



## FIELD EXPERIENCE

The Field Experience requirement is the **DESIGN CHALLENGE** way of encouraging teams to take advantage of receiving a funded opportunity to explore beyond the campus community. This may be one of the few times in your academic career where you will have funds provided to you to pay for a team field experience - - so take advantage of it! Travel and per diem associated with team field trips are covered under Team Travel Grant funding.



Take an old-fashioned field trip to enhance the team's knowledge of:

- the design project
- associated research
- careers & workplace
- STEM related activities
- collaboration opportunity
- invention & design



Acceptable ways to use field experience funds include:

- NASA or NASA-contractor facility visit.
- Project-associated tour of a research facility.
- Visit a science-related museum or education center.
- Explore degree or career opportunities.
- Travel to meet with a collaborator.
- Watch an IMAX film documentary on NASA or science themes.
- Travel to a meet or teleconference with the team mentor.
- Attend or participate in a professional-level meeting.



Will the Houston Zoo work? uh NO!

The George Observatory? YES!

Houston Orange Show? Oh yeah! Thumbs-Up to artsy engineering design!



Check with the TSGC Program Manager if you have questions about whether or not a planned field trip is acceptable for use of TSGC funds.

**ALWAYS check with your department accounting contact in advance to find out how to be reimbursed for any travel-related charges you incur. And be sure to let your department's administrative desk know that the team intends to travel - there may be forms that you will be required to complete.**

Teams are encouraged to document the team field experience with photos. Include a description along with the Team Travel & Expense Report as an Appendix to any Level report; post to the team's website; and become eligible for Showcase Award consideration.