



STELLARXPLORERS

The National High School Space Challenge



StellarXplorers IV Starting Checklist

CONTACT THE STELLARXPLORERS STAFF FOR ASSISTANCE USING THE EMAIL stellarxplorers@afa.org

Here is a checklist you can use to help teams get prepared for the StellarXplorers IV Competition. You can find more information on the StellarXplorers Website (<http://stellarxplorers.org/>) but this checklist will provide a good starting point.

1. Download STK 11.2: Anyone can download the basic STK software for free. Go to <http://www.agi.com/resources> and **Download STK 11.2.1** – Full Install (without add ons). First click on System Requirements to make sure your computer meets requirements. Some school districts restrict what programs can be downloaded so check with your school IT person. Downloading STK will get you a Basic License, but for StellarXplorers competition, you must also have the Educational License (Item 2).





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2. Obtain Educational License: Educational Licenses are valid until July 31, 2018. The best choice would be a Node-Locked License:

A. Node-locked License: This License is tied to a specific computer based on the Computer's Host ID. One advantage is once STK is downloaded with this license, STK can be used without Internet access. To obtain a Node Locked License you must send the following information to stellarxplorers@afa.org: Team Number and Host ID from each computer. The easiest way to find these IDs is to open STK (once you've downloaded the Basic version) and click on the Help Button at the top of the screen and select License Viewer. The StellarXplorers staff will request the License and then forward to you.





3. Train and practice on STK 11:

A. Basic Skills You Tube Video: Last year, AGI made a Webinar which gave a step-by-step procedure for learning basic STK skills related to StellarXplorers orbital scenarios. You can view it by typing in <https://youtu.be/uY07sQwgAMo>.

B. AGI Training Materials: Go to <http://www.agi.com/edu>. At the bottom of the page are several options to help learn about STK.

i. Select On Demand Training: There are several step-by-step tutorials showing basic STK skills.

ii. Select How-To Videos, then Level 1 Training: These videos also show basic STK skills. The best way to utilize them is to have the videos running on one computer and have STK loaded on a second computer. Then you can Pause and Rewind while inputting STK parameters.

iii. Select Curriculum: These are PowerPoints which summarizes basic orbital knowledge needed to effectively use STK to solve the StellarXplorers scenarios. In addition, you can view a video lesson which talks you step-by-step through STK.





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C. STK Certification: During StellarXplorers, students will be learning the same STK skills used by professionals in the aerospace, defense, and intelligence communities. AGI offers two levels of self-paced, free STK certification recognized by professionals in the fields described above. These certifications would boost your resume and could provide opportunities to work in the space field in the future. Since StellarXplorers is part of AGI's Educational Alliance Program, if you become STK certified, you also get a free T-shirt.

i. **View a Flyer about the program** at <https://downloads.agi.com/u/downloads/products/STK-Certification-Flyer.pdf>.

ii. **To get started**, click on Get STK Certified box.

