

A photograph of a FIRST Tech Challenge competition. In the foreground, a team of students in red shirts and safety goggles are gathered around a table, looking at a laptop. Behind them, a mentor in a yellow shirt and a referee in a black shirt are standing. In the background, there are other people, a scoreboard showing "1:47", and various FIRST-related banners. The overall atmosphere is one of a professional competition.

FIRST Tech Challenge Dean's List

Celebrating Student Leaders



**FIRST®
TECH
CHALLENGE**

FIRST Tech Challenge

Dean's List

Award Process & *Eligibility*

- Each team may nominate up to two sophomores or juniors.
- Students may be nominated for both FRC and FTC, *but* each submission should discuss student's contribution to *THAT* team.
- Essay is submitted through coach's *FIRST* Dashboard.
- **Deadline for ALL REGIONS is Dec. 15 11:59 PM EST**
- Planning committee volunteers review essays. Nominated students (*Semifinalists*) are interviewed remotely in early January via FTC Scoring system.
- Planning committee volunteers review essays and interview notes and select Finalists from interviewed Semifinalists and announced at the AZ Championship.



FIRST Dean's List Criteria

- Demonstrated leadership and commitment to the FIRST Core Values
- Effectiveness at increasing awareness of FIRST in their school and community
- Demonstrates passion for a long-term commitment to FIRST
- The student's individual contributions to their team contribute to the overall success of the team
- Proven experience in areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)
- The student is a role model and can motivate and lead fellow team members

FIRST Dean's List Essay Questions

800 character limit per question

- Explain how the student embodies the philosophies of *Gracious Professionalism*® and *Coopertition*® through the *FIRST* Core Values: Discovery, Innovation, Impact, Inclusion, Teamwork and Fun. Please provide examples.
- How has the student increased the awareness of *FIRST*? Describe the student's interests and/or plans to continue to engage with *FIRST* beyond high school. Please provide examples.
- How does the student's individual contribution to the team benefit the whole? Please provide examples.
- Describe the students' experience in areas of STEM. This could include but is not limited to skills in engineering, software, CAD, fabrication, etc. Please provide examples.
- Explain the student's leadership to their fellow team members. How do they motivate others? What is their leadership style? Please provide examples.
- Please share anything else you would like us to know about the student, including academic performance, specialized skills, or additional extracurricular activities. (500 characters)

Nomination Tips



- Be specific!
 - Events & mentorship
 - Technical accomplishments
 - Anecdotes
 - Quotes
 - Personality
- Use *all* available space in nomination essay.
- Answer the questions completely.
 - Some have multiple parts.
- Have students on the team nominate teammates and share ideas team insight on nomination questions.
- Start early – deadline will not be extended.

Nominations....



“This student is dedicated to the team and to its continued success.”

VS

“He is passionate about leading others with maturity and equity, while helping others to grow. He strives to be inclusive in all endeavors by seeking feedback from every member. He established a team voting protocol that follows democratic ideals. The team commented on how “fun he is to be around and how kind he is to everyone.” We have seen a huge growth in his confidence and effectiveness this last year. He understands that effective communication and consistency when working with others is critical to positive leadership. He truly embodies the belief that anyone can achieve their dreams if they work hard and put an honest effort toward achieving their goals, and he models these ideals everyday.”

Interview Tips



- Interviews are 10 minutes with at least 2 volunteers.
- Prep students for interview – what's something that they are proud of that's worth sharing?
- Students should read their essays – be ready to give **more** information about what was included.
 - Only the essay and notes from the interview can be considered when picking finalists – that's what goes on to the World Championship selection committee!
- Share **your story** and your goals.
- How do you plan to be involved with *FIRST* after graduation?
- Why is *FIRST* important to you?
- Be genuine!
- Dress for success – team uniform and business attire are both ok!
- An adult must be present for the remote interview – a coach, mentor, or parent are all ok.



We can't wait to celebrate
your amazing students!!!

Questions???



FIRST
LEGO[®]
LEAGUE

FIRST
TECH
CHALLENGE

FIRST
ROBOTICS
COMPETITION