

# THE BIG E

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WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA

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## LACE UP YOUR SNEAKERS BECAUSE THE BIG 5K ROAD RACE RETURNS AUGUST 31

The third annual Big 5K Road Race and Scramble will take place Friday, August 31, at Eastern States Exposition. The USAFT-certified course will take runners and walkers on three laps around The Big E fairgrounds. Participants in the Road Race can run solo, with a team or for a cause, and compete against each other for cash prizes and age division medals.

The 5K Scramble incorporates Big E-themed challenges on every lap, with first place finishers receiving cash prizes. Runners complete a fun obstacle on each lap. This year participants will eat a mini Big E Cream Puff, play an old timey game from Storowton Village and slide down the Giant Slide.

“We’re happy to have the Giant Slide open again this year. It’s a unique part of the Scramble race that you can’t do anywhere else but here,” shared race coordinator Elena Hovagimian.

New for 2018 will be a virtual Big 5K race event, held via RaceWire. Runners can participate remotely and submit their times for Big E prizes.

"The virtual race is a great way for people who love the Fair to participate but can't because they live outside of our geographic area. We wanted to create an option for them, especially since running and tech go hand-in-hand," said Hovagimian.

The family-friendly event will also host a pint-sized Fun Run course along the Avenue of States for children 10 years-old and under. Line up time is 6:30pm and the race is free with the donation of a non-perishable food item.

The first 500 registrants will receive a Big E swag bag that includes a single-day admission ticket to Fair and a t-shirt. Those dressed in their Big E best will have a chance to win the Big E Spirit Award, which will be presented that evening at a Storowton Tavern patio party.

Start time for adult races is 6:45pm. Entry fee for The 5K Scramble is \$40 and both the Big 5K and Virtual Race are \$30. All proceeds will benefit agriculture and education youth activities at Eastern States Exposition. For more information and to register, visit [TheBigE.com/TheBig5K](http://TheBigE.com/TheBig5K)

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