

# 2020 7<sup>th</sup> Annual **FIRST**<sup>®</sup> National Advocacy Conference



*"The 2019 FIRST National Advocacy Conference was an incredible experience! I was given opportunities that wouldn't be available to me anywhere else. I was able to take part in a meeting with Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. I was initially nervous about presenting to Members of Congress, but by the end of the conference, I now have the confidence and presentation skills needed to benefit me long into the future."*

Tenzing Wiandt - FRC 1816 - The Green Machine

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

June 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020  
Washington, DC

**Early Registration  
incentives for all who  
register by April 1<sup>st</sup>!**

**Register at [firstnac.org](http://firstnac.org)**





## 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 conference will 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.

## Conference Agenda

### Sunday, June 21, 2020

- 9:00 AM First Timer's Session (optional)
- 11:00 AM Lunch on Your Own (w/ participants from your state)
- 1:30 PM Welcome & Networking
- 2:00 PM Government Overview
- 3:00 PM Legislative Initiatives
- 4:00 PM Keynote Speaker - TBA
- 5:00 PM Trivia Challenge!
- 5:30 PM Walk to the Capitol for Team and Group Pictures  
Dinner on Your Own

### Monday, June 22, 2020

- 7:30 AM Breakfast & Networking
- 8:15 AM Welcome
- 8:30 AM Policy Focused Speaker
- 9:30 AM Appropriations Focused Speaker
- 10:30 AM Break
- 11:00 AM Advocacy Videos
- 12:00 PM Lunch & Teambuilder
- 1:00 PM Panel Discussion
- 2:00 PM Role Playing Meeting Example
- 3:00 PM Capitol Logistics
- 3:30 PM State Breakout Meetings and Practice
- 5:00 PM Walk to the Capitol Building for Pictures (Rain Date)  
Dinner on Your Own

### Tuesday, June 23, 2020

- 8:00 AM Hill Meetings Based on Your Team/State Schedule
- 5:00 PM FIRST NAC Congressional Reception
- 7:00 PM Reception Ends - Conference Adjournment

## Where Can I Get More Information?

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

**(888) 877-4445** Option #3 (ask for NAC Program)

Registration: [info@gettravel.com](mailto:info@gettravel.com)

Questions: [staff@firstnac.org](mailto:staff@firstnac.org)

[www.firstnac.org](http://www.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 above are on your own.

## What Should 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.

## What Should 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
- SmarTrip Metro Cards (if you want to go sightseeing; purchase in advance at [www.wmata.com](http://www.wmata.com))

## Host Hotel \$219.00 (w/ tax \$251.74)

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

Room Type: 2 Queen Beds (Sleeps 4). 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-hour room service

Note: No outside food or beverage allowed in the hotel.

Check In: 3 pm / Check Out: 12 pm / Check In Age: 21



### A Special Thank You To Our Coordinating Committee

FRC 1511 Rolling Thunder, FRC 1735 Green Reapers, FRC 1816 The Green Machine, FRC 4821 cyberUs, FRC 1807 Redbird Robotics, FRC 6829 Ignite Robotics, FRC 3284 Camdenton FIRST LASER, FRC 1086 Blue Cheese, FRC 8002 The Knack, FRC 1296 Full Metal Jackets, FRC 2655 The Flying Platypi, FRC 2834 Bionic Black Hawks, FRC 5338 RoboLoCo, FRC 6800 Viperbots Valor, FRC 6904 TeraWatts, Emma Schuff, Chris Osborne, and Jamee Luce.



## Who is Invited?

This conference is for mentors, parents, and students on U.S. FRC and FTC teams. Students can attend on their own with a parent or chaperone, as an entire team, or with another team.

We highly recommend putting a group together with students from multiple teams in your area to expand your outreach and allow for additional Congressional meetings while you are in Washington, DC.

Participants (students/mentors/parents) 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.

## Registration & Room Block Reservations

Group leaders wishing to hold a courtesy block of registrations and rooms for up to 14 days without deposit, please BOOK ONLINE by going to [firstnac.org/register](http://firstnac.org/register), or call GET Sports at (888) 877-4445 for assistance. All holds will expire no later than 5/13/20. There is a capacity of 280 attendees and space is on a first come, first served basis. Fully paid registrations will receive priority confirmation. Additional terms and conditions apply.

## 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 at the hotel by 8am on Sunday, June 21, 2020 if this is the first time you are attending the conference. Otherwise, plan to arrive at 12pm. You can make arrangements to fly out anytime on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 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 either DCA or IAD. If you plan to ride the Metro, you may want to buy a SmarTrip Metro 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, medical emergency, etc.*

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

**(888) 877-4445 Option #3 (ask for NAC Program)**

# 2020 NATIONAL ADVOCACY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION REQUEST FORM



**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. PLEASE COMPLETE ONE FORM PER GROUP.

Team Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Team Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

In which **FIRST** program does your team compete? Check all that apply.  FRC  FTC  FLL

Are you a New or Returning team:  New  Returning Team Traveler ID # (internal use only) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a local team that will be commuting to the conference each day?  Yes  No

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_ # 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 5/13/20, or at the time of booking after this date. 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 participant and are due in full upon confirmation.)

Returning Teams exclusive rate \$255 (Must register by 5/8/20 to qualify for returning team exclusive rate.) Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Early Bird rate \$270 (Must register by 5/15/20 to qualify for Early Bird rate.) Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Standard Rate rate \$295 (Applies to all registrations confirmed after 5/15/20, 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 13, 2020. You will supply your final roster/hotel occupant list by May 13, 2020, or upon booking after this date. You will pay any final balance due by May 14th, 2020, or at the time of booking after this date.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_