

The program involves:

- Over 15,000 teams worldwide, 150,000 children participating.
- In the U.S. and Canada, over 7,800 teams compete in over 300 qualifying tournaments and nearly 70 championship tournaments.
- Virginia-DC FLL® has over 430 teams participating in 18 regional qualifying tournaments.
- An average of 96 teams advance to the championship tournament.

Championship Tournament is held in December at James Madison University (JMU).

Time Commitment for Participants:

Commitment to FLL® is similar to that required by a little league sports team:

- Members must be ready to dedicate at least 5-8 hours per week during the challenge season (September - November).
- Team members must also prepare a research presentation, based on the science behind the challenge theme.
- Teams must be available to compete in regional events.

For Coaches:

With activities beginning in September, coaches spend about **1-3 hours** per week preparing and **3-8 hours** a week meeting with their team in order to prepare for the VA-DC FLL® Tournament in December. Coaches work with the students to assemble the **Mission Models**, which are made out of LEGO® pieces, and must understand the basics about the robot.



MSC 6911
800 S. Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

The operational Partner for FLL® in VA and DC coordinates all official FLL® events.

Refer to www.vadcfl.org or contact: questions@vadcfl.org for specific information.

Become a Volunteer!

You don't have to be a parent or teacher to be involved in VA-DC FLL®. Get involved as a mentor, coach, referee or judge at a local tournament.

To volunteer for any of these positions please email: questions@vadcfl.org

Become a Sponsor or Host!

FLL® teams are happy to acknowledge their sponsors on their T-shirts, pit decorations and websites!

To find a local Virginia or DC FLL® team to sponsor, contact us at: questions@vadcfl.org

Host an FLL® Tournament!

If you or your organization want to support FLL® at a larger level, please consider contributing funds, supplies or space to host a local tournament. Contact our VA-DC FLL® Partner, Nick Swayne, at swaynedd@jmu.edu



For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology



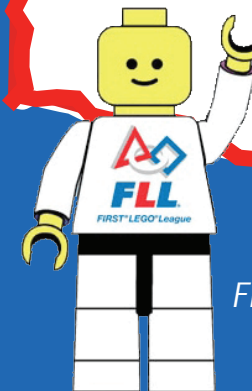
FLL®

FIRST® LEGO® League

“To create a world where science and technology are celebrated...

where young people dream of becoming science and technology heroes.”

-Dean Kamen,
Founder



FIRST® is an international non-profit organization.

FIRST® designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math, while building self-confidence, knowledge and life skills.

-Each Year FLL® releases a new challenge based on current, real-world engineering issues.

-Registration opens in May at

<https://gofll.usfirst.org>

and closes when the maximum number of teams has been reached.



Some coaching responsibilities include:

- Getting supplies
- Arranging meeting times
- Planing lessons to advance skills
- Raising money
- Learn the rules and regulations of the current challenge
- Order T-shirts
- Guide the development of research presentation
- Register and plan for events and tournaments
- Provide structure to the Robot design process

What the Kids Learn:

- Engineering cycle: Design, Build, Test, Refine
- Teamwork skills and Gracious Professionalism
- Simple Object Oriented Programming
- Software and System Integration
- Design of autonomous robots and moving attachments
- Principles and limitations of simple electric motors
- Self-confidence, knowledge and life skills
- Research and public speaking

The best way to get involved is to form a new FLL® team based in one of these organizations in your area. Start by reviewing the sample budget and season schedules on the FLL® websites to determine if you can commit to being part of the FIRST® LEGO® League.

"I want to build things nobody else has even thought of yet."
-Charles Peterson
FLL® Team Member

Rookie teams usually start by building a simple robot roughly based on a design out of a book or from a website. Next, they design attachments that accomplish one or more missions in a timed round. Missions require the robot to interact with models made of LEGO® pieces. The robot must be programmed to act AUTONOMOUSLY to complete missions (no remote control). Points are earned every time a mission is completed successfully. Many teams only succeed in getting a few missions to work - but that's OK! The kids learn and have fun. As teams progress, the base robot, attachments, and programs become highly customized and more complex, allowing teams to complete more missions.

Jr.FLL
Junior FIRST® LEGO® League
Ages 6-9

FLL
FIRST® LEGO® League
Ages 9-14

FTC
FIRST® Tech Challenge
Ages 15-18

FRC
FIRST® Robotics Competition
Ages 15-18

Please note: FIRST® and its local representatives **do not** set up teams or assist in placing new teams

Anyone can form and register a **FIRST® LEGO® League Team**. FLL teams are formed by public and private schools, community based groups, churches and often by independent groups of neighbors and friends.