



# FIRST® STEM Education that Sparks a Future

FIRST® understands interest, rather than academic proficiency, is a greater predictor of children pursuing studies and careers in STEM fields. Our evidence-based programs use strategies known to increase student interest and engagement in STEM and develop holistic skills, such as teamwork, problem-solving, and communication. These approaches, along with the FIRST Core Values, all lead to sustained STEM interest, attitudes, and actions post-high school, college, and into careers.

## STRATEGIES



### STRATEGY

#### Hands-On Learning

Hands-on experiences go beyond robot-building. Students learn other critical skills as they participate in our programs.



### STRATEGY

#### Caring Mentors & Supporters

FIRST programs are powered by adult supporters who share knowledge, carry out the FIRST Core Values, and champion young people to think big.



### STRATEGY

#### Teamwork With Real-World Relevance

Students collaborate as teams on thematic challenges relevant to their lives and the world around them.



### STRATEGY

#### Celebratory Events

FIRST participants engage in culminating celebrations where students can showcase what they created and learned.



### STRATEGY

#### Career Exposure

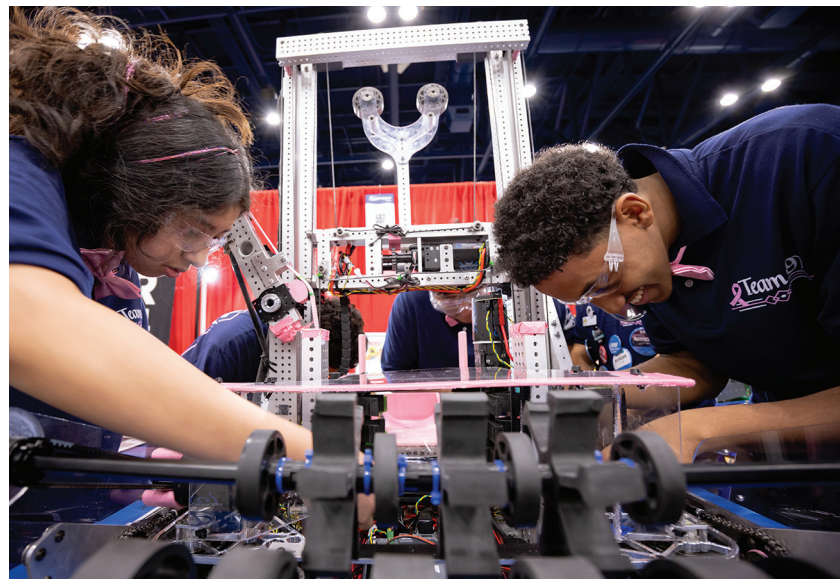
FIRST helps bridge the gap from curiosity to career confidence, helping students discover new career opportunities across industries.



### STRATEGY

#### FIRST Core Values

Teams learn to compete with integrity and kindness and to help others in need.



## A SUITE OF K-12 HANDS-ON, STEM LEARNING PROGRAMS

FIRST combines the rigor of STEM learning with the fun and excitement of traditional sports and the inspiration that comes from community. Participants benefit from a suite of K-12 programs that have a proven impact on learning, interest, and skill-building inside and outside of the classroom.



## PROVEN STEM OUTCOMES

From local classrooms to international competitions, *FIRST* transforms education and inspires the next generation of leaders. These results from the *FIRST* Longitudinal Study show the depth of our impact:

# 83%

of *FIRST* alumni pursue STEM majors by year four of college

# 51%

of female *FIRST* alumni declare a major in engineering or computer science by year four of college

# 63%

of *FIRST* alumni are currently employed in a STEM field

# \$59,500

is the average salary of early career *FIRST* alumni, compared with a \$45,000 peer average

### FIRST STUDENTS AND ALUMNI ARE WORKFORCE READY

*FIRST* students have positive outcomes in workforce skills:

**90%** in communication skills

**93%** in conflict resolution skills

**95%** in time management skills

**94%** in problem-solving skills

SOURCE: *FIRST* Longitudinal Study: 10-Year Final Report, Brandeis University, 2024; Brandeis University, 2011/2013 *FIRST*® Program Evaluations  
The study included 551 *FIRST* students and 371 comparison group students. The comparison group included students who did not participate in *FIRST* programs but were enrolled in science and math classes at the same schools. All students received a baseline survey and follow-up surveys each year. Overall, 72 percent of students remained in the study at year 10.

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*“FIRST changed who I was. Made me passionate about something for the first time in my life. Made me develop my work ethic. Gave me extremely valuable leadership experience.”*

— *FIRST* LONGITUDINAL STUDY PARTICIPANT

Learn more at [www.firstinspires.org/impact](http://www.firstinspires.org/impact)

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