

Committed to Diversity, Inclusion, and Tomorrow's Leaders

The mission of FIRST® is to inspire students to become science and technology leaders and innovators by engaging them in exciting, mentor-guided, project-based programs that teach STEM skills, inspire innovation, and foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership.

FIRST is committed to bringing its programs to students who would benefit most, and is actively engaged in developing strategies that will ensure greater access to its programs and reduce inequalities.

FIRST is committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of diversity and inclusion. We embrace and encourage differences in race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression,

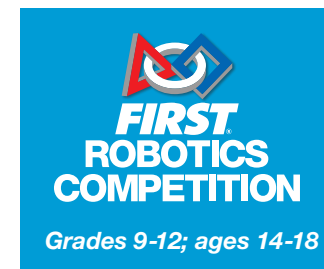
disability, age, religion, income or any other characteristics that make our adult-force and students unique. Exploring, developing and implementing strategies to become more inclusive and ensure access to our programs to all students (as well as access to key supports) is critical for FIRST to reach its goal and mission. ALL young people should have the opportunity to become science and technology leaders. FIRST will remove barriers to program participation for underserved, underrepresented students. Pursuant to that end, FIRST Diversity & Inclusion is a concerted, organized effort to develop strategies to make its programs more accessible and inclusive.

"Ten years from today, one of these students is going to be out in the world having done something extraordinary for a major global problem."

Dean Kamen, Founder

Engage your students in hands-on STEM education and help inspire the leaders of tomorrow.

The FIRST Progression of Programs



Ignite young minds. Nurture creativity. Inspire innovation. Start a team today!
Visit us at www.firstinspires.org/start-a-team

For more information, please contact:

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FOR INSPIRATION & RECOGNITION OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



FIRST® programs (K-12) support educators by engaging students in STEM learning and preparing them for the future through hands-on fun while cleverly helping kids transfer classroom concepts to real-world applications.

FIRST programs:

- Ignite a passion for learning, both inside and outside the classroom by making it relevant and fun.
- Excite students in STEM activities through robust robotics programs.
- Provide opportunities for students to learn classroom competencies through project-based challenges and student directed problem based learning.
- Expose students to new interests.
- Teach coding and the scientific method through hands-on projects.
- Apply math and science to real-world problems.
- Teach the engineering and design process through mechanical design and build.
- Cultivate 21st century work-life skills.
- Integrate innovative skill building and strategic thinking.
- Encourage *Gracious Professionalism*®, a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community.
- Create a community of collaborative problem-solvers.
- Inspire students to be life-long learners.

Choose FIRST for your students



FOR INSPIRATION & RECOGNITION OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Where kids walk in and innovators walk out

Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders

Building STEM literacy and confidence is required to be successful in nearly every endeavor in today's technology-rich society. STEM competence and confidence creates pathways to well-paying jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities in the fastest-growing fields, creating the potential for young people to achieve purposeful and prosperous lives. Collectively, we must enable our young people to grow up to solve the world's most pressing problems, be strong citizens, and build a brighter future.

Nearly every country and every organization need creative problem-solvers to tackle their biggest challenges and with programs in all 50 states and more than 80 countries, *FIRST* programs engage students and prepare them for the innovative workforce of tomorrow.

Colleges, universities, and employers recognize the value of the *FIRST* experience. That's why nearly **200 colleges and universities have made more than \$30 million in potential scholarships** available exclusively to students who participate in the *FIRST* Robotics Competition and/or *FIRST* Tech Challenge programs. *FIRST* Scholarship Providers agree that *FIRST* Alumni are better equipped to succeed in college.



"I have seen students that have participated in FIRST programs grow from shy, introverted students to confident leaders by taking them out of their comfort zones and empowering them to find their passion."

*Jacqueline Meissner, Teacher,
Mountain Home High School, Mountain Home, AR*

Supporting Educators

FIRST® provides the resources educators need to quickly and confidently implement *FIRST* programs into their classrooms and engage students in hands-on STEM learning.

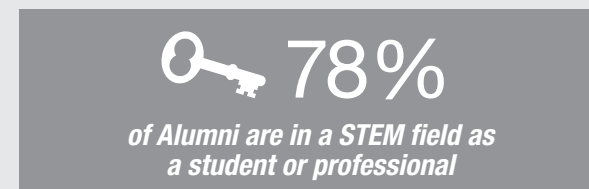
- Grants to assist with funding
- Mapping programs to meet the Common Core State Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, and 21st Century Learning Skills.
- Curriculums that provide authentic, real-world learning to students
- Detailed facilitator guides
- Preparation modules, webinars and other educational and in person Partner trainings



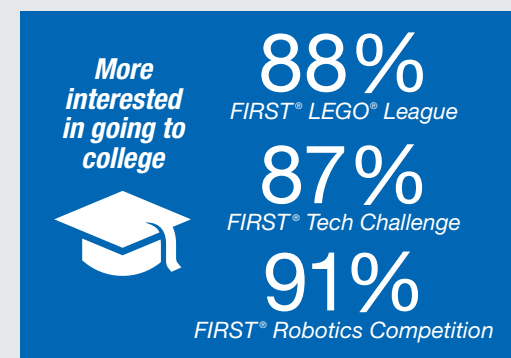
MAKING AN **IMPACT**

More than 10 years of evaluation data and rigorous research indicates that with participation in *FIRST*®, team members are:

FIRST ALUMNI IN STEM CAREERS



Source: *FIRST*®, 2011, Survey of *FIRST*® Alumni



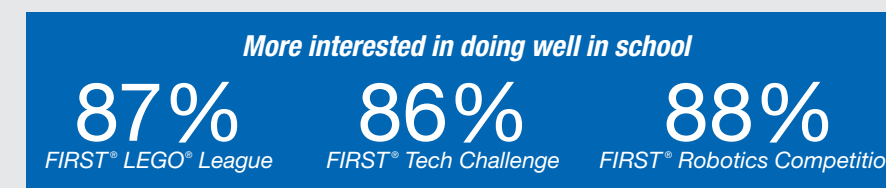
Source: Brandeis University, 2011 *FIRST*® Tech Challenge – *FIRST*® Robotics Competition Evaluation and 2013 *FIRST*® LEGO® League Evaluation

21ST CENTURY WORK-LIFE SKILLS GAINED BY *FIRST* PARTICIPANTS



Source: Brandeis University, 2011 *FIRST*® Tech Challenge – *FIRST*® Robotics Competition Evaluation and 2013 *FIRST*® LEGO® League Evaluation

SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT INCREASES FOR *FIRST* PARTICIPANTS



FIRST® Works

Regardless of gender, race or income, students who participate on *FIRST* teams are more likely to gain awareness, knowledge, and skills in STEM than a comparison group of similar students.

- 2.5Xs more likely to show gains in STEM Interest
- 2.5Xs more likely to show gains in STEM Activity
- 2.7Xs more likely to show gains in STEM Career
- 1.6Xs more likely to show gains in STEM Identity
- 1.9Xs more likely to show gains in STEM Knowledge

Source: Brandeis University, (2016) *FIRST* Longitudinal Study: Year 3 Findings

