

# 2021 8<sup>th</sup> Annual **FIRST** National Advocacy Conference



We will be making a safe return to Washington, DC for NAC 2021! Following all federal and local capacity and social distancing guidelines, we will bring you a safe, in-person, NAC. Both individuals and small groups may register.

*We recognize just how important it is to give kids this experience and to remind Congress that they represent us. So important, that we are proceeding, with health and safety as our top priorities, to bring NAC back to Washington.*



**June 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**Register at [firstnac.org](http://firstnac.org)**



## About The Conference

Following all federal and local capacity and social distancing guidelines, we will bring you a safe, smaller, in-person NAC 2021! Both individuals and small groups may register. Please keep in mind that space will be limited!

We'll walk you through the basics of advocacy while focusing on how to build and leverage relationships with elected officials to advance FIRST and your team/school's goals. We will provide a (socially distant) hands on and practical introduction on what you need to be an effective advocate at the local, state, and federal levels. We've coached over 1,500 kids to talk to their Members of Congress and advocate to expand FIRST to under-served and underrepresented populations while promoting STEM and education.

To change culture to value STEM, we must get our policy makers in our nation's capitol on board, first by knowing about, and then by supporting FIRST and STEM education. If we aren't there telling them about our experiences, who is? This conference will prepare students and mentors for meetings with their Senators and Representatives on Capitol Hill. We will train you on the Do's & Don'ts of these meetings and give you time to practice and organize your talking points so you are ready. We will be available to help you navigate Capitol Hill and for anything else you may need.

We recognize just how important it is to give kids this experience and to remind Congress that they represent us. So important, that we are proceeding, with health and safety as our top priorities, to bring NAC back to Washington, DC.

This conference will be valuable for those who have attended NAC in the past, as well as new advocates just starting to think about affecting local, state, and federal policy. If this is your first time meeting with your Senators or Representatives, 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 also have the chance to ask your school if there are any local issues they would like you to bring forward. The material is geared for high school students, particularly FTC and FRC participants.

Students will gain a tremendous amount of self-confidence as they learn, prepare, and lead meetings with Senators and Representatives. Students and mentors alike will be enlightened by how their government works, leading to a stronger interest in advocacy in the future.

## Conference Agenda

### Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021

- 9:00 AM First Timer's Session (optional)
- 11:00 AM Lunch on Your Own (w/ participants from your state)
- 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM NAC Day 1 Speakers & Presentations
- 5:30 PM Walk to the Capitol for Team and Group Pictures  
Dinner on Your Own

### Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

- 7:30 AM Breakfast & Networking
- 8:15 AM - 5:00 PM NAC Day 2 Speakers & Presentations
- 5:00 PM Walk to the Capitol Building for Pictures (Rain Date)  
Dinner on Your Own

### Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

- 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))

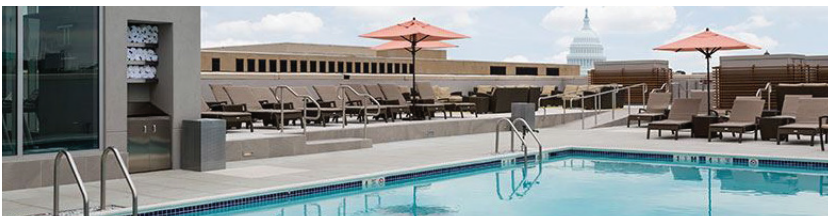
**Host Hotel \$223.00 (w/ tax \$256.34) Holiday**  
Inn Capitol, 550 C Street SW, Washington D.C. 20024 (Within walking distance to Capitol Hill)

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



**Thank you  
SASA Charter Members:**  
FRC 1086 Blue Cheese  
FRC 1511 Rolling Thunder  
FRC 1296 Full Metal Jackets  
FRC 2655 The Flying Platypi



## 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 5/13/21. 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 10am on Sunday, June 20, 2021 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 23, 2021 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)**

# 2021 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.)**

SASA Member Rate \$275 (Must register by 5/15/21 to qualify for returning team exclusive rate.)

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Member Rate \$295 (Must register by 5/15/21 to qualify for Early Bird rate.)

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

Late Registration Rate \$325 (Applies to all registrations confirmed after 5/15/21, 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, 2021. You will supply your final roster/hotel occupant list by May 13, 2021, or upon booking after this date. You will pay any final balance due by May 14th, 2021, or at the time of booking after this date.

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