**FIRST** is a global robotics community that prepares young people for the future.



#### **AGES 4-16\* GRADES PreK-8**

Students engage in hands-on STEM experiences, building habits of learning, confidence, and teamwork skills along the way.

#### **AGES 12-18** GRADES 7-12

Teams design, build, and program robots, develop strategy, and engage in thrilling, head-to-head competition.

#### **AGES 14-18** GRADES 9-12

Teams compete with 125-pound robots, combining the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology.

## ABOUT FIRST®

FIRST® is the world's leading youth-serving nonprofit advancing STEM education. Through a suite of inclusive, team-based robotics programs for ages 4-18 and backed by a global network of mentors, coaches, volunteers, alumni, and sponsors, FIRST has a proven impact on learning, interest, and skill-building inside and outside of the classroom. For over 30 years, students from all walks of life have developed selfconfidence in STEM and valuable, real-world skills through FIRST that open pathways to a better future.





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WWW.FIRSTINSPIRES.ORG

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AGES

GRADES

14-18

9-12

# ABOUT FIRST® ROBOTICS COMPETITION

FIRST® Robotics Competition combines the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology. Under strict rules and limited time and resources, teams of high school students are challenged to build industrial-size robots to play a difficult field game in alliance with other teams, while they also fundraise to meet their goals, create a team identity, and advance respect and appreciation for STEM within the local community.

"Thanks to the various positions I've held on the team, I've learned invaluable leadership skills that will help me in future jobs. The ability to work side by side with a mentor was a turning point for me."

- QUINN WAGNER, FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION TEAM 1533



FIRST Robotics Competition is as close to real-world engineering as a student can get. It's a sport where all participants may choose to become a professional.

"It's not just about robots. It's about building self-confidence, respect, and important relationships with people who invent new technologies to make a better future."

- DEAN KAMEN, FOUNDER, FIRST

## STUDENTS GET TO

- Develop design, project management, programming, teamwork, strategic thinking, and Coopertition® skills.
- · Work alongside professional engineers.
- Build and compete with a robot of their own design.
- Learn and use sophisticated hardware and software.
- Participants and alumni have access to education and career discovery opportunities, connections to scholarships and employers, and a place in the FIRST community for life.

### **HOW TO START A TEAM**

 Form Your Team – There is no limit to the number of students (suggested ages 14-18) who can participate from your school and/or community.

## 2. Register Your Team and Review Resources

 Once you have gathered your team, visit our website to view cost, budgeting resources, and instructions on how to register your team.

www.firstinspires.org/robotics/frc

- 3. Enlist Additional Coaches and Mentors Every FIRST team is required to have two adult mentors/coaches who have passed the FIRST background screening process. www.firstinspires.org/youth-protection
- 4. Get Started Hold strategy meetings, conduct trainings on building, programming, or other aspects of robot design; fundraise; and plan for the upcoming season.

  www.firstinspires.org/frc-start-a-team



### **GET INVOLVED!**

There are many ways you can get involved and volunteer to support a *FIRST* Robotics Competition team. Here are some examples:

#### Individuals can:

- Mentor teams.
- Volunteer at events.
- Join planning committees that support FIRST activities.

## Corporations, foundations, and administrations can:

- · Sponsor teams.
- · Donate space, materials, and talent.
- Fund FIRST events.

WWW.FIRSTINSPIRES.ORG/ROBOTICS/FRC