



WHO?

Students in grades 9-12.

WHAT?

"The Varsity Sport for the Mind," FRC combines the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology. Under strict rules, limited resources, and time limits, teams of 25 students or more are challenged to raise funds, design a team "brand," hone teamwork skills, and build and program robots to perform prescribed tasks against a field of competitors. It's as close to "real-world engineering" as a student can get. Volunteer professional mentors lend their time and talents to guide each team.

Students get to:

- ✓ Learn from professional engineers
- ✓ Build and compete with a robot of their own design
- ✓ Learn and use sophisticated software and hardware
- ✓ Compete and cooperate in alliances and tournaments
- ✓ Earn a place in the World Championship
- ✓ Qualify for nearly \$14.8 million in college scholarships*



WHEN?

The competition officially starts January 5th. Students will then have six weeks, to design, build, and program their robot to meet a certain challenge. The challenge, robot, and materials will be given to students January 5, 2013. On February 19th, after the six weeks are over, the robot will need to be shipped to FIRST. A regional competition will be held in Denver, CO April 4-6.

During the six weeks of building, students will need to commit **at least** Monday through Thursday from 6pm-9pm. As the end of the six weeks near, students may need to meet on Fridays and Saturdays to complete the challenge. We understand that things may come up and someone may not be able to attend every meeting. Those who will be taken to competition in Denver are those that have the best attendance.

This fall there will be weekly meetings where students get together to learn the basics of robotics, programming, design processes, and mechanical systems. Although not as frequent as those starting in January, meetings may be held throughout the fall leading up to the January 5th kick-off.

*As taken from the FIRST website: www.usfirst.org.

WHERE?

Stevens High School

EXPECTATIONS:

- ✓ Safety first
- ✓ The robot must be designed, built, and programmed by students
- ✓ Grades may not drop (You do not have to have certain grades to join, but your grades may not drop)
- ✓ Respectful of yourself, your teammates, your opponents, and the materials
- ✓ You will be representing Caterpillar, Inc therefore you must follow their rules/guidelines for appropriate behavior and conduct.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

- ✓ FREE! The registration fee, apparel, robots, tools AND transportation, food and hotel to Denver will be completely FREE! Caterpillar is sponsoring this team, and will be paying for all of the above!
- ✓ Scholarships! The FIRST organization gives out over 14.8 million dollars' worth of scholarships!
- ✓ Be a part of a community!
- ✓ Great for college applications!
- ✓ Great for resumes!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc> or email Lance at wright_lance@cat.com.

