

GET INVOLVED WITH FIRST

FIRST combines the rigor of STEM with the excitement of sports and the power of community. Whether you're a student, mentor, educator, or supporter, there's a place for you here.

- Start or join a team and build something amazing.
- Bring FIRST to more students.
- Sponsor life-changing opportunities.
- Guide students as a mentor or coach.
- Power events as a volunteer.
- Fuel the mission with a donation.

POWERED BY A GLOBAL NETWORK

FIRST brings together mentors, industry leaders, and educators in a global network that gives students direct, hands-on experience tackling real-world challenges, helping them build pathways to college and careers.

Participants and alumni have access to education and career discovery opportunities, connections to scholarships and employers, and remain part of the FIRST community for life.

- 4 million+ students have participated worldwide since 1989.
- 100+ countries have a FIRST presence.
- 200+ Fortune 500 companies support FIRST.
- Hundreds of thousands of mentors, educators, and volunteers contribute every year.



PROVEN STEM OUTCOMES & WORKFORCE READINESS

From local classrooms to international competitions, FIRST transforms education and inspires the next generation of leaders.

- 72% of alumni are working or studying in STEM fields.
- 48% Nearly half of alumni major in engineering.
- 69% currently in school say FIRST influenced their choice of study.
- 67% currently in the workforce say FIRST inspired their career path.

Learn more at firstinspires.org/impact

SOURCE: 2024 – 2025 FIRST Alumni Survey

FIRST IS MORE THAN ROBOTS®

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is the world's leading youth robotics community, delivering hands-on STEM learning that inspires innovation, builds confidence, and prepares young people for life. Across the globe, students thrive in our programs — powered by mentorship, teamwork, creativity, and real-world engineering challenges.

FIRST is a global 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that prepares young people for the future through a suite of welcoming, team-based robotics programs for K-12 (ages 5-18) that build skills and resilience. Programs are suitable for schools or structured afterschool activities.



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firstinspires.org

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AGES
14-18

GRADES
9-12

ABOUT **FIRST® ROBOTICS COMPETITION**

FIRST® Robotics Competition combines the excitement of sport with the rigor of STEM* in a high-energy, team-based engineering experience.

Each January, teams receive a new themed game challenge. Starting with a Kit of Parts, they design, program, and build industrial-sized robots for fast-paced match play on an arena-sized field, where they compete in three-team alliances. Guided by mentors and sponsors, participants apply engineering, strategy, and collaboration as they compete for awards and advancement opportunities.

Beyond the competition field, teams build their team identity, raise funds, hone teamwork skills, and conduct outreach and community engagement, creating a full-360 experience that develops technical skills, leadership, and real-world problem-solving year-round.

*Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math



SEASON TIMELINE

JANUARY

Season Kickoff

A new game is revealed, launching the season and introducing the year's themed challenge.

JANUARY – FEBRUARY

Design & Build Season

Teams design, build, program, and test their industrial-sized robots as they prepare for local competition and regional events.

MARCH – APRIL

Regional & District Events

In front of cheering crowds, teams form alliances and compete in fast-paced matches. Between rounds, students collaborate in team pit areas to troubleshoot, refine strategy, and prepare for advancement opportunities.

APRIL

FIRST Championship

Qualifying teams advance to FIRST Championship, where they compete on the global stage and celebrate their season's achievements alongside 50,000+ attendees.

MAY – DECEMBER

Off-Season Activities & Next-Season Planning

As registration opens, teams stay active through off-season competitions, mentoring, fundraising, and community initiatives while recruiting members and preparing for the year ahead.

Learn more at firstinspires.org/programs/events



STUDENTS GET TO

- ➔ Develop skills in design, project management, programming, teamwork, strategic thinking, *Gracious Professionalism®* and *Coopertition®*.
- ➔ Work alongside and learn from engineers and other business professionals.
- ➔ Build and compete with a robot of their own design.
- ➔ Learn and use professional hardware and software.
- ➔ Access scholarship and career opportunities.

HOW TO START A TEAM

1. Build Your Team

Recruit students (ages 14-18) and at least two adult coaches who have completed the FIRST Youth Protection training and screening.

firstinspires.org/youth-protection

2. Get Started & Register Your Team

Create a space for your team to regularly meet and build your robot, register for the season, and review funding, budgeting, season materials, and FAQs.

firstinspires.org/frc-get-started

3. Participate In An Event

Compete at official FIRST events to earn awards and build community. You can also attend kickoffs, workshops, and scrimmages.

GET STARTED WITH
FIRST ROBOTICS
COMPETITION
firstinspires.org/frc

