



**FRC TEAM 980 THUNDERBOTS
INSPIRING THE FUTURE**

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FRC Team 980 ThunderBots is based at Burbank High School in Burbank, CA. For more information go to our website at <https://team980.com/>. For information about FIRST and the FIRST Robotics Competition program, visit their website at <http://firstinspires.org>. For further inquiries, FRC Team 980 can be contacted by [clicking here](#) or going to <https://team980.com/contact-us/>.

WHO WE ARE

FIRST Robotics Competition Team 980 ThunderBots is a 501(c)(3) public charity with the mission of inspiring young people to become science and technology leaders.

We are a competitive robotics team for high-school age students, primarily from Burbank Unified School District.

Dedicated mentors and sponsors work with students on a robotics project, encouraging growth in creativity, problem-solving, strategy, leadership, initiative and teamwork.

Team 980 is also the perfect environment to develop important non-technical skills in logistics, marketing, graphic design, communications, finance and business practices.

We think of FIRST as a sport-like competition where all students can “go pro!”

Mission Statement

Our mission is to educate and inspire high school students to become the next generation of science and technology leaders by building a competitive robot through the guidance of professional mentors, corporate sponsors and parents in alignment with FIRST core values.

Vision

To create a world-class, award-winning team of confident and competent student leaders, who act as a source of inspiration in science and technology.

TEAM MEMBER REQUIREMENTS

Student Registration and Onboarding

- Complete and submit Team 980 Registration forms (at end of this document):
 - Student Application
 - Student Contract
 - Release/Hold Harmless AgreementRead, know and follow all terms in these forms.
- Once these forms are submitted, the lead mentor will invite the student to Register in STIMS (FIRST On-line Registration).
- Sign up for Team 980 Slack and Google Drive
- Complete all required Safety Training

Participation

Team members are expected to:

- Materially contribute to the work of the team (robot, outreach, competition, etc.).
 - Team members will be on at least one sub-team (Design, Fabrications & Assembly, Controls, Business) and will be responsible for reporting to the student lead of that area.
 - Team members might also be on a second sub-team and will need to coordinate with that student lead as well.
- Attend and participate in team meetings.
 - 100% attendance is NOT required, but it is expected that team members will attend MOST of the meetings and will use Slack to let their student leads and/or mentors know when and why they will be absent.
 - Let a mentor know when you are leaving (mentors are responsible for you during Team 980 meeting times).
 - Clean up before you go.
- Care for team property.
 - Use the right tool for the job.
 - Only use tools you know how to use correctly.
 - Always clean up tools when you are finished with them.
 - Always clean up your work area when you are finished.
 - Help clean up the build space at the end of the meeting, including taking out trash and storing valuable pieces in the locked rooms.

Registration Fee and Fundraising

Every student is required to pay the annual registration fee and to participate in additional fundraising activities.

- Registration Fee for 2024: \$300 per student / \$500 per family.
 - 2025: TBD
- Additional fundraising could include:
 - Campaigns to cover costs for SoCal or World Championships
 - Outreach to local businesses for donations or sponsorships
 - Other fundraising campaigns if required.

Internship

NAF students who do not complete the Team Member Requirements or who opt out of the mandatory Registration Fee are still able to use FRC Team 980 ThunderBots for the NAF internship requirement.

- Interns will not be Team 980 members.
- Interns will not travel with the team to competitions and will not receive team uniform shirts.
- Interns will do separate projects related to the competition team but will not be directly involved in the competition robot or competition presentations.
- Interns can request to become full Team 980 members by fulfilling Team Member Requirements listed above.

NAF students who are interested in using Team 980 to fulfill their internship requirements should see their NAF Counselor, NAF Director or Team 980 Lead Mentor.

ANNUAL SCHEDULE

Our year is divided into three main seasons:

Build season: January-March.

Intense period of robot design, fabrication and operation following release of new game on 1st Saturday* in January. We typically meet most evenings during the week and Sat from 10-4, with additional meeting times as needed.

**2025: game release is on Saturday, Jan 10.*

Competition season: March and April, depending on results.

We will attend two District Qualifying Competitions in March/early April. We usually attend one local competition and commute daily, and one farther competition for which we stay in the area.

If we qualify, we will also attend SoCal District Championships in mid-April, and World Championships in late April in Houston, TX.

Off-season: May - December.

During this time we do a variety of outreach, recruiting and educational programs. We encourage our team members to attend and be involved in these events for the benefit of the team and their own development. We also do engineering projects, such as upgrades to our existing robots for fall competition events, or design and fabrication of new robots.

PARENTS

As with any other youth activity, parent participation is vital to success. We request that at least one parent from every family be in our Slack. In addition to getting our youth team members to meetings (not a small commitment), we rely on our parents for:

Transportation

In addition to team meetings, we need to carpool students to competitions, workshops and other events.

Food

Families take turns supplying lunch on Saturdays, and snacks during build season. We'll publish a lunch schedule - please know your week! If you can't make your assigned week, please trade with another family and let us know. We also need help organizing meals during competitions so that the mentors can remain focused on the team.

Chaperones

We might do one out-of-town competition that requires us to stay at a hotel, as well as potential travel in April for District and World Championships. We encourage parents to accompany us, act as chaperones and help the mentors with logistics.

Community Rebates

In addition to our fundraising campaigns, FRC Team 980 is a member of several community rebate programs, all of which give a percent back to Team 980 for every dollar spent. This is a great way to help Team 980 without any additional out-of-pocket contributions! Search list of charities for FRC Team 980 ThunderBots



Ralphs Community Contribution Program: % rebate on every dollar spent at Ralphs supermarkets. Sign up at www.Ralphs.com



Food4Less Community Rewards Program. % rebate on every dollar spent at Food4Less. Sign up at www.food4less.com.



Give Freely. A Chrome browser extension that finds coupons and contributes to your favorite charity at no extra cost to you.

Corporate Matching Fund Programs

Many companies have programs that match employee donations up to a certain amount. As a 501(c)(3) public charity, FRC Team 980 qualifies for most matching fund programs.

COMMUNICATIONS

Youth Protection

For the protection of our students (and adults), all communications between students and mentors follow Youth Protection protocols.

- In person: interactions between a single student and mentor must be in view of other students and/or mentors
- On Slack/Text/Email, etc.: electronic messages between a student and a mentor must include a second adult (mentor, parent, another adult).
- On phone, Slack huddle, etc.: live voice conversations should be made on speaker with other students or adults on the call or able to listen in.

Slack

We expect all students to check the Team 980 Slack daily - on either a desktop or mobile app. Some posts, like meeting announcements, can be responded to with a “check” or “x.” Some communications will require a response. Team members must be responsible, read posts and respond when appropriate.

- Parents are also encouraged to join Slack so they can get vital team info.

Google Drive

We use an FRC Team 980 shared Google Drive to store all shared team materials.

- Students should request access from the Lead Mentor.

Google Calendar

All our events are tracked in the FRC Team 980 Google Calendar.

The calendar syncs to the Attendance channel on Slack and is available by clicking on any event listing in a Google Calendar post in Slack/#attendance.

- Please check the Attendance channel and/or Google Calendar before posting meeting/event questions on Slack.

The calendar is also available on our website.

SOCIAL MEDIA



<http://team980.com/>



<http://www.facebook.com/Team980ThunderBots>



<http://instagram.com/frcteam980>



http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxW_2sc2SANjckwsFJt14AQ?sub_confirmation=1

TEAM 980 AWARDS

Team 980 is proud of our heritage as an award-winning robotics team and expects all students to strive to continue that tradition of hard work and quality engineering.

2024	Los Angeles Regional	Regional Winner
2022	Los Angeles Regional	FIRST Dean's List Finalist Award
2019	Aerospace Valley Regional	Woodie Flowers Finalist Award
2018	Los Angeles Regional	Woodie Flowers Finalist Award Regional Finalists Regional Chairman's Award
2017	Central Valley Regional	FIRST Dean's List Finalist Award
2017	Los Angeles Regional	Entrepreneurship Award sponsored by Kleiner Perkins Caufield and Byers
2016	Ventura Regional	Regional Engineering Inspiration Award Woodie Flowers Finalist Award
2015	Los Angeles Regional sponsored by	The Roddenberry Foundation FIRST Dean's List Finalist Award
2014	Los Angeles Regional sponsored by	The Roddenberry Foundation Regional Finalists
2013	Los Angeles Regional sponsored by	The Roddenberry Foundation Creativity Award sponsored by Xerox Woodie Flowers Finalist Award FIRST Dean's List Finalist Award
2010	Arizona Regional	Quality Award sponsored by Motorola
2010	Los Angeles Regional	Regional Finalists
2008	Los Angeles Regional	Regional Winners
2007	Los Angeles Regional	Regional Finalists
2005	Silicon Valley Regional	Delphi "Driving Tomorrow's Technology" Award Regional Winners
2005	Arizona Regional	Xerox Creativity Award
2005	Southern California Regional	RadioShack Innovation in Control Award Regional Finalists
2004	Arizona Regional	General Motors Industrial Design Award
2004	Southern California Regional	Regional Winners Leadership in Controls Award
2003	Arizona Regional	Motorola Quality Award
2003	Southern California Regional	Xerox Creativity Award
2002	Southern California Regional	Rookie All Star Award

REGISTERING WITH FIRST

Youth:

After you receive your youth team member email invite generated by the Lead Mentor of your team, follow these steps:

1. Visit www.firstinspires.org and click “Register” in the upper-right-hand corner.
2. Create an account with your name, date of birth, and email address - use the email address that was associated with your invite.
3. Once logged into your account dashboard, click the three-person icon located in the upper-right-hand corner by your name.
4. Locate your youth team member invite and click “Accept.”
5. Complete your profile information when prompted.
6. After you are able to “Accept” your youth team member invite, click back to Dashboard.
7. Select your “Parent/Guardian” youth tab and click “Invite Parent/Guardian.”
8. Enter your parent/guardian’s full name, email address, phone number, and click “Send Invitation.” Be sure to use the same email that your parent/guardian will use to create their account or the two accounts will not link.

This will generate an email to your parent/guardian with instructions for them to electronically accept your *FIRST* Consent and Release Form.

Parents / Guardians

Parents / Guardians new to *FIRST* and registering their youth for the first time:

1. Visit www.firstinspires.org and click “Register” in the upper-right-hand corner.
2. Create an account with YOUR name, date of birth, and email address (NOT your child’s information). Use the email address provided by your youth in their account or the two accounts will not link.
3. Once you are logged into your account dashboard, click the Parent/Guardian - Youth tab.
4. Click the blue “Add A Youth” button.
5. Enter your youth’s profile information and click the blue “Next” button.
6. Enter your youth’s school information and click the blue “Next” button.
7. Type in your name in the field at bottom of the form.
8. Click the blue “Accept & Submit” button at the bottom of the Consent and Release Form
9. Select program and enter your youth’s team number (980) on the “Apply to Team” page.

Returning Parent / Guardians re-registering their youth:

1. Visit www.firstinspires.org and click “Log in” in the upper-right-hand corner.
2. Once you are logged into your account dashboard, click the Parent/Guardian - Youth tab.
3. Click the “Youth Options” drop-down next to your youth’s name and select “Youth’s Consent & Release.”
4. Click anywhere on the “2022 *FIRST* Consent & Release” title to expand it.
5. Type in your name in the field.
6. Click the blue “Accept & Submit” box.
7. Click back to dashboard.

8. Click the “Youth Options” drop-down next to your youth’s name and select “Apply to a Team.”
9. Select the program and manually type in the team number.
10. Click “Apply”

To electronically accept 2022 FIRST® Consent and Release Form via a mobile device:

1. Visit www.firstinspires.org and click the three lines in the upper right-hand corner.
2. Click “Log In” to proceed to your Dashboard.
3. Click the  icon.
4. Click the “X” in the upper-right-hand corner of the pop-up window.
5. Locate your youth’s name and click the “Youth Options” button.
6. Click “Youth’s Consent and Release”
7. Click “Click to Sign Form”
8. Read and scroll to the bottom to type in your name in the field.
9. Click the “Accept & Submit” button

**FRC Team 980 ThunderBots
STUDENT APPLICATION**

Instructions:

Please complete and submit this form to a Team 980 mentor. Signatures from students and parents can be submitted on paper form or via separate e-mail to info@team980.com
All students and parents must also register with *FIRST*.

Name: _____ Cell number (optional): _____

Student E-mail address: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ GPA: _____

Activity Preference:

Choose the top three activities you'd most want to do by numbering your 1st choice with "1", 2nd choice with "2" & 3rd with "3:"

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robot Design (CAD) | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Operations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robot Fabrication/Assembly | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing (outreach / fundraising) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robot Controls (programming) | <input type="checkbox"/> Videography/Photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robot Controls (electronics) | <input type="checkbox"/> Website / Social Media |

Other after-school activities (including work) from September through April:

Can you work weeknights until 9 pm in build season (Jan - Mar)? _____
(Transportation is by arrangement among parents/mentors).

How many hours per week will you commit to the team? _____

What do you expect to gain by participating in *FIRST*?

**FRC Team 980 ThunderBots
STUDENT CONTRACT**

By signing below I acknowledge and agree to all of the below rules and conditions:

1. I have read and understood the Team 980 Handbook and will follow all the rules and policies laid out in the Handbook.
2. I plan on gaining active member status. This requires registration in **FIRST STIMS** and regular participation in team meetings and fund-raising campaigns. I will read and respond promptly to Team 980 messages on Slack. If I am not registered as an **active member by February 1**, I agree that I will not be a participating member of Team 980 at *FRC* events.
3. I will pay my registration fee **no later than one week after Kick Off Day**.
4. I understand that I am responsible for my schoolwork. If any of my grades are below a C- for the period prior to an *FRC* trip, I might not travel to an event as part of the team.
5. I will seek assistance if my grades are low enough to keep me from traveling with the team. Team 980 mentors are willing to help!!
6. I understand I may be absent from school for **two (or more) Regional Competitions held late-Feb through early-April (locations/dates TBD). If we qualify, we'll attend Championships in late-Apr**. I remain responsible for all tests and homework. I will stay focused on my schoolwork responsibilities.
7. I agree to use tools and equipment safely while working with Team 980. I respect the severity of a possible accident and agree I may be placed on probation if I don't work safely. I also agree I will not use tools or other equipment until I am mentor-certified.
8. I will respect the property of **Burbank High School / NAF Academy** at our build site.
9. I will maintain an acceptable level of productivity during team activities. Distracted behavior, horseplay, gaming, etc. is not allowed.
10. I will be aware of my environment, teammates and mentors and not act in a way that is distracting or puts anyone at risk. I will behave in a safe and considerate manner.
 - a. Excessive cellphone use - such as during team discussions or while moving around the build space - violates this.
 - b. **If I am standing, my cellphone is away.**
 - c. I understand that violations of this will result in confiscation of my cellphone for the remainder of the meeting.
11. I will conduct myself in a professional manner at all Team 980 meetings and events. I will wear appropriate attire, be respectful of Team 980 and other FRC members, and will conform with the spirit of **Gracious Professionalism**.
12. I will complete **FIRST** and **Team 980 Release and Hold Harmless** forms.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature (If under 18 years of age, parental signature is required)

Date

Parent's Name (printed)

Parent's Phone

Parent's e-mail address

Team 980 Approved

Date

**FRC Team 980 ThunderBots
RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS**

As used below, “*FRC Team 980*” shall mean “*FRC Team 980 ThunderBots*” and its officers, members, assigns, and agents (including any third party designated and approved by *FRC Team 980* at any time, including, without limitation, individuals or entities involved in print, publication, television, broadcast, or video media). As used below, “Participant” shall mean any individual, student, mentor, teacher, or volunteer involved in a *FRC Team 980* event. In consideration of the acceptance of my participation in any *FRC Team 980* activities, and related programs, meetings or events, including travel associated with such activities (collectively, the “Events”), I agree to the following:

The undersigned being fully cognizant of the risks in participating in robotics activities and events, hereby assumes the risks of bodily injury (including, without limitation, death) and property damage, inherent in such participation. Except to the extent due to the gross negligence or willful misconduct of *FRC Team 980* to the fullest extent permitted by applicable laws, I hereby waive any claims or causes of action which I may now or hereafter have against *FRC Team 980* arising out of my participation, and I will indemnify and hold harmless *FRC Team 980* against any and all claims resulting from such participation

I hereby release *FRC Team 980* and its respective successors, affiliates, licensees and assigns from all claims, demands, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, attorneys’ and other professional fees and expenses) that I may now or hereafter have against *FRC Team 980* arising in connection with my participation in the Event and *FRC Team 980*’s exercise of rights hereby granted, including without limitation, claims for compensation, defamation, or invasion of privacy, or other infringements or violations of personal or property rights of any sort whatsoever.

In the event I should sustain injuries or illness while involved in an Event, I hereby authorize *FRC Team 980* to administer, or cause to be administered, such first aid or other treatment and medications I may bring as may be necessary under the circumstances, to include treatment by a physician or hospital of *FRC Team 980* choice. Furthermore, I agree to use my personal medical insurance as a primary medical coverage payment if accident or injury occurs.

This Release shall be binding upon my heirs, personal representatives and assigns, and me and shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of California without regard to conflicts of laws principles. Venue for any legal action arising out of or in connection with this Release shall be in Los Angeles County, California, or, if appropriate, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California. This Release constitutes the entire agreement among the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter of this Release and supersedes any and all previous agreements among the parties, whether written or oral, with respect to such subject matter.

I understand that this form involves a release of legal rights.

Signature _____ Date _____

Name (Printed) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home _____ Cell _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____

For those persons under the age of eighteen (18) years: I hereby consent and agree to the above as the Parent/Legal Guardian of _____ (minor’s name), in which case “I,” “me” and “my” as herein shall refer to said minor.

Parent or Legal Guardian

Print Name

Students only - Please provide emergency contact information (including mobile phone) and alternate contact information below:

Primary Contact Name (Printed) _____

Phone: Home _____ Mobile _____

Alternate Contact Name (Printed) _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

Mobile _____

Please provide medical insurance, primary care physician, and medical/prescription information below:

Medical Insurance Carrier and Policy No.

Primary Care Physician _____

Phone: _____

Medical Conditions and Prescriptions: _____