Leo Robotics Team Application

Student Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent(s) Cell Phone Number(s): _____ Parent(s) E-mail Address(es): _____

2025 – 2026 Grade: _____ Current Teacher(s) _____

Desired Competition Level: ____ High School ___ Middle School (if Middle School: ___ VRC or ___ VIQC)

Please note that, according to the REC foundation (the robotics governing authority), a person is considered a student if he or she meets both of the following criteria:

1. Anyone who is earning or has earned credit toward a high school diploma, certificate or other equivalent during the six (6) months preceding the VEX Robotics World Championship. Courses earning credits leading up to high school would satisfy this requirement
2. Anyone born after May 1, 2007 (i.e., who will be 19 or younger at VEX Worlds 2026). Eligibility may also be granted based on a disability that has delayed education by at least one year.
    - Middle School Student - A Student born after May 1, 2010 (i.e., who will be 15 or younger at VEX Worlds 2026). A Middle School Student may "play up" and compete as a High School Student.
    - High School Student - Any eligible Student that is not a Middle School Student.

Costs will be discussed at a parent meeting for the down selected candidates.

T-shirt Size:

____Youth Small	____Youth Medium	____Youth Large	____Youth Extra Large
____Adult Small	____ Adult Medium	____ Adult Large	____ Adult Extra Large

Parents

As the coach, I have the ability to select team members based upon the criteria contained herein. Because of the high demand but limited team space, your child may not be chosen despite being a perfect candidate, or despite being on the team previously. If this is the case, please use it as an opportunity to teach a valuable life lesson about overcoming adversity. Calling the coach or the school to complain will not give your child a better chance of making the team.

Student

Be aware that robotics is a very fun learning process, but it has a long season. If the team qualifies, the competition is in Dallas, Texas. The 2024 Worlds event is typically scheduled for May 2024. If you are selected for the team and the team is highly successful, you will be expected to fully participate and be an active member on the team through (potentially) mid-May.

Parent(s) / Legal Guardian(s) is / are willing to assist the team by:

- Food / Drinks / Snacks: _____
- Fundraising: _____
- Assist the coach: _____ Special Skills: _____
- Volunteer at an event: _____
- Other (please specify): _____

Please note that the number of students on the team is driven, in part, by parent participation.

Our season is divided into two stages (Build Season and Competition Season). In order to accomplish the mission, each stage provides students with the opportunity to be on different sub-teams.

STAGE 1: BUILD SEASON

Supply Manager – members of this sub-team are in charge of maintaining a clean build station and keeping the parts organized at all times. They also work directly with the Design and Build Team to assist in retrieving needed parts for the robot.

STEM and Awards Team – members of this sub-team will study and dissect all the possible local, State, and Worlds event awards. They will read rubrics, watch online example videos, create Q&A scripts, and present information to the rest of the team. They will also film and edit our STEM Research Project.

Documentation Team – members of this sub-team will create and maintain the team's engineering notebook (composed of design notes, programming notes, strategies, game rules, schedule, and competition details). An organized and appealing engineering notebook is required to qualify for the Design Award and the Excellence Award (both Worlds-qualifying awards).

Design and Build Team – members of this sub-team will brainstorm game strategies and robot designs to put our team in the best position to succeed. Once designed, members of this sub-team will build the robot using parts from our VEX robotics kits.

List, in order of preference, which sub-team (for the Build Season) you would want to be on.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Explain, in great detail, why you would be a good fit for your top two choices:

STAGE 2: COMPETITION SEASON

Driver – members of this sub-team know the ins and outs of the robot. They drive the robot during practices and competitions. They must have good sportsmanship and driving skills, and must be willing to give up some recess time to practice. Strategizing with alliances is essential, as well.

Scout Team – members of this sub-team will research rankings of competing teams the week prior to a competition. At competitions, they will meet with alliances to discuss their robot capabilities.

Score Keeper – members of this sub-team will intently watch each of our matches, breaking down and tallying up the points we (and our alliance) score.

Pit Crew – members of this sub-team will check over (using a checklist) the robot after each match. They will fix any issues they find. One member of this sub-team will be appointed "**Pit Boss**," which is a leader who administers the final check before sending the robot back out to competition.

Competition Manager – members of this sub-team will work closely with the coach during the competition. They will not leave the coach's side unless to run errands or to find the drivers for their next match. These members will pay close attention to the competition schedule and notify the drivers of when their next match begins.

List, in order of preference, which sub-team (for the Competition Season) you would want to be on.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Explain, in great detail, why you would be a good fit for your top two choices:

Scenario: You had many ideas and none of them were chosen by your teammates. What steps could you take to move on and still be a productive member of your team?

Scenario: At practice, you have finished your specific task for the day. What would you do next?

Scenario: At a competition, you overhear coaches, adults, or students from another organization wrongly accuse your team of cheating. What would you say or do that would represent your school proudly, but also defend the Leo Robotics team?

Scenario: You are on a team with more than one strong personality (maybe even your own). Things become heated while discussing changes and modifications to the robot. How would you keep your team calm and guide students to work well together?

Please be honest in your self-evaluation responses so that we may get to know you better.

Give yourself a ranking of 1-5 (1 is lowest and 5 is highest).

Skill	**Ranking**
Are you responsible?	
Are you honest?	
Are you self-motivated?	
Are you respectful?	
Are you mature?	
Are you able to work independently and remain on task?	
Are you able to work well on a team and remain on task?	
Do you work well under pressure?	
Are you trustworthy?	
Do you have good computer skills?	
Are you good at working with your hands?	
Do you write well?	
Do you draw well?	
Do you have good organizational skills?	
Do you have good research skills?	
Are you outgoing and willing to strategize with alliances?	
Do you have good sportsmanship?	
Are you willing to cheer for your team even if they do not succeed?	
Are you able to stay focused during practices and at competitions?	
Can you commit to two days a week and a handful of Saturdays?	

The following will be filled out by the coach. Please leave blank.

	Completed all parts of the application
	Provided a recommendation letter
	Turned both in on time
	Has good grades according to the student's teachers
	Has good behavior according to the student's teachers
	ILEARN Math Score _____
	ILEARN ELA Score _____

Writing Assignments

When submitting an application to be on the robotics team, you must include **two** additional documents. These are required to be considered as a candidate for the robotics team.

Writing assignment #1 - Please include a **handwritten** three to five-page essay with your application (this **must** be done by the student) discussing:

1. Explain, in detail, why you want to be on the Robotics team?
2. What are you hoping to learn or achieve?
3. Describe a time you had to work on a team to solve a difficult problem. Include ways you were a good leader and ways you were a good follower.
4. Who is your favorite engineer, inventor, or entrepreneur? Explain why.

Writing assignment #2 - Please provide a letter of recommendation from someone other than a family member. This person can be a teacher, a member of the community, someone from church, etc. that has known the student for greater than two months. The point of a recommendation letter is to find someone who can vouch for all your positive characteristics. This must be thorough and honest.

Rules

To ensure the teams can move forward at the rate needed to compete and for each student to be successful, all students must agree to the following set of expectations, rules and procedures:

- Students will comply with the Robotics Education & Competition (REC) Foundations Behavior and Ethical Standards.
- Students must consistently attend team meetings and competitions and be punctual. If a student misses more than three meetings or competitions without prior agreement from the head coach, they are voluntarily departing the team.
- Integrity means being honest and having strong moral principles. A person with integrity behaves ethically and does the right thing, even when not under direct observation. All student must exhibit a high level of personal integrity.
- Students are expected to understand that judges, referees and other adults may sometime make mistakes even when it is to the detriment of the team. It is expected that students know the game rules and can directly quote them when making an enquiry about a referee's or a judge's call. All interactions with adults and event staff will be polite, professional, and realize that the event head referee has the final say in all rules interpretations.
- No playing around or being loud, this is very disruptive to instructors and other students who are trying to concentrate and stay focused.
- Students must listen, not talk, have disruptive behavior or moving around during instruction. Always look at the adult who is giving instruction.
- Students are expected to be working towards and focused on team goals throughout the practices and competitions.
- Students are expected to work diligently and collaboratively with other members on the team.
- Students must be on task at all times, there is always something to be done during practice and at every competition.
- Students must raise hand to ask or answer questions when instructor is addressing the group.
- Students must be attentive and respectful to coaches, referees and teammates.
- Students must maintain good grades.
- Students must have positive classroom, practice and competition behavior. No negative comments towards others!
- Students are expected to restore the environment during the last 10-15 minutes of practice.
- Students are expected to work diligently and collaboratively with other members of the team.
- Students are expected to be working towards and focused on the team goals throughout the team meetings and competitions.
- Parents must provide transportation at the end of practice (no later than 8:30pm)

Students who fail to follow these expectations and team rules will be subject to discipline, which includes a discussion with the parents as well as voluntary departure from the team.

I, _____, understand that I must maintain good grades, not receive any discipline referrals, work diligently and collaboratively with other team members, and use care with robotics equipment to maintain my spot on the Leo Robotics Team if chosen.

_____ _____

Student Signature Date

I give my son/daughter permission to participate in the after-school Leo Robotics program if chosen. I understand that my child must follow all requirements to maintain their place on the team if chosen.

_____ _____

Parent Signature Date