

## Become a FIRST Volunteer and Help Us Build Tomorrow



### Volunteers are a huge part of the [FIRST Tech Challenge Program!](#)

You can help to inspire students to seek out careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Volunteers to keep our programs thriving for future generations!

Check out our full list of [volunteer opportunities online!](#)

FIRST is an international robotics competition facilitating over 670,000 students around the globe. Covering an age range from kindergarten through seniors in high school, the goal is to engage members of the professional community into inspiring generations of global citizens, helping them realize their power to build a better future by actively engaging them in skills specific to our technology-based future.

**Our FTC Louisiana program need MORE involvement from community professionals.**

### Here's how YOU can participate

#### Event Volunteer

#### Technical Mentor

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>Definition</b>   | A volunteer donates their time to fill necessary roles at competition events. Min age of 13, some roles require min age of 21. Training is provided.  | A mentor has a certain ability a team may need. The mentor may contribute their ability through instruction, guidance to the team, or serve as a resource on a one-time or multiple-time basis.  |
| <b>Time Commitment</b>  | Flexible, usually requires full day commitment on competition days; highly rewarding  | Flexible, and can be determined upon connecting with team/s, highly engaging   |
| <b>Role Opportunities</b>   | Field Manager<br>Judge<br>Field Technical Advisor<br>Robot Inspector<br>Referee<br>Score Keeper<br>Wi-Fi Technical Advisor<br>Queuer<br>...and more   | Robot Programming/ Software Engineering<br>Mechanical Engineering<br>Scholarship / Awards / Career<br>Finance / Fundraising / Grants<br>Electrical Engineering<br>Project Management<br>Marketing / Digital Marketing<br>Event Planning / Logistics<br>Machining / Woodworking / CAD<br>...and more  |
| <b>How-To</b><br><br><i>(this is a multi-step process - generally 20 minutes)</i> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create an account at <a href="https://my.firstinspires.org/Dashboard/">https://my.firstinspires.org/Dashboard/</a></li> <li>2. Click the Volunteer Registration tab &amp; Click 'Volunteer at an Event'</li> <li>3. Filter events by area and/or program &amp; select an event</li> <li>4. Select volunteer roles you are interested in</li> <li>5. Complete the free background screening</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Same as volunteer, create an account at <a href="https://my.firstinspires.org/Dashboard/">https://my.firstinspires.org/Dashboard/</a> and complete the free background screening</li> <li>2. Click the Volunteer Registration tab &amp; Click 'FIRST Mentor Network'</li> <li>3. Follow steps to create Mentor Profile and select your specialty and availability time</li> <li>4. Select 'Discovery' in header to locate teams requesting help</li> </ol> |

At FIRST, **student safety is always a priority**. Volunteers must be screened before volunteering. Every adult must become familiar with our [Youth Protection Program \(YPP\)](#). Take the time to watch our videos and read our Youth Protection materials. All adult volunteers from the United States and Canada complete background screening through our Volunteer Registration for the safety of all FIRST team members.

## FTC Louisiana's Current Need is Competition Judges

### **More on Judging: (must be 21 years of age)**

The primary role of a judge is to interview teams, and to decide which teams deserve an award based on team interviews, the robot, match play, and the engineering portfolio. Judges are paired in groups of 2-3 to interview a set number of teams before the competition begins as well as interviews in the pit area. FULL DAY COMMITMENT is ESSENTIAL.

**Your duty as a judge is to evaluate the various teams in order to ascertain which teams best qualify for specified awards. The Awards are broken down into categories:**

#### **Award Categories: (Judge Manual p.21-27)**

[https://www.firstinspires.org/sites/default/files/uploads/resource\\_library/ftc/judge-and-judge-advisor-manual.pdf](https://www.firstinspires.org/sites/default/files/uploads/resource_library/ftc/judge-and-judge-advisor-manual.pdf)

- MCI (Machine, Creativity, Innovation) - cover technical aspects in the planning, design, construction, operation, and control of their robots
  - Design Award
  - Innovate Award
  - Control Award
- TA (Team Attributes) - developed strong partnerships with their community. This includes recruiting members, fund-raising, and the teams outreach efforts to spread FIRST's message
  - Connect Award
  - Motivate
- Think Award - excellent documentation in the form of their engineering portfolio
- Inspire Award - the TOP Award - teams who excel in both MCI and TA accomplishments and contender for the Think Award

#### **How to Sign Up:**

1. Create an account at <https://my.firstinspires.org/Dashboard/>
2. Click the Volunteer Registration tab & Click 'Volunteer at an Event'
3. Filter events by area and/or program & select an event
4. Select volunteer roles you are interested in
5. Complete the free background screening

#### **Your Day as a Judge:** (rough timeframe)

- 8:30am-8:00am - Morning Meeting (Judge Manual p.11)
- 8:00am-10:15am - Formal Team Interviews (Judge Manual p.11-14)
- 10:15am-10:30am - Break
- 10:30am-lunch - Initial Deliberations
- 12:30pm-1:30pm - Match Observations (Judge Manual p.10)
- 1:30pm-2:30pm - Pit Interviews (Judge Manual p.14-15)
- 2:30pm-4:00pm - Final Deliberations

Events are held on a Saturday at various locations in southeast Louisiana. Qualifiers are held Dec/Jan/Feb. With a State Championship held in early March.

***If interested in event volunteering  
please contact:***

***FTC Program Delivery Partner***

***Elizabeth Cato***

***985-869-4262***

***ftclouisiana@gmail.com***

***OR Scan To Fill Out Contact Form***



Mentoring  
Career Sharing  
Judging  
Event Volunteering