



VOLUNTEERS

If you want to empower the next generation of changemakers and innovators, there is a spot for you as a *FIRST*® volunteer!

FIRST® Robotics Competition volunteers are part of a global robotics community preparing young people for the future. Even if you only have a few hours to give, your contribution can make a difference. Working side by side with *FIRST* participants, volunteers play an important role in shaping young minds and inspiring students to achieve.

AGES

14-18

GRADES

9-12

VOLUNTEERS:

- Have a life-changing impact on the lives of young people
- Foster a spirit of teamwork, innovation, and valuing others
- Help young people apply real-world concepts and gain self-confidence
- Share their life experience, skills, and abilities
- Are inspired and energized through their participation
- Are part of a strong, fun, and enthusiastic *FIRST* volunteer community!

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER:

- Volunteer at an event
- Mentor or coach a team
- Serve on a local planning committee
- Lend technical or professional expertise



VOLUNTEERS CAN INCLUDE:

- Community members and leaders
- Parents
- Teachers/Professors
- Professionals (technical or non-technical)
- Employees of corporate sponsors
- College students and faculty
- *FIRST* alumni
- *FIRST* teams/participants
- Friends and family members of students

“I continue to volunteer with *FIRST* because I know what an amazing experience being part of a *FIRST* team was for me as a student. The competitions and events are the culmination of months of hard work – a stage for the students and their creations to shine.”

– SAMANTHA LIPSCOMB, *FIRST* ROBOTICS COMPETITION ALUM AND VOLUNTEER

FIRSTINSPIRES.ORG/VOLUNTEER



JOIN THE FUN AND VOLUNTEER AT A *FIRST* EVENT

FIRST hosts more than 3,700 events around the globe annually. Volunteer roles range from safety attendants and field reset to judges, emcees, and referees. Volunteering at an event is a great way to share technical or professional knowledge, but you do not need special skills or expertise to volunteer.

BE A MENTOR OR COACH WITH A *FIRST* ROBOTICS COMPETITION TEAM

Mentors and coaches are individuals from all backgrounds who work with students to share their knowledge and guide them through the season. Mentors may work with a team regularly or serve as a technical or professional expert on an as-needed basis. Mentors help foster *Gracious Professionalism*[®] and empower participants to engage meaningfully in the work, make critical decisions, and take ownership in team efforts.

Mentor roles and responsibilities may include assisting teams in the following areas:

- Project management and business plan development
- Marketing and fundraising
- Advising students on safety procedures
- Assisting team members with writing software in Java, C++, or LabVIEW
- Providing technical assistance and expertise with mechanical and electrical engineering tasks
- Organizing team meetings, schedules, or locations
- Communicating with parents, guardians, and other family members
- Other administrative responsibilities

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT BECOMING A *FIRST* VOLUNTEER

www.firstinspires.org/volunteer



Project-based, hands-on *FIRST*[®] programs introduce students to engineering and coding in an engaging, inclusive, and creative classroom or after-school learning environment where students work collaboratively to solve an annual robotics challenge. Boosted by a million-strong global community of students, mentors, educators, volunteers, sponsors, and alumni in over 100 countries, our PreK-12 programs are designed to inspire innovation and equip young people to build a better future.

