

2017 4th Annual **FIRST** National Advocacy Conference

June 25th-27th, 2017
Washington, DC

We invite students and mentors, train them on STEM issues, and then send them out to Capitol Hill to meet with their Senators and Members of Congress. Teams will have a chance to network and collaborate as they prepare for advocacy. Students will leave as globally minded confident experts and Congress will earn a deeper appreciation for STEM initiatives.

"I went to the NAC to learn about the inner workings of our government and to advocate for STEM education and FIRST. My favorite part of the experience was learning to communicate professionally and effectively with my Senators and Representatives, knowing that my requests are being taken seriously. The NAC has allowed me to see the fast paced lifestyle of the people who work in our nation's capitol, and as a student, it also improved my confidence as a presenter knowing that I can present to my nation's leaders and be seen as an equal."

Frank Ferrari – FRC 1718 – The Fighting Pi



**This is YOUR opportunity to make a
difference in our future!**

About The Conference

To change culture to value STEM, we must get our policy makers in our nation's capitol on board with knowing about and supporting FIRST and STEM in education. If we are not there telling them about our experiences, no one else is! This is a conference consisting of training to prepare students and mentors for meetings with their Senators and Members of Congress in their offices on Capitol Hill.

We will train you in the Do's & Don'ts of these meetings and give you time to practice and organize your talking points so you are ready for the meeting. We will help you navigate around Capitol Hill and be available to help if you need it.

If this is your first year in D.C. or first time meeting with your Senators or Members of Congress, we will focus on relationship building. If you've already formed a meaningful relationship, you will be focusing on advocating for FIRST and STEM initiatives. You will have the chance to ask your school if there are any local issues they would like you to bring forward as well.

Students will gain a tremendous amount of self-confidence as they learn, prepare, and lead meetings with Senators and Members of Congress. Students and Mentors alike are typically enlightened with how their government works and usually take a stronger interest in advocacy in the future.



AGENDA

Sunday, June 25, 2017

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Welcome, Background Information
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	Government 101
3:30 PM – 3:45 PM	Break
3:45 PM – 4:30 PM	Video Training
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	FIRST Legislative Agenda
EVENING	Dinner On Own

Monday, June 26, 2017

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Breakfast & Networking
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM	General Session, Capitol Hill Logistics & Training
12:00 PM – 1:15 PM	Lunch & Networking
1:15 PM – 2:15 PM	Break
2:15 PM – 5:00 PM	Practice
EVENING	Dinner On Own

Tuesday, June 27, 2017

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Meetings with your Senators and Members of Congress (Each state/team establishes & has their own meeting schedule)
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Reception for Mentors and Students (Your Senators & Members of Congress will be invited)

Please Note: Either Sunday or Monday at 5pm, we will take a group photo in front of the Capitol. Above agenda is subject to change.

A Special Thank You to: FRC 1086 Blue Cheese, FRC 1511 The Rolling Thunder, FRC 1676 Pascack Pi-oneers, FRC 1718 The Fighting Pi, FRC 1816 The Green Machine, and FRC 2655 The Flying Platypi for help in promoting and organizing this event!

Where Can I Get More Information?

Our Travel Partner, GET Sports, is happy to help or answer any questions you may have.

www.GETtravel.com/first-nac

888-877-4445 Option #3

Whitney Wells • whitneyw@gettravel.com



What is Included?

Each registered participant receives an advance digital briefing booklet of materials, breakfast and lunch on Monday, and refreshments at the reception on Tuesday.

We will provide a guide and contact information for scheduling meetings with your Senators and Members of Congress.

You will be responsible for your own hotel rooms at the host hotel. Meals not mentioned above are on your own.

Who is Invited?

This conference is geared towards high school FTC and FRC students and mentors.

Students can travel and attend the conference with a mentor(s) or parent(s) from their team.

Students and mentors will attend a day and a half of training and then a full day of meetings on Capitol Hill with your Senators and Members of Congress.

Host Hotel

Holiday Inn Capitol, 550 C Street SW, Washington D.C. 20024
(Within walking distance to Capitol Hill)



Room Types: King Bed (Sleeps 2) or 2 Qu Beds (Sleeps 4)

\$238.00 (w/ tax \$272.51)

Amenities Include:

- Starbucks on property
- Complimentary wireless internet
- Rooftop Outdoor pool
- In room refrigerator, Keurig coffee maker
- Fitness Room
- In-Hotel Restaurant, Lobby Market, 24 hours room service

Note: No outside food or beverage allowed in the hotel

Check In: 4 pm / **Check Out:** 12pm

Contact our Travel Partner, GET Sports, for more details, pricing, or assistance with travel options, host hotel, travel insurance or other travel related options

Online: gettravel.com/first-nac

Email: Whitneyw@gettravel.com

Call: (888) 877-4445 Option 3 and ask for the NAC program

What do I Bring?

Each student or mentor should have:

- Business cards (at least 10 each)
- Portfolio with pad for note taking
- Informational one-page handout on your Team/School District (at least 10)
- Umbrella in case of rain
- Swimsuit
- Comfortable shoes and casual clothes for sightseeing in the evening
- SmartTrip Metro Cards (if you want to use the Metro for sightseeing)

What do I wear?

- Sunday and Monday, you will wear team uniforms.
- Wear comfortable shoes.
- Formal dress attire for Tuesday Capitol Hill meetings (suit and tie, pants suit).
- Wear two pairs of socks with dress shoes to avoid blisters from all the walking.

How do I Register?

Please complete the form as best you can initially and work with your GET Travel representative on updates. If you would like to fill out the form and submit it online, please go to gettravel.com/first-nac and click on "Register". You must submit payment within 14 days of booking to continue to hold your space. You can take advantage of the Early Bird rate by registering on or before May 16, 2017. We expect the conference to sell out again, so please send your registration in as early as possible.

Additional Travel Planning

Destination Airports: You can fly into any of the three airports: Reagan (DCA), Dulles (IAD), or Baltimore (BWI). Reagan is closest. Dulles or Baltimore may offer cheaper flights, but you may need a Shuttle Service to get from the airport to the host hotel. You should plan to arrive no later than 12pm on Sunday, June 25, 2017. You can make arrangements to fly out anytime on Wednesday, June 27, 2017 or later.

Destination Transportation: Reagan is the closest airport and is just a quick cab or shuttle ride to/from the hotel. You may also take the Metro from both DCA or IAD. If you plan to ride the Metro, you may want to buy a Smart Card.

Travel Insurance: If needed, there is optional travel insurance for trip cancellation, travel delay, emergency medical, lost luggage, etc.

2017 NATIONAL ADVOCACY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION REQUEST FORM

Note: NAC suggests a group of up to 12 people for the optimal group size for the Congressional meetings. You can certainly have more people attend, but you may not want to have the entire group over 12 in each Congressional meeting.

Team Number: _____ Team Name: _____ Team Traveler ID # (internal use only) _____

Are you a New or Returning team: _____ New _____ Returning

School(s)/District(s) Name: *(Please include city and state of each school)*

Key Contact #1:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

Key Contact #2 (if applicable):

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

HOLIDAY INN CAPITOL 550 C Street SW, Washington D.C. 20024 Check-In Date _____ Check-Out Date _____

of Rooms Needed: _____ # King Bed rooms (sleeps 1-2): _____ # Queen Bed rooms (sleeps 1-4): _____

Expected Adults: _____ # Expected Youth under 17 years old _____

Note: 50% per room deposit due at time of confirmation and 100% registration payment. Balance and Full Occupant List/Roster due on or before 5/16/17. Maximum capacity is 250 Participants. An adult chaperone associated with the group must check in rooms with all Youth occupants. Booking are not guaranteed until paid in full and electronic confirmation from GET Sports is received.

Registration Rates: (Rates are per person and are due in full upon confirmation.)

Returning Teams exclusive rate \$235 *(Must register by 5/5/17 to qualify for returning team exclusive rate.)* Total: _____

Early Bird rate \$250 *(Must register by 5/16/17 to qualify for Early Bird rate.)* Total: _____

Standard Rate rate \$280 *(Applies to all registrations confirmed after 5/16/17, based on availability.)* Total: _____

PAYMENT: *If you chose to pay by School Check, you must send a check made out to **GET Sports** to the **address 5080 Robert J. Mathews Parkway, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762** within 14 days to maintain this registration. If you chose to pay by Personal or Business Credit Card, GET Sports will send a Credit Card Authorization Form, via email, to the primary contact listed above. **You must provide a Visa, MasterCard or Discover credit card within 14 days to maintain this registration.***

AGREEMENT: *By signing and submitting this form, you understand the payment guidelines above, and acknowledge that this form will only tentatively hold your space for up to 14 days without payment. The first 250 requests with payment receive priority confirmation, and all holds will expire no later than May 16, 2017. You will supply your final roster/hotel occupant list by May 17, 2017, or upon booking after this date. You will pay any final balance due by May 17th, 2017, or at the time of booking after this date.*

Additional terms and conditions apply and can be found at www.gettravel.com/first-nac/

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____