



2019-20 FIRST LEGO League Robotics Middle School - Overview

The FIRST LEGO League (FLL) 2019-20 season is preparing to kick off! If your student is interested in joining a middle school team for the 2019-20 school year, please thoroughly review the following information and have your student complete and return the application to the school's front office no later than **Friday, May 31, 2019**. A teacher recommendation form on behalf of the student must also be delivered to your school's office by May 31st. Middle school applicants should also be prepared to interview at their school's robotics site on Wednesday, June 5th at 5:30 pm.

Students and parents will be notified by email regarding the status of their application and 2019-20 FLL team placement. Careful consideration will go into selecting team participants for the upcoming year so please ensure you meet all deadlines to be considered.

What is FLL Robotics?

"Tomorrow's innovators practice imaginative thinking and teamwork. Guided by two or more adult Coaches the teams are given a theme, they must identify a real world problem related to the theme (the 2019-20 theme is "City Shaper") and are challenged to develop a solution. They also must design, build, and program a robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS® then compete on a table-top playing field.

It all adds up to tons of fun while they learn to apply science, technology, engineering, and math concepts (STEM), plus a big dose of imagination, to solve a problem. Along their journey, they develop critical thinking and team-building skills, basic STEM applications, and even presentation skills, as they must present their solutions with a dash of creativity to judges. They also practice the Program's Core Values, which emphasize discovery, teamwork and good sportsmanship."

For more information please visit <https://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/fll>

How is FLL Robotics Funded?

All CUSD LEGO Robotics programs are funded by the Carlsbad Educational Foundation. CEF Invests nearly \$150,000 annually in robotics for CUSD students. This includes:

- Second grade FLL Jr. Robotics for all students
- FLL Robotics: 4th – 8th grade after school program
- FTC Robotics: High school after school program

These programs provide Carlsbad students the opportunity to join a robotics team that focuses on engineering, teamwork, and collaboration. The total cost for each FLL team member to participate in the program is approximately \$900 per year. **A recommended donation of \$300 per team member** is requested from each family to help cover the costs of competitions, equipment and programming. Over the past three years, your donations have allowed the program to grow from less than 50 students to over 200 students. This non-refundable donation can be made at the time of registration. Your \$300 donation, funding provided by CEF and outside donors has allowed the opportunity for students at all CUSD schools to participate in this program.



FLL Robotics Team Member Eligibility Requirements:

- Students entering 6th – 8th grade in Fall 2019
- Completed and signed Application (Parts 1 & 2) submitted by 5/31/19.
- Completed Teacher Recommendation form submitted by 5/31/19.
- Applicant interview at your school's robotics site: Wednesday, June 5th at 5:30 pm.
- If you have not previously participated on a Robotics team, completion of a Beginning Robotics course is required prior to September 2019. Courses are offered through CEF's Summer Enrichment Camps. Visit www.cefacademy.org for schedules and registration.

Team Member Responsibilities

There is much more to FLL Robotics than free play time with Legos. Lego building is only a small part of the process. Most of the team meeting time is spent working with teammates to solve problems. We will also be researching and learning about our topic for the year, programming our robots to complete missions, and working with other teams and team members to help everyone be more successful!

Citizenship and Behavior: Students must maintain excellent citizenship and behavior (in the classroom and at practices) to be considered for a team. This includes following school rules and being respectful to other students, parents and coaches. Technology use at practice is limited to what is appropriate and necessary for the robotics team (i.e. project research, use of Lego Mindstorms software, etc.). In the rare event that a student is not following school rules, a parent will be notified to immediately pick up the student.

Time Commitments: Teams will begin meeting once per week in the Summer. September through March, teams will meet twice weekly for 2 hours (4 hours per week for 7 months). School year meeting times are not confirmed but will likely be one day a week from 3-5 pm and a second day a week from 5-7 pm. If teams advance to a higher level, extra or extended practices will be added.

Team members are also required to attend the following three full day tournaments (Saturday or Sunday, 7am-5pm). Parents are expected to be in attendance as well:

1. November 2019: FLL Qualifier at HTH in Point Loma
2. December 2019: FLL Championship QR February 2020: FLL Cup Tournament at LEGOLAND
3. March 2020: CEF Tournament at Sage Creek

Regular attendance is important for each team member. Personal reasons such as vacation, illness, doctor's appointments and bereavement are considered excused absences. Please notify your Site Coordinator as soon as possible to report an absence. If a student continually misses practice, they may be removed from the team.

Parent/Guardian Involvement: LEGO Robotics is a *family* commitment. Parent/Guardian involvement is essential to the success of our FLL teams. Each team of 6 students needs a minimum of 3 parent coaches who can consistently be at the meetings each week. Parents do not need any prior experience with programming or research, as it is mainly to help guide students. If you are not able to coach, there are many other opportunities to get involved! You may be asked to come to a mock judging session, volunteer to be a judge at a competition, find & lead a core values exercise, pick up shirts, coordinate a snack schedule, etc. Please indicate your role preference on the "Parent Agreement".



**2019-2020 FIRST LEGO League Robotics
Middle School Application – Part 1
STUDENT/PARENT AGREEMENT**

Please take the time to read over and sign this agreement with your child. We want to ensure that both parents and students understand the responsibility and commitment needed by each FLL team member and family. A signed agreement by both the student and parent is a required part of the application, as well as the Student Questionnaire, and must be submitted to the school’s office by May 31, 2019.

STUDENT AGREEMENT (please review each item before signing below):

- I realize that no FLL problem has a single solution, and that a successful team is one which cooperates by considering everyone’s ideas. I will be supportive of my team members and avoid criticizing anyone’s ideas.
- I will be respectful towards people, equipment, and workspaces.
- FLL team meetings are valuable and will attend each meeting as best as I can. If a conflict arises, I will notify my site coordinator in advance.
- I will use technology appropriately and responsibly.
- I will work collaboratively as a team member. This will help us accomplish more and be more successful as a team.
- The FLL program recognizes all teams that bring a solution to the tournaments and are considered ‘winners’. I will show other teams the utmost respect and good sportsmanship.
- The goal of my team should be to do our best to solve a challenging problem.
- If my behavior is not consistent with these expectations, my parents will be notified to pick me up from practice or competitions immediately. I understand that I may be removed from the team if the misconduct continues.

I have read and agree to the above statements.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Name: _____ **Grade:** _____ **Teacher:** _____

(Please print full name)

STUDENT/PARENT AGREEMENT (Continued)**Student's Name:** _____**PARENT AGREEMENT** (please review each item before signing below):

- In the proper spirit of FLL, I will not to interfere with the team's solutions. All creations, inventions, ideas, must come from the team members.
- My child has a commitment to his/her team. I will make every effort to have my child attend every team meeting. If there is a conflict, either my child or I will notify the Site Coordinator as soon as possible.
- I am willing to help with the team throughout the season to support our students. I will volunteer to take on the role of:
 - Core Values Coach
 - Project Coach
 - Robot Game Coach
 - Tournament Volunteer
 - Snack Coordinator
 - Tournament Prep/Mock Judge
 - Other: _____
- I will pick up my student immediately if contacted by a coach or site coordinator to do so as a result of student misconduct. I realize that if this happens more than once, my student may be removed from the team.
- I will provide transportation to and from events such as practice and competitions and be prompt with pickups after practices and tournaments.
- I will discuss all items listed above with my child.
- If accepted, the team name and team schedule will be provided to me. Upon receipt, I will register my student for the FLL team at www.cefacademy.org. Registration and donation must be completed prior to the first team practice.
- I attended the parent's meeting on May 14th (check box): Yes No

I have read and agree to the above statements.**Parent Signature:** _____**Date:** _____**Parent Email:** _____**Parent Phone:** () _____

(Please print)



**2019-2020 FIRST LEGO League Robotics
Middle School Application – Part 2
STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

Name: _____ **Grade:** _____ **Teacher:** _____

*Please type or neatly print your answers.
Submit completed forms to school office by May 31, 2019*

Why do you want to be on an FLL team?

What previous experience do you have with a team (any type)?

What is the most important personal skill or interest you believe you could offer a team?

How would you handle a disagreement between two team members if asked to mediate?



FLL Robotics Teacher Recommendation Form

Students: Ask a teacher to complete and return this form to the FLL Recommendation Form envelope in your school office. Completed forms must be received by **Friday, May 31, 2019.**

Teachers: Thank you for taking time to complete this recommendation form. This form is CONFIDENTIAL and will only be seen by the FLL Site Coordinator and the school Principal as necessary. Please bring completed form to your school office and place inside the "FLL Recommendation Form" envelope by **Friday, May 31, 2019.**

Do not give this form back to the student

Student Name: _____ **School:** _____

Teacher Name: _____

Contact Information (email or phone): _____

Subject: _____ **School Year:** _____

FLL Robotics teams require self-directed, responsible students who work well in groups. Please rate this student on a scale of 1-5, where 1 = NO and 5 = YES

1) Student is responsible	1	2	3	4	5
2) Student is self- motivated	1	2	3	4	5
3) Student listens to/follows directions consistently	1	2	3	4	5
4) Student enjoys a challenge	1	2	3	4	5
5) Student is creative	1	2	3	4	5
6) Student works well with others	1	2	3	4	5
7) Student overcomes obstacles	1	2	3	4	5

Any other information you would like to share with the FLL Robotics Site Coordinator?

FLL Robotics Middle School Site Coordinators:

Aviara Oaks Middle School 6880 Ambrosia Lane Carlsbad, CA 92011 Linda Dee lindadeelego@gmail.com	Calavera Hills Middle School 4104 Tamarack Ave. Carlsbad, CA 92010 Sarah Rines srines@carlsbadusd.net	Valley Middle School 1645 Magnolia Avenue Carlsbad, CA 92008 Mary Krescanko mkrescanko@hotmail.com
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