Reboot Robotics

Space Taters
TEAM #70387

FIRST Lego League
2026-2027
Team Handbook

Space Taters
FLL Team #70387
Team Handbook
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About The Handbook

This handbook is designed to provide team members and their families with a clear understanding of what it means to be part of the team. It outlines our mission, expectations, season structure, and the core values of FIRST. Whether you're new or returning, this guide will serve as a valuable resource throughout the season, ensuring everyone is informed, prepared, and aligned with the goals of the team.

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Welcome

We're thrilled to welcome both returning and new families as we continue this exciting journey into our second year of FLL competition and discovery. Our first season set a strong foundation—now, we're ready to build on that success and grow even further as a team.

Reboot Robotics is a faith-based nonprofit dedicated to empowering homeschooled youth in southwest Missouri through hands-on robotics education. Rooted in Christian values, our mission is to provide a supportive environment where students can explore the exciting world of robotics while developing critical thinking, creativity, and teamwork skills. We aim to inspire innovation and growth, all while operating on a strong biblical foundation and serving families in Polk, St. Clair, Cedar, Hickory, Henry, and neighboring counties.

FIRST LEGO League may not involve running laps or scoring touchdowns, but make no mistake—this is a sport for the mind. Through brainstorming, building, coding, and presenting, our team members face challenges that test their ingenuity, perseverance, and teamwork. Every meeting is practice. Every challenge is a chance to grow. And every competition is a celebration of what we've learned—together.

This Team Handbook is your complete guide to the Space Taters experience. Think of it as your official Space Taters field guide—filled with everything you need to know as we grow through another exciting year of robotics and STEM discovery.

We're excited to continue learning, building, and competing alongside each of you. Here's to another season of creativity, teamwork, and tater-powered success!

Go Space Taters!

With enthusiasm,
The Reboot Robotics Team

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About FIRST and FLL

About FIRST

FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1989 by inventor Dean Kamen to inspire young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Working alongside MIT professor Woodie Flowers, Kamen created a program that combined the excitement of sports with the challenge of real-world engineering. FIRST isn't just about robots—it's about teamwork, innovation, and personal growth. Students learn valuable skills like critical thinking, communication, and project management, all in a fun and supportive environment. FIRST rewards not just technical excellence, but also Gracious Professionalism®, teamwork, and perseverance.

Today, FIRST has grown into a global movement reaching hundreds of thousands of students each year through age-appropriate programs:

- FIRST LEGO League (FLL) – PreK to Grade 8
- FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) – Grades 7–12
- FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) – Grades 9–12

To learn more, visit firstinspires.org.

About FIRST LEGO League Challenge

FIRST LEGO League (FLL) is a hands-on STEM program for students in grades 4–8. It blends creative problem-solving with coding and robotics using LEGO® technology. Each season, teams explore a real-world challenge, create an Innovation Project to address it, and build and program a robot to complete missions on a themed game field.

Through FLL, students learn how to:

- Think like engineers and scientists
- Work collaboratively as a team
- Apply creativity to real-world problems
- Compete with kindness, respect, and integrity

Each season ends with a celebration of learning at local competitions where teams present their projects, demonstrate their robots, and embody the FIRST Core Values: Discovery, Innovation, Impact, Inclusion, Teamwork, and Fun.

Updates Coming to FIRST LEGO League

FIRST LEGO League (FLL) is entering a new chapter as the program evolves to better serve teams and reflect modern robotics and coding trends. Beginning with the 2026–2027 season, FLL will include two parallel editions:

- Founders Edition: Continues the current SPIKE-based experience many teams know now, but will retire after the 2027–2028 season.
- Future Edition: A new experience powered by LEGO Education Computer Science & AI hardware, designed to introduce more modern computing concepts and engagement.

During the 2026–2028 transition period, teams may choose to participate in either edition depending on preference, region, and access to hardware. After the 2027–2028 season, the Founders Edition (current format) will retire, and FLL will transition into a more unified program structure focused on age and skill rather than traditional division names like Challenge.

Our Team's Approach to the FIRST LEGO League Transition

Reboot Robotics plans to operate the teams in both editions of FIRST LEGO League during this transition period. While many details are still forthcoming, our FIRST in Missouri Partner has indicated that Future Edition tournaments will likely be scheduled after Founders Edition events, which may result in a longer overall season. By participating in both programs this year, we aim to begin the transition early—learning new systems, understanding upcoming changes, and staying ahead of the curve rather than waiting until the transition period is complete. This proactive approach allows us to better support our students, adapt intentionally, and continue providing a high-quality robotics experience as the program evolves.

FIRST Code of Conduct for Program Activities

The FIRST mission is to inspire a generation of science and technology leaders who are both gracious and professional. This FIRST Code of Conduct lists some of the basic behaviors mentors, coaches, volunteers, team members, affiliate partners, contractors, staff, and other participants should adhere to while participating in FIRST activities.

- Exhibit Gracious Professionalism® at all times. Gracious Professionalism is a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community. With Gracious Professionalism, fierce competition and mutual gain are not separate notions.

- Ensure the safety of all participants in FIRST activities.

- Not engage in any form of bullying, harassment, use of profane or insulting language, or any actual or threatened violence.

- Adhere to all FIRST Youth Protection Program (YPP) policies.

- Report any unsafe behavior to event or local FIRST leadership.

Persons who do not comply with this Code of Conduct may be barred from participating in FIRST activities.

FIRST Core Values

We express the FIRST philosophies of Gracious Professionalism and Coopertition through our Core Values:

- Discovery: We explore new skills and ideas.
- Innovation: We use creativity and persistence to solve problems.
- Impact: We apply what we learn to improve our world.
- Inclusion: We respect each other and embrace our differences.
- Teamwork: We are stronger when we work together.
- Fun: We enjoy and celebrate what we do!

About Reboot Robotics

Reboot Robotics is a faith-based homeschool robotics organization that empowers students to explore STEM through hands-on learning, guided mentorship, and Christ-centered values. Founded with the belief that robotics can be both deeply educational and deeply fun, Reboot Robotics exists to help students grow not only in technical skill, but also in confidence, character, and community.

We view robotics as a tool for glorifying God through creativity, teamwork, and perseverance—preparing students to be thoughtful innovators and leaders both in and beyond the world of technology.

Through programs like FIRST LEGO League, we aim to inspire students to engage deeply with science and engineering while upholding values rooted in faith, integrity, and excellence.
To learn more, visit rebootrobotics.org

Reboot Robotics Statement of Faith

Reboot Robotics exists to glorify God through competitive robotics. Our policies and expectations for students and families are based on Christian principles. Therefore:

- We believe there is only one true God who eternally exists in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- We believe Jesus Christ is fully God and fully human, that He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, and willingly gave His life on the cross as an atonement for our sins.
- We believe in Jesus Christ's resurrection and ascension.
- We believe in the sanctity of marriage and that it is between one man and one woman.
- We believe God created each of us in His image as male or female and that we are perfectly created and loved by God.

As part of our team culture, **practices and competitions may include prayer**, led by coaches, mentors, or student volunteers.

Our Key Verse: Romans 12

Living Sacrifices to God

12 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living
sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to
this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that
good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Serve God with Spiritual Gifts

3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself
more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure
of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same
function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. 6
Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy,
let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who
teaches, in teaching; 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads,
with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Behave Like a Christian

9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. 10 Be kindly affectionate
to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; 11 not lagging in
diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing
steadfastly in prayer; 13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.
14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and
weep with those who weep. 16 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on
high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.
17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as
much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but
rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.
20Therefore “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you
will heap coals of fire on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reboot Robotics is a 501(c)(3)

Reboot Robotics is recognized as a nonprofit under IRS Section 501(c)(3). Contributions to our program are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

EIN: 99-3794115

Established: 2024

Website: www.rebootrobotics.org

Email: info@rebootrobotics.org

Reboot Robotics Code of Honor

As a Christian team we strive to honor God through competitive robotics; therefore as a **Robotics team** we believe:

- Behave in a manner that is honoring to God.
- All teams, mentors, coaches, referees, judges, and volunteers deserve to be treated with respect and kindness.
- Our behavior on and off the field cannot be separated and should reflect our beliefs.
- Doing our best is the only option.

As **Students**, because of our beliefs we will:

- Compete fiercely within the rules of the game, spirit of fair play, and have fun.
- Be present for all matches, even if our robot is not functional.
- Never lie about the status or ability of our robot.
- Handle disagreements and disputes in a civil manner.
- Compete with a student-designed and student-built robot.
- Always be willing to learn.
- Contribute to the team.
- Practice safety with all tools and machines.
- Be a team player and work cooperatively.

As **Mentors and Parents**, because of our beliefs we will:

- Set an example of integrity in all we do.
- Develop character and integrity in our students.
- Encourage and expect students to do their best at all times.
- Guide, teach, facilitate, and encourage but never dictate.
- Allow the students to make decisions and direct the course of the team.
- Provide hands-on assistance only when it cannot be provided by another team member.

This Code of Honor is not just what we will do; it is the **core of what Reboot Robotics represents**. We will consistently uphold this code, regardless of the behavior of others. It will be enforced through the strength of our character, and we ask that you hold Reboot Robotics students, mentors, and parents accountable to its tenets.

Team Overview

The Space Taters is Reboot Robotics' FIRST LEGO League Challenge team, entering its second competitive season in 2026-2027. This team includes homeschooled students ages 9–14 (or grades 4–8) who work together to build, code, and compete with a LEGO® robot while also researching and presenting solutions to real-world problems.

To support hands-on learning and meaningful mentorship, each team will be kept small—4 to 8 students, even though FIRST allows up to 10. If student interest exceeds available space, we may expand by forming additional teams.

After establishing a strong foundation in our inaugural year, this season is focused on building on that growth—strengthening teamwork, deepening STEM skills, growing in faith, and continuing to embrace the FIRST Core Values of Discovery, Innovation, Impact, Inclusion, Teamwork, and Fun.

While coaches and volunteers help guide the team, families play a key role in its success. More details on parent roles and responsibilities can be found in the Parent/Guardian Expectations section of this handbook.

Team Structure and Roles

Each Reboot Robotics FLL Challenge team will consist of 4 to 8 students and will be supported by 2 adult coaches. While students may naturally gravitate toward certain tasks based on interest or strengths, **every team member is required to participate in all areas of the project**, as we are committed to working together as a team.

Team Areas of Work
Throughout the season, students will work together in several key areas, including:

- **Building –** Constructing robot components and attachments using LEGO® parts
- **Programming –** Creating and testing programs using block-based coding
- Design & Planning – Sketching ideas, refining robot layout, and organizing project visuals
- **Research –** Investigating the annual challenge topic and gathering information for the Innovation Project
- **Presentation –** Preparing and delivering the Innovation Project, which may include a skit, demonstration, or creative storytelling
- **Team Coordination –** Helping organize tasks, encourage teamwork, and support effective communication

*Please note: As part of upcoming updates to FIRST LEGO League Future Edition, some terminology and expectations around student roles may continue to evolve. Reboot Robotics will adjust role descriptions as needed while maintaining our commitment that all students participate across all areas of the program.

Students will rotate through these areas, learning by doing, supporting one another, and gaining experience in every part of the FLL Challenge.

Coaches, Mentors, & Volunteers

Coaches, mentors, and volunteers are there to guide and support, **not do the work for students**. Their role is to:

- Ask questions that spark curiosity
- Facilitate teamwork and conflict resolution
- Help the team stay organized and on track
- Ensure safety and uphold the values of both FIRST and Reboot Robotics

Season Overview

Participating in FIRST LEGO League Challenge is an exciting journey filled with learning, creativity, and teamwork. Like any sport or team activity, it also comes with a time commitment that helps ensure every student can contribute meaningfully to the team's success.

Season Timeline
The FLL Challenge season typically runs from end of July through December, with advancement opportunities extending into January-April.

Key Milestones:
- Team Meetings – Begin at the end of July and continue weekly
- Season Kickoff (August) – Official kickoff and challenge reveal
- Weekly Practices (August–Season End) – Robot building, programming, project research, and presentation work
- Qualifier Tournament (November or December) – Main competition event
- Post-Season (January–April, if applicable) – Potential advancement to additional competitions

Other Events:
In addition to official competitions, students may be invited to participate in:
- Outreach Opportunities: Events where we share robotics and STEM with the broader community (may occur during or outside of the regular season).
- End-of-Season Celebration: A fun team party to celebrate the season's accomplishments and recognize each student's contributions.

Details for outreach events and celebrations will be communicated as they are scheduled.

Participation in outreach and celebrations, while encouraged, may vary depending on student and family availability.

Time Commitment

Weekly Schedule
Teams will meet once per week on **Mondays from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM**, starting with the first meeting of the season on July 20, 2026.

As the Qualifier Tournament approaches, we may add occasional extra meetings or extend regular meeting times for robot testing, presentation practice, and final preparations.

Students will be asked to work at home from time to time—such as conducting research, brainstorming ideas, or practicing parts of the presentation. These tasks will be kept age-appropriate and manageable.

Attendance & Commitment
Consistent attendance is essential. Each team is small and highly collaborative, so frequent absences can impact both the individual student's experience and the team's overall progress.

To support team cohesion and ensure a positive experience for all, **students are required to attend at least 80% of scheduled meetings**. This allows everyone to stay engaged, contribute meaningfully, and be well-prepared for competition.

We understand that family and academic obligations come first, but we ask families to seriously consider the time commitment before applying. Every student's presence and participation truly matters!

Competition Overview

The FIRST LEGO League Challenge competition is an exciting and educational event where students showcase the robots they've built and the innovative solutions they've developed. The competition is divided into several key elements that highlight the students' hard work, creativity, and teamwork:

- Robot Performance: Teams will compete by programming their LEGO® robot to complete tasks on a game field, scoring points based on its performance.
- Project Presentation: Each team presents their solution to a real-world problem related to the season's theme. This presentation is judged on creativity, research, and communication skills.
- Core Values: Teams are evaluated on how well they embody the FIRST Core Values, such as teamwork, inclusion, and gracious professionalism.

The first major competition for the Space Taters will be the Qualifier Tournament, held in November or December. This event will provide an opportunity for the team to compete against other local teams and showcase what they've learned throughout the season. If the team qualifies, there may be further competitions.

Expectations for the competition day:

- Arrive on time with all necessary materials.
- Participate in all aspects of the event, including the robot runs, project presentation, and core values activities.
- Remain with the team at all times throughout the event; students should not leave the team area without first notifying a coach.
- Support teammates and other teams with gracious professionalism.
- Team members are expected to wear team apparel, closed-toed shoes, and have long hair tied back or secured for safety during robot runs.

Scrimmage Events – In addition to official competitions, the team may also participate in a scrimmage. Scrimmages provide an opportunity to meet other teams, run practice matches in a low-pressure environment, and receive helpful tips or advice from experienced volunteers and experts. These events are an excellent way to build confidence, test strategy, and prepare for the Qualifier Tournament.

Team Behavior and Expectations

Being part of an FLL team is not just about building robots—it's about building character, collaboration, and a culture of respect. The Space Taters are committed to working together in a way that reflects both the values of FIRST and the mission of Reboot Robotics. The guidelines below are designed to ensure a safe, positive, and productive environment for all.

All team members are expected to:

- **Show respect to coaches, volunteers, teammates, and competitors** at all times. This includes listening attentively, following directions, and responding with kindness and consideration.
- **Demonstrate Gracious Professionalism®**, especially during challenges or disagreements, by maintaining a positive and respectful attitude.
- **Actively participate** in meetings, team discussions, and competitions. Every student is expected to contribute, collaborate, and support team goals.
- **Conduct themselves responsibly**—horseplay, roughhousing, or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself at all times.
- **Respect all tools, equipment, and materials** by using them appropriately, keeping workspaces organized, and cleaning up after each session. Report any damage to a coach immediately; students may be responsible for replacement if the situation warrants it.
- **Bring only necessary items** to meetings and competitions. Cell phones and personal electronics are not permitted during team activities unless needed for parent contact or team-related photos/videos.
- **Use respectful language and behavior** at all times. Inappropriate or foul language will not be tolerated in any team setting. Slang should also be avoided, as not everyone may understand its meaning and it can create confusion or discomfort.
- **Report accidents or broken items** to a coach or mentor immediately—don't wait for someone else to find them.
- **Follow all safety guidelines**, including wearing closed-toed shoes, tying back long hair, and using safety goggles when necessary.

- **Uphold Reboot Robotics' Zero-Tolerance policies**:
  - **No drug or substance use:** Any possession or use of drugs, alcohol, or controlled substances is strictly prohibited during all team activities. Any student found in violations of this policy will be immediately removed from the team.
  - **No harassment or bullying**: Harassment of any kind, including sexual harassment, verbal, physical, or digital is strictly prohibited. Any student found engaging in harassment will face disciplinary action, which may include removal from the team, depending on the severity of the incident.
- **Represent Reboot Robotics and the Space Taters well** at all times, especially in public settings. Team members are ambassadors of our organization and our shared values.
- **Wear appropriate clothing**—team apparel is required during competitions, and clothing during team activities must not include inappropriate language or images and must provide appropriate coverage.

We believe that a respectful, encouraging, and Christ-centered environment helps everyone grow—not just in STEM, but in leadership, responsibility, and faith.

Disciplinary Policy

At Reboot Robotics, we believe in creating a respectful, Christ-centered environment where students can grow in both technical skill and character. Team expectations are designed to ensure safety, teamwork, and a positive experience for everyone. When a student struggles to meet these expectations, we use a **tiered consequence system** to support learning and accountability while maintaining team integrity.

The following outlines the process for addressing repeated or serious misconduct:

1. **First Warning (Verbal)**
   - The student will receive a verbal warning from a coach.
   - The behavior will be discussed directly and respectfully to encourage reflection and improvement.
   - No formal documentation or parent contact is required unless the issue is serious.
2. **Second Warning (Parent Notification)**
   - If the behavior continues, a second warning will be issued.
   - The student's parent/guardian will be notified and informed of the concern.
   - This will include a brief summary of the behavior, steps already taken, and expectations moving forward.
3. **Third Incident (Activity Removal + Suspension from Next Meeting)**
   - The student will be removed from the current activity and will not be permitted to attend the next scheduled team meeting or event.
   - If there are **three instances of removal** over the course of the season, a parent/guardian meeting will be scheduled to determine whether continuing on the team is appropriate.
   - This meeting may result in **permanent removal from the team** if robotics is no longer deemed a good fit for the student.

Note: In cases of serious misconduct—such as harassment, unsafe behavior, or violation of zero-tolerance policies—steps may be skipped, and removal may be immediate.

All disciplinary actions are handled with grace and fairness, with the goal of encouraging personal growth, responsibility, and reconciliation when possible. However, the safety, integrity, unity, and productivity of the team must always come first.

Parent/Guardian Expectations

Reboot Robotics is an organization for homeschoolers that relies on strong family involvement to make our programs successful. Parent and guardian support is not only encouraged—it is essential to the success of each student and the team as a whole.

As a parent or guardian of a Space Tater, you are expected to:

- **Commit to consistent student attendance** by ensuring your child is on time, prepared, and present for all scheduled meetings, events, and competitions.
- **Read and stay informed** about team communications, including emails, group updates, and this handbook, so you are aware of deadlines, expectations, and events.
- **Support team activities** by volunteering during the season as needed. This may include helping during practices, assisting with event coordination, or serving as a chaperone during competitions. Based on team size, **parents may also be asked to volunteer at regular meetings on a rotating basis** to ensure proper supervision and support.
- **Provide transportation for your student** to and from all meetings, practices, and competitions. Travel is the sole responsibility of each family and will not be provided by Reboot Robotics or the team.
- **Be available for communication** if your student needs to be picked up early or if concerns arise during a meeting or event.
- **Reinforce team values at home**, such as respect, teamwork, responsibility, and commitment. These values help create a unified experience between team time and home life.
- **Communicate proactively** with coaches if your student will be absent or is experiencing any challenges that may affect participation. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, please bring them **directly to the coaches** in a respectful and timely manner. We value transparency and kindness, and believe issues should be addressed openly—not through behind-the-scenes drama or gossip.

We believe that robotics is most meaningful when it's a family experience. Your support helps your student grow—not just in STEM, but in confidence, accountability, and community.

We ask that parents model the same respectful and cooperative behavior expected of students. Reboot Robotics maintains a culture of unity, encouragement, and grace. **Ongoing gossip, divisiveness, or disruptive behavior from a parent or guardian—whether toward other families, coaches, or the program—will not be tolerated**. If such behavior arises and cannot be resolved through respectful conversation, it may result in the **removal of the student and family from the team**. Maintaining a positive, drama-free environment is essential to the well-being of **every** participant.

Communication and Contact Guidelines

Clear, respectful communication is essential to keeping our team organized, unified, and thriving. To ensure everyone stays informed and connected throughout the season, we ask both families and coaches to follow these communication guidelines:

Team Communication

- **Primary communication will happen via email**. Please be sure to check your email regularly and respond promptly when needed.
- **Reminders and last-minute updates will be sent via a team group text**.
- A **private Facebook group** will be used to share weekly updates and photos for families and friends to follow along with the team's progress.
- **A shared Google Calendar will be provided**, which will be updated throughout the season as meeting times, events, and competition dates are confirmed.

Contacting Coaches

- Parents and students are welcome to contact coaches directly via email or text for questions, concerns, or scheduling needs.
- **Please do not use team meetings or events for airing major concerns or grievances**. These discussions are best handled privately and respectfully. **If needed, a phone call or meeting can be scheduled** to address the issue thoughtfully and constructively.
- We encourage **open and honest communication** and value direct, Christlike conversation. If something is unclear or concerning, please talk to us early—**not through side conversations or group messaging**.

Student Communication

- Students should also practice good communication. If they're going to miss a meeting, need help, or have a question, they are encouraged to speak with a coach directly.
- Students are not expected to use email or phones to communicate formally, but they should begin practicing basic professional courtesy when speaking with mentors and peers.

We're here to support one another—and clear, kind communication is the foundation for a great team experience!

Health and Illness Policy

To protect the health of our students, families, and volunteers, we ask that students **stay home if they are feeling unwell**. This includes symptoms such as fever, persistent cough, vomiting, diarrhea, or other signs of illness.

- Please do **not** send your child to a meeting or event if they have had a fever within the last 24 hours or are actively showing symptoms of illness.
- Notify the coaches if your student will be absent due to illness.
- If a student begins to feel unwell during a meeting, a parent/guardian will be contacted and asked to pick them up promptly.

We understand that illnesses can arise unexpectedly. We appreciate your help in keeping our team healthy.

Fundraising

As a nonprofit, Reboot Robotics depends on the generosity and involvement of its families and community to help fund programs, materials, and opportunities for students. **Fundraising is a vital part of keeping our robotics program affordable and sustainable**.

We ask that all families actively support our fundraising efforts. This may include:

- Participating in scheduled fundraisers during the season
- Helping plan or organize fundraising events
- Reaching out to local businesses or community members for donations or sponsorships
- Sharing fundraising efforts with extended family and friends

Fundraisers will be organized throughout the season and year, and your involvement makes a significant difference. Every effort helps ensure that Reboot Robotics can continue to grow, serve more students, and expand what we offer in the future.

We appreciate your help in making this program possible—not only for your student, but for future families as well.

Team Fees

As a homeschool organization, Reboot Robotics is committed to providing a high-quality robotics experience while keeping costs accessible for families. To support this, each student is required to pay an **application fee** for the season.

Application Fee

- The **application fee for the 2026-2027 season is $200 for the first student**.
- Each **additional student in the same family will be $150**.
- This fee helps cover:
  - Team registration, fees, and expenses
  - Team t-shirt
  - Team equipment and supplies used throughout the season
- The application fee is **non-refundable**.
- Fees are due by the first meeting of the season on July 20, 2026, unless other arrangements are made in advance. **Payment plans can be arranged if needed**—please speak with a coach privately.

Additional Expenses

Families are responsible for:

- **Travel costs** to and from meetings, competitions, and events
- **Food and beverages** for their student at competitions or full-day events

We aim to keep costs low while offering a rich and engaging experience. If the application fee presents a financial hardship, please reach out to a coach privately. We want every student to have the opportunity to participate.

Other Notes

Supporting All Participants

At Reboot Robotics, we desire to make robotics accessible and meaningful for all homeschoolers who are passionate about participating. While our volunteer coaches are not trained professionals in neurodivergent support or special education, we are committed to creating an inclusive and encouraging team environment.

If your student has specific learning needs, sensory sensitivities, or other support requirements, **we must be made aware at the time of application**. This allows us to plan appropriately and ensure that the season is a positive and productive experience for everyone.

We are happy to make reasonable accommodations where possible and will work closely with families to support student success. In some cases, we may request that a parent or guardian remain with their student during meetings to assist with needs that our volunteer team is not equipped to manage on their own.

Our goal is to support every student with grace, structure, and creativity—within the scope of what our program can realistically provide.

Volunteering with FIRST

In addition to supporting your student's involvement with Reboot Robotics, we encourage parents and guardians to consider volunteering directly with FIRST if time allows.

FIRST events and programs rely heavily on the support of volunteers to create a positive experience for all participants. Volunteering is a great way to become more involved in the robotics community, to serve alongside your student, and to support the values we are working to build.

There are many opportunities available, from judging and refereeing to event coordination and logistics. No technical experience is necessary—just a willingness to serve and learn!

If you are interested, information about volunteering will be shared throughout the season, or you can explore opportunities directly at www.firstinspires.org/volunteer.

Forms and Agreements

To ensure each student is prepared to participate and that all families understand the expectations of the team, the following forms are required. **Applications may be submitted beginning March 1, 2026, and must be submitted by June 30, 2026**:

Required Forms (submitted to Reboot Robotics)

- Student Application
- Student Questionnaire
- Handbook Acknowledgment & Agreement
- Photo, Video and Social Media Release Form

Submission Instructions

- The Student Application can be submitted through the contact form on our website at www.rebootrobotics.org/contact.

FIRST Dashboard Requirements

- Additional digital forms (including the **FIRST Consent & Release**) must be completed through the **FIRST dashboard**. A coach will guide families through the FIRST registration process during the first team meetings.

Important Notes

- **All Reboot Robotics forms must be submitted before a student may participate in any team meetings or events.**
- FIRST dashboard requirements should be completed as soon as instructed, with coach support available.
- Submitting an application does not guarantee placement on the team. Families will receive confirmation when the application is received. Students will be notified via email no later than July 13, 2026 (and possibly sooner) whether they have been accepted onto the team.

If you have questions about any form or need help completing them, please reach out. We're happy to walk you through the process.

Closing Statement

We’re thrilled to begin another season with you and your student as part of the Space Taters and the greater Reboot Robotics community. This handbook was created to guide, support, and unify everyone involved, helping us move forward with clarity, purpose, and joy.

As we enter our second year, we’re excited to build on the foundation we established together—embracing new challenges, celebrating continued growth, and deepening the skills and values that make this team special. Whether it’s solving problems, learning to collaborate, or stepping outside comfort zones, every moment is an opportunity to grow in character, confidence, and skill.

Thank you for trusting us with your child’s robotics journey and for partnering with us to create something meaningful. We look forward to a season filled with learning, creativity, perseverance, and lasting impact—all for God’s glory.

Let’s build something great—together.

Reboot Robotics Student Application
FLL 2026-2027 Season

Student Information:

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Grade (2026–2027 school year): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Student Phone Number (if applicable): _____

Student Email Address (if applicable): _____

Allergies or medical conditions: _____

Parent/Guardian Information:

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Email Address: _____

Additional Information:
Does your student have any learning differences, sensory needs, or other conditions we should be aware of?
□ Yes □ No
If yes, please explain briefly:

Student Questionnaire

Please have the student complete this section to help us learn more about their interests, experience, and goals for joining Reboot Robotics.

1. Why do you want to be part of a robotics team?

2. In an FLL team we must do all the following activities, mark the ones that you are most excited about:
□ Building the robot
□ Programming the robot
□ Brainstorming how to do missions
□ Researching this year's theme
□ Coming up with ideas about this year's theme
□ Thinking about solutions for this year's theme
□ Talking to experts about this year's theme
□ Working as a team to learn something
□ Working by myself to learn something
□ Making posters about the work our team did
□ Writing about the work our team did
□ Giving a presentation about the work our team did
□ Writing the script for our team's presentation
□ Designing a team t-shirt

3. Even if you are not interested in some of the work the team must do, can you do whatever the team needs you to do, cheerfully and without complaining?

□ Yes □ No

4. Is there anything on the list above that you are unwilling to do, even if the team needs you to? Please explain.

5. What skills or experiences do you have (if any) that might help the team?
□ LEGO building
□ Coding/programming (any language)
□ Public speaking or presenting
□ Creative writing or skits
□ Drawing/designing
□ None yet—but I'm ready to learn!
□ Other: _____

6. Are you comfortable speaking in front of others as part of a team presentation?

□ Yes □ No □ I'm willing to try

7. What does being a good teammate mean to you?

Note: Submission of this application does not guarantee a spot on a Reboot Robotics team. Space is limited and placement is based on available openings, team structure, and readiness to meet team expectations.

Handbook Acknowledgment and Agreement

By signing below, we acknowledge that we have received, read, and understood the Reboot Robotics Team Handbook for the 2026-2027 season. We agree to abide by the expectations, policies, and commitments outlined in the handbook.

Parent and student: Please initial each statement below to indicate agreement.

- _____ We agree to uphold the values and standards of Reboot Robotics and the Space Taters.
- _____ We agree to the Statement of Faith and understand that practices and events may include prayer.
- _____ We agree to follow the Code of Conduct & Code of Honor as provided with this application.
- _____ We understand the expectations for student behavior, attendance, and teamwork.
- _____ We understand and accept the parent/guardian responsibilities and communication guidelines.
- _____ We have read and understand the consequences for misconduct.
- _____ We acknowledge that the application fee is non-refundable.
- _____ We agree to support team fundraising efforts throughout the season and year.
- _____ We understand that accommodations may be made when possible, but Reboot Robotics is a volunteer-led program and not equipped to provide professional special education or behavioral support.
- _____ We understand that the student may not participate in team activities until all required Reboot Robotics forms are submitted.

We commit to fostering a positive, respectful, and Christ-centered environment for all members of the team.

Student Name:

_____

Parent/Guardian Name:

_____

Student Signature:

_____

Parent/Guardian Signature:

_____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Photo, Video and Social Media Release Form

Reboot Robotics 2026-2027 Season

Reboot Robotics may take photographs and videos of team members during meetings, events, competitions, and other team activities. These images and recordings may be used for the purpose of sharing team progress, celebrating achievements, and promoting the program to the wider community.

By signing below, I grant permission to Reboot Robotics to:

- Photograph and/or record my child during team activities.
- Use these photos or videos in team communications, such as newsletters, presentations, and team recap videos.
- Share these images or videos on Reboot Robotics' social media platforms, website, and printed materials.
- Include my child's first name only in captions or team highlights when appropriate.

I understand that these materials may be used without further notice, and that they will be used respectfully to represent the mission and values of Reboot Robotics.

Student's Full Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____