



# First-Year Mentor Checklist

## Step 1: Recruit Adult Mentors

You'll need at least two committed and motivated adults. Both lead mentors will need to pass the [Youth Protection Screening](#) and accept the *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> terms and conditions.

## Step 2: Recruit Student Participants

Recruit students of all talents, not just engineering and electronics. Emphasize that no technical skills are required, just enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. We have [posters and other recruitment materials](#) to help you build your team.

## Step 3: Create a Team Budget

Visit the [fundraising toolkit](#) for sample budgets to help you prepare for team registration fees, travel costs, and determine fundraising plans and potential local sponsors.

Annual fees for team registration, the robot kit of parts, and event participation are \$5,000 for returning teams and \$6,000 for new teams (Due in November).

## Step 4: Find Space to Build Your Robot

Your team will need space and tools to build their robot. If your school or organization does not have a machine shop to serve as your robots' build space, ask any team sponsors or area schools and businesses with unused space they may be willing to loan or rent. Obtain the [tools your team will need](#) and a computer to access online resources.

## Step 5: Connect with the *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> Robotics Competition Community

- **Connect Digitally:** Follow the *FIRST* Robotics Competition [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and [subscribe to the blog](#) for important announcements and updates.
- ***FIRST* Regional Directors and District Leadership:** [Find your local contact](#) and reach out to learn more about getting started in your area.
- **International Team Support:** [Find your country's contact](#), and reach out to learn more about getting started and fundraising in your country.
- ***FIRST* Robotics Competition Team Support:** For assistance with registration, or any questions about the program and requirements, [Team Support](#) members are available by email, phone, or live chat on [www.firstinspires.org](http://www.firstinspires.org)

## *FIRST*<sup>®</sup> Robotics Competition Season Timeline

