

2027 WERC Environmental Design Contest Dates and Deadlines <i>(Subject to change)</i>		
Date	Action Item	Details
Fall 2026	Reserve your spot	Email us to reserve a spot for your team – send the Task number!
Weekly	Check FAQs for updates	- Task-specific FAQs: 2027 Tasks/Task FAQs - General FAQs: WERC General FAQs
Nov 1, 2026 – Dec 31, 2026	Early Bird Registration	- Registration site: TBD \$100 discount/team, in addition to multiple team discounts
Upon Registration	Team Photos	Upload Traditional & Fun team photos to Team Site after registering. WERC uses these for: social media and contest slideshows.
Fall 2026	Research, design, order materials, create report outline, identify 3 Auditors (economics, legal, and health & safety).	- Prior to the contest: follow your institution's safety protocols for laboratory work. - Begin to look for auditors
Dec 31, 2026	30% Project Review Due	Teams starting their project in Spring 2026 may request an extension to submit the Project Review.
Feb 8, 2027 – Feb 22, 2027	Complete the On-Demand Course: <i>Preparing the ESP</i>	- Required of all team members. - Team Leader: Email us for the course link(s) and share with your team.
Feb 15, 2027	Final date to register a team.	- Late-joining teams will be considered on a case-by-case basis. - We will try to make accommodations.
TBD	NCEES Licensure Presentation (Optional)	NCEES staff will host a webinar to help you get started preparing for the FE Exam. WERC-registered teams will be emailed a link; you may also email us for the link.
March 1-5, 2027	Submit ESP	- Must be submitted on time to run a bench-scale demonstration. - Required of all teams. See ESP Course for details. Email ESP to Safety Officer Juanita Miller (miljgh@nmsu.edu)
March 5, 2026	Request Audits by this date	Send draft report to 3 separate auditors (economics, legal, and health & safety). Correct report according to auditor review.
March 22, 2027	Submit Equipment Transportation Form (Optional); Request practice room time slot.	- Submit Transport Form 10 working days before the contest if shipping items to Las Cruces. - Complete Practice Room Request Form (Rooms available Sunday 12p – 3:45p)
March 26, 2027	Submit Written Report	Submit through Team Site
March 29, 2027	Submit Flash Pitch slides and Summary	Submit through Team Site
Attend the 2027 Contest in Las Cruces NM:		
April 4 – 7, 2027	Contest in Las Cruces, NM	- NM Farm & Ranch Museum 4100 Dripping Springs Rd. - Bring: Oral presentation, poster, bench-scale apparatus.
Sunday, April 4	Noon – 7:40 pm Noon – 9 pm	Check in, Meet & Greet, Flash Pitch Round I, Banquet, Safety Brief. Bench area open till 9 pm.
Monday, April 5	8 am – 4 pm 8 am – 8 pm	- Oral presentations, Lunch, Poster Session. - Teams may stay until 8 pm to run/test bench-scale demonstrations.
Tuesday, April 6	8 am – 5 pm	- Bench-scale demos, Lunch, Bench-scale - Decommissioning at 2 pm, - Flash Pitch Final Round, Game Night
Wed, April 7	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm	- Morning: Free time for teams (while judges deliberate) - Evening: Awards banquet