

2019 6th Annual **FIRST** National Advocacy Conference

June 23rd-25th, 2019
Washington, DC

"I chose to attend the National Advocacy Conference because of the incredible experience it offered. It isn't a normal occurrence for high school students to be able to go to Capitol Hill and advocate for something that could affect the lives of every student in America. This has given me amazing confidence in everything I do and has allowed me to overcome anxiety with presentations."

Hannah Epstein – FRC 1676 – Pascack Pi-oneers

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.

Individuals and Teams Welcome to Attend!



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 and Don'ts of these meetings and give you time to practice and organize talking points so you are ready for the meeting. We will also 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 relationships, 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 which can lead to taking a stronger interest in advocacy in the future.



Students Collaborating During the Conference



Meeting with Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos

AGENDA

Sunday, June 23, 2019

- 1:30 PM Welcome
- 1:45 PM Team Builder / Networking
- 2:00 PM Office of Science and Technology Policy, Dr. Weld
- 3:00 PM Importance of Advocacy for FIRST
- 3:45 PM Break
- 4:00 PM Government 101
- 5:00 PM Advocacy Training Videos
- 5:30 PM Walk to the Capitol Building for Pictures, Adjournment
- *Dinner on your own*

Monday, June 24, 2019

- 7:45 AM Breakfast & Networking
- 8:15 AM Welcome
- 8:30 AM ESSA and Perkins Overview
- 9:30 AM State Advocacy
- 9:45 AM Break
- 10:00 AM The Ask / FIRST Legislative Agenda
- 10:30 AM Setting the Stage, Matt Fuller
- 11:30 AM State Advocacy
- 11:45 AM Lunch and Networking
- 12:45 PM State Advocacy
- 1:00 PM Panel Discussion
- 2:00 PM Capitol Logistics
- 2:45 PM State Breakout Meeting and Practice
- 5:00 PM Walk to the Capitol Building for Pictures (Rain Date), Adjournment
- *Dinner on Your Own*

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

- 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Individual Team meeting schedules at Capitol Hill
- 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Reception at TBD Location

Please Note: Above agenda is subject to change.



Students Meeting with Congressman Joe Kennedy

A Special Thank You to: FRC 93 NEW Apple Corps, FRC 1086 Blue Cheese, FRC 1511 The Rolling Thunder, FRC 1676 Pascack Pi-oneers, FRC 1718 The Fighting Pi, FRC 1735 The Green Reapers, FRC 1816 The Green Machine, FRC 2655 The Flying Platypi, FRC 2834 Bionic Blackhawks, and FTC 11256 Nano Nerds

Where Can I Get More Information?

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

888-877-4445 Option #3

Registration: info@gettravel.com | Questions: staff@firstnac.org

firstnac.org

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 through GET Travel. Meals not mentioned in the agenda 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 Queen Beds (Sleeps 4)

\$244.00 (w/ tax \$280.48)

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: 3 pm / Check Out: 12 pm

Contact our Travel Partner, GET Travel, for more details, pricing, and/or assistance with travel options, host hotel, travel Insurance or other travel related options:
(888) 877-4445 Option 3 and ask for the NAC program
Registration: info@gettravel.com
Questions: staff@firstnac.com

Travel Website: gettravel.com/first-nac Event Website: firstnac.org

What do I Bring?

Each student or mentor should have:

- Business cards (at least 10 each)
- 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 in online, please go to gettravel.com/first-nac and click on "Event Registration." 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 8, 2019. 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 24, 2019. You can make arrangements to fly out anytime on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 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. L'Enfant Plaza is the nearest station to the hotel.

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

2019 NATIONAL ADVOCACY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION REQUEST FORM

Complete this form or go online to gettravel.com/2019-first-national-advocacy-conference-registration

Note: If you are registering as a team, we suggest bringing up to 12 people for the optimal group size for your 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. You can also register as an individual if your team does not want to come, or you might be able to tag along with a nearby team.

FIRST Team Number: _____ Team Name: _____ 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 21 years old _____

Note: 25% per room deposit due at time of confirmation and 100% registration payment. Balance and Full Occupant List/Roster due on or before 5/15/19. Maximum capacity is 280 Participants. An adult chaperone associated with the group must check in rooms with all Youth occupants under 21. Bookings are not guaranteed until paid in full and electronic confirmation from GET Travel is received. Signed school purchase orders are accepted.

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

Returning Teams exclusive rate \$250 (Must register 5/8/19 to qualify for rate.)

Total: _____

Returning Teams exclusive rate \$265 (Must register between 5/9/19 - 5/15/19 to qualify for rate.)

Total: _____

Early Bird rate \$265 (Must register by 5/15/19 to qualify for Early Bird rate.)

Total: _____

Standard Rate rate \$295 (Applies to all registrations confirmed after 5/15/19, based on availability.)

Total: _____

PAYMENT: If you chose to pay by School Check, you must send a check made out to **GET Travel** 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 Travel will send a Credit Card Authorization Form, via email, to the primary contact listed above. **We accept Visa, MasterCard or Discover credit card payments.**

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 280 requests with payment receive priority confirmation, and all holds will expire no later than May 15, 2019. You will supply your final roster/hotel occupant list by May 15, 2019, or upon booking after this date. You will pay any final balance due by May 16, 2019, or at the time of booking after this date.

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

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____