

FIRST PREPARES STUDENTS FOR A STEM FUTURE.

FIRST students are significantly more likely to show gains in STEM outcomes than comparison students.



STEM Interest STEM Career Interest STEM Knowledge

STEM Activity STEM Identity

"x" = times as likely

By their fourth year of college, FIRST alumni are more likely to:

Major in engineering or computer science FIRST ALUMNI

61%

COMPARISON GROUP

26%

Young women in FIRST have significant gains in all STEM areas and are more likely to:

Major in engineering or computer science **FEMALE FIRST ALUMNI**

51%

FEMALE COMPARISON GROUP

16%

SOURCE: FIRST Longitudinal Study: 10 Year Final Report, Brandeis University, 2024. All differences statistically significant, p ≤ .05



For questions or more information on FIRST alumni groups and involvement, contact: alumni@firstinspires.org

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FIRST® PREPARES STUDENTS FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL:

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, AND BEYOND



FIRST® IS A GLOBAL ROBOTICS **COMMUNITY PREPARING YOUNG** PEOPLE FOR THE FUTURE

COLLEGES AND COMPANIES VALUE FIRST EXPERIENCE

Whether education, enlistment, or employment is your next step, FIRST® is here to support you on your next endeavor. FIRST alumni stand out to potential employers. They are innovative, leaders, and ready to hire. By participating in *FIRST* programs, our alumni have gained skills and attitudes needed in today's workforce, including problem solving, teamwork, innovative thinking, creative thinking, perseverance, and leadership. But don't take it from us!

My FIRST experience laid the groundwork for my personal resiliency. The confidence I developed by seeing what a team could accomplish, what I could learn, and my capabilities propelled me into my college life and career. Now I know that with a great team, the right questions, and a bit of daring, anything is possible.

Ellen Willcock



SCHOLARSHIPS

HOW DOES THE FIRST SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WORK?

FIRST Scholarships are funded and administered by the scholarship providers. Scholarship providers are primarily four-year colleges and universities, but also include community colleges, technical schools, corporations, and associations.

Each scholarship is unique and has its own award amount, eligibility requirements, application requirements, and application deadline.

Most applications are due the last year of high school (December-April), but applicants should pay close attention to individual deadlines.

Opportunities, applications, and details about available scholarships can be found at www.firstinspires.org/alumni/scholarships.





Any meaningful participation you've had in FIRST is relevant experience for a work environment, whether you led the programming team, presented to sponsors, or coached a FIRST® LEGO® League team. FIRST is real-world experience and should be presented as such on your resume. Note your role(s) on your team and projects, awards, and achievements, and capture any additional volunteer experience, too.

Companies that support *FIRST* love hiring *FIRST* participants and alumni as interns and employees. Seek them out!

Learn more and stay in touch at www.firstinspires.org/alumni.

When you become a FIRST alum, you understand just how wide the FIRST network reaches and just how willing and excited that network is to help you achieve your goals. I got involved with FIRST years ago, and it's been amazing to see the ways in which FIRST and the connections I formed have shaped my journey since.

Naoka Gunawardena FIRST alum

ALUMNI NETWORKING

We're here for you as you make your next steps. For resources on crafting your resume, preparing for your next interview, finding local *FIRST* alumni networking groups, and more, visit <u>www.firstinspires.org/alumni</u>.

Be sure your <u>firstinspires.org</u> dashboard account is under your active email and opt-in to alumni updates so we can stay in touch and share news, tips, and opportunities.

STAY INVOLVED

There are lots of ways to stay involved with *FIRST* after becoming a *FIRST* alum. Volunteering is an awesome way to pay it forward to the next generation. It's also a chance to continue building valuable skills and meaningful connections to advance your own career and personal development goals.

I have a few hours or few days to give:

As a *FIRST* event volunteer, you can join the global support system we've built to help young people find what makes them come alive – and be re-energized yourself.

I'm looking for a long-term commitment:

As a *FIRST* team mentor or coach, you can empower young people to think big and feel hopeful for their future. You don't need particular expertise, but you do need a schedule that lets you make a reliable mentorship commitment throughout the season (varies by program and team).

Learn more at www.firstinspires.org/volunteer.

FIND FIRST IN YOUR AREA

Whether you're still in your hometown or have moved to the other side of the globe, *FIRST* has Teams and Partners everywhere. To find what's going on in your area, check out www.firstinspires.org/find-local-support or www.firstinspires.org/team-event-search.

