than 100 local events and virtual participation from individuals around the world.
- The International Space Apps Challenge is technology development event that draws on the talents and initiative of bright minded volunteers – developers, engineers, technologists, designers, and anyone with a passion and desire to make an immediate impact on the world.
- The event embraces engagement and collaborations across borders, sectors and populations to bring about paradigm-shifting innovation around the world.
- To learn more about last year's event, visit: https://2015.spaceappschallenge.org/

- Note that the 2016 site is not yet available!

Why should I participate?

- The International Space Apps Challenge demonstrates the application of untapped, unexpected, uncharted expertise in helping organizations solve tough challenges.
- It's about rethinking and remixing what is known with what isn't, and creating a pipeline for introducing and implementing new or recombinant ideas.

What are the challenges?

- At the International Space Apps Challenge we open up challenges of space exploration and social need and empower citizens around the world to solve those challenges.
- The event engages a broad group of diverse participants in collective deliberation and action focused on generating innovative and relevant solutions to pressing problems.
- The exploration of space is, by necessity, a unified international effort - and diversity of experience and perspective inevitably produces a better product.
- The event draws on the talents and initiative of people from around the world, who volunteer their time to respond to real-world problems.
- Each team will choose a challenge from one of the event themes (categories) and design a response to that challenge. The themes for 2015 were: Outer Space, Humans, Robotics, and Earth.
- A full list of the 2015 challenges may be found here: https://2015.spaceappschallenge.org/challenge
- The ISAC 2016 themes and challenges will be announced in 2016!

Is there a pre-event event?

Before the 2015 event, NASA offered a data bootcamp for participants interested in improving their skills with code, data and project advocacy. The bootcamp was open to everyone and streamed online from the main stage event in NYC. In line with the emphasis for 2015, the bootcamp reached out to women's organizations influential in the data and Making communities to participate, and encourage the participation of women-led teams in the event.

More information concerning the 2015 bootcamp may be found here:
https://2015.spaceappschallenge.org/bootcamp

An announcement for any pre-events related to ISAC 2016 will be made early next year!

When is ISAC?

ISAC takes place globally between April 22nd and 24th of 2016. However, since each location can modify their schedule, it's important to get specific details from each location's hosts. The complete list of ISAC 2016 locations will be announced early next year!

For all 2015 locations and information on virtually participating, visit
https://2015.spaceappschallenge.org/location

Where and when is the Baltimore/Washington D.C. Corridor ISAC event?

The local 2016 event sponsored by JHU – APL takes place on the **23rd** and **24th** of **April**, from **9 a.m. – 10 p.m. Saturday** and **9 a.m. – 4 p.m.,** on **Sunday** at **Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory** at 11101 Johns Hopkins Road, Laurel, MD 20723, in the Lobby of **Building 200**. You will find Building 200 at the South Campus directly across from the Main Campus. See "**How do I get to the Event**" for driving directions.

Participants are not required to remain in Building 200 during the entire event, but must have a presenter present during the presentation portion of the event on the 24th.

Who may sign up?

All ages are welcome, but we encourage ages 13 and up. However, those under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult the entire time that they are at the event, and may not stay at the Lab past 10 p.m. Groups of young participants may be supervised by 1 adult.

How do I register?

Visit the 2016 Space Apps Challenge web site (example from the 2015 event: https://2015.spaceappschallenge.org/location/baltimorewashington/) when it gets closer to the event and click on **REGISTER** to sign up before the challenge. The registration site should be up by January, 2016. You will be able to register at the beginning of the event as well, but the registration line may be quite long, which will reduce the time you have to participate during the event.

How do I join a team?

If you are not a part of a team and would be interested in joining a team when you arrive the day of the event, simply let someone in registration know and they will do their best to find you a team to join. There is no guarantee that a team will be available for you to join and you may have to work on your own.

May I bring sleeping materials?

Unfortunately no, sleeping materials, such as sleeping bags, blankets, pillows and the like, will not be allowed. However, we will have a quiet area setup for you to rest up when needed.

Who do I contact to ask questions about the local event?

Please send an email to spaceappsbw@gmail.com and we will reply as soon as possible.

If I want to assist with the event, what can I provide and whom do I contact?

If you are interested in being a sponsor or a partner, please send an email to spaceappsbw@gmail.com as soon as possible. There are a number of ways we can promote an organization that becomes a partner or sponsor of the event before and during the challenge, which will be provided to you when you send an email request for information to spaceappsbw@gmail.com. In general, we are looking for the following from our partners and sponsors:

- USB drives
- Office supplies: Pens, pencils, highlighters, stapler, paper
- Whiteboard/Blackboard/Large Paper Flip Charts
- Dry erase pens/chalk/markers
- Swag
- Snacks
- Volunteers
- Donations
- Prizes

Is the event only for software developers?

No, anyone with an interest in space and a creative mind set may participate. Teams have a real need for technologists, scientists, designers, artists, educators, entrepreneurs, presenters, developers and students. All that is required to participate is a unique idea and a presentation to discuss the solution.

How do I get to the event?

You must provide your own transportation to the event. The JHU – APL Campus is easy to get to by car and is located on the south side of Johns Hopkins Road, approximately 1/2 mile west of U.S. Route 29. **Building 200 (11101 Johns Hopkins Road)** is a left turn off of Johns Hopkins Road, immediately after Pond Road on the right.

Driving Directions

From the Baltimore Area:

1. Take I-95 South toward Washington, DC.
2. Take MD Route 32 West (toward Columbia).
3. Go 2.5 miles and take U.S. Route 29 South (toward Washington, DC).
4. Go 1.5 miles and take exit 15 for Johns Hopkins Road.
5. Exit onto Johns Hopkins Road.

From Washington, DC, and the Capital Beltway (I-495):

1. Take I-95 North toward Baltimore.
2. Go 8 miles and take MD Route 216 West (toward Scaggsville).
3. Go 0.3 miles and take U.S. Route 29 North (first exit off of traffic circle).
4. Go 1.2 miles and take exit 15 for Johns Hopkins Road.

5. Exit onto Johns Hopkins Road (third exit off of traffic circle).

Alternate Washington, DC/Capital Beltway Route:

1. From the Capital Beltway (I-495), take U.S. Route 29 North (Colesville Road).
2. Go 10 miles and take exit 15 for Johns Hopkins Road.
3. Exit onto Johns Hopkins Road (third exit off of traffic circle).

From Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall (BWI) Airport:

1. Take I-195 West out of the terminal.
2. Go 4.5 miles and take exit 4 to I-95 South toward Washington, DC.
3. Go 10 miles and take MD Route 32 West (toward Columbia).
4. Go 2.5 miles and take U.S. Route 29 South (toward Washington, DC).
5. Go 1.5 miles and take exit 15 for Johns Hopkins Road.
6. Exit onto Johns Hopkins Road.

From Reagan National Airport:

1. Take the George Washington Memorial Parkway North.
2. Go 16 miles and take the Capital Beltway (I-495) East or North toward Baltimore.
3. Go 15 miles and take I-95 North toward Baltimore.
4. Go 10 miles and take MD Route 32 West (toward Columbia).
5. Go 2.5 miles and take U.S. Route 29 South (toward Washington, DC).
6. Go 1.5 miles and take exit 15 for Johns Hopkins Road.
7. Exit onto Johns Hopkins Road.

From Washington Dulles International Airport:

1. Take the Dulles Airport Access Road out of the airport.
2. Go 12 miles to exit 18 for the Capital Beltway (I-495) East or North toward Baltimore.
3. Go 18 miles and take I-95 North toward Baltimore.
4. Go 10 miles and take MD Route 32 West (toward Columbia).
5. Go 2.5 miles and take U.S. Route 29 South (toward Washington, DC).
6. Go 1.5 miles and take exit 15 for Johns Hopkins Road.
7. Exit onto Johns Hopkins Road.

From I-70 East:

1. Take exit 80 and merge onto MD Route 32 East.
2. Go 8.6 miles and take exit 17 for Cedar Lane toward Sanner Road.
3. Keep right at the fork and merge onto Cedar Lane.
4. Cedar Lane turns slightly left and becomes Sanner Road.
5. Go 1.2 miles (to second stoplight) and turn left onto Johns Hopkins Road.

From the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center:

1. Take the Baltimore-Washington Parkway (I-295) North about 10 miles.
2. Exit onto MD Route 32 West (toward Columbia).
3. Go 2.5 miles and take U.S. Route 29 South (toward Washington, DC).
4. Go 1.5 miles and take exit 15 for Johns Hopkins Road.
5. Exit onto Johns Hopkins Road.