UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

solar gators

POWERED BY FLORIDA SUNSHINE

ABOUT US

WE'RE A SOLAR CAR ENGINEERING DESIGN TEAM

Solar Gators is a fully student-run engineering design team at the University of Florida. We design, build, and race solar-powered cars to showcase the potential of solar energy and inspire the next generation of engineers and innovators. We proudly represent the Sunshine State in the Formula Sun Grand Prix and American Solar Challenge.

OUR TRACK RECORD

- 1st Place finish in the 2023 Formula Sun Grand Prix with a milage of 707.5
- Raced over 1500 miles in the 2024 American Solar Challenge
- Set the fastest lap at the 2025 Formula Sun Grand Prix
- Won the 2024 Altair Challenge with a grand prize of $10,000
- Won the 2025 MathWorks Presentation award against 30 other colleges
- Designed and built four cars in ten years manufactured by students at the University of Florida

TEAM HISTORY

Solar Gators was re-established in 2016, with the goal of competing in our first Formula Sun Grand Prix (FSGP) in 2017. With limited funding and background knowledge, the team set out to build our first solar car. With persistence and determination, our team debuted **Torch** at the 2017 FSGP, becoming the first Florida team to race since 1989.

Since 2017, our team has competed in the FSGP nearly every summer. We proudly represent the Sunshine State as we continue to set new records. Each milestone represents the culmination of years of hard work and dedication.

Our second car, **Cielo**, competed in FSGP in 2018 and 2019, accumulating over 200 miles on the track. This marked a tremendous upgrade in our ability to not just build a car, but a reliable one.

Through the difficulties of COVID 19, the team worked relentlessly to complete its third car, **Sunrider**, which made its debut in the 2022 FSGP.

Sunrider set new records for the team, accumulating a total distance of over 700 miles, winning the 2023 FSGP, and becoming the first car in Solar Gators history to compete in the American Solar Challenge.

After eight years and three cars, the team in 2024 set out to create a new solar car that can compete with the best teams across the world. Manufacturing of **Flare** finished just before FSGP in the Summer of 2025, where we set the fastest lap of the entire race enroute to a 470-mile finish. This marked the greatest debut year for us and shows how we as a team are set up to compete in the future.

Throughout our history, our sponsors have been at the center of everything we accomplish. As we continue to grow, we hope that you will join us in our mission to develop state of the art technologies and compete for championships.

OUR MISSION

- **Accelerate** the world's transition to sustainable energy
- **Develop** gator engineers through hands-on design and manufacturing experience
- **Inspire** students to explore their interests within STEM and become the next generation of innovators shaping the future
- **Build** awareness within our community about the transformative potential of solar energy

OUR GOALS

- **Win** the 2026 American Solar Challenge and Formula Sun Grand Prix
- **Engineer** a new car to compete in the 2027 Formula Sun Grand Prix
- **Send** our team to Australia to compete in the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge in 2029

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We have created individualized projects, experiments, and learning experiences tailored to each event we attend. Our goal is to foster an interest in STEM and sustainability in the next generation of innovators and engineers. Our main local partner is Hands on Gainesville, but we worked with a variety of K-12 schools, museums, and other learning organizations.

Every year we participate in UF's annual Homecoming parade. Not only do we strive to promote **Gator pride**, but we also hope to inspire others within our community. We aim to provide a small glimpse into the bright future of electric vehicles and sustainable energy.

THE SOLAR GATORS EXPERIENCE

We do all the research, design, manufacturing, and testing of every component of our solar cars in-house. This allows our students to gain invaluable experience and skills that cannot be taught inside the classroom and sets a Solar Gators engineer apart from the crowd. The majority of our dedicated team members are **highly sought after** for competitive internships and full-time jobs.

Many of our notable alumni are employed by companies at the forefront of their respective industries including:

Boeing
Blue Origin
Delta
Lockheed Martin
Lutron
Northrop Grumman
NextEra Energy
Pratt & Whitney
Sandia National Labs
Tesla

SPONSOR US

Sponsors play an integral role in our success both on and off the track. Donations help fund essential operations of the team, including acquiring raw materials, research & development, manufacturing, and logistics.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities, please email us at **info@ufsolargators.org**. If you wish to make an online donation, you may do so **at this link**. **Thank you!**

$25,000

- *Corporate event with car*
- *Additional tailored benefits*
- *Resume packet*
- *Logo on car*
- *Logo on uniform*
- *Logo on website*
- *Media licensing*

SIGNATURE SPONSOR

$10,000

- *Resume packet*
- *Logo on car*
- *Logo on uniform*
- *Logo on website*
- *Media licensing*

GOLD

$5,000

- *Resume packet*
- *Logo on car*
- *Logo on uniform*
- *Logo on website*
- *Media licensing*

SILVER

$1,000

- *Logo on uniform*
- *Logo on website*
- *Media licensing*
- *Resume Packet*

BRONZE

$500

- *Logo on website*
- *Media licensing*
- *Resume Packet*

VALUED

All donations are tax deductible. Solar Gators is a registered 501C through the UF Foundation.

Donations by credit card are assessed an additional 3% tax by the UF Foundation (on top of the 5% gift tax applied to all gifts).