



Cincinnati iSPACE District FIRST LEGO® League Competition

How to Form a FIRST LEGO® League Team

2011 Theme: "Food Factor": *Keeping Food Safe*

Registration:

Registration for the 2011 FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Robotics Tournament opens on May 2, 2011 and runs until mid-September or until all slots are filled, whichever comes first. Register at www.usfirst.org/community/fll. Then click on Registration along the left hand side and follow directions.

Team Composition:

- Consist of between three and ten students, ages of 9 to 14.
- Can come from schools (public, private and home), churches, scout or club groups, neighborhoods, etc.
- Please note that iSPACE does not place students on teams. Teams must form independent of iSPACE and register intact with identified members and a coach (can add members later).

Costs Involved:

Costs involve **approximately** \$785-\$905 for a new team and \$365 for a returning team. These include:

- \$225 registration fee with FLL
- \$75 Tournament fee
- \$420 for a LEGO NXT kit, if you do not have one already.
- \$65 for the 2011 Challenge Set, plus shipping and handling
- \$120 for table building materials (optional)

Funding a team:

- Schools can apply for grants to foundations that have a history of supporting robotics such as American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics (AIAA), and Aerospace Education Foundation (AEF).
- Church, club, scout or neighborhood teams can ask businesses or civic organizations to sponsor them
- Teams can conduct mini-fundraisers (car wash, bake sale, doing chores for neighbors, etc.) to raise the needed funds.

When you apply:

As soon as your team forms and registers, begin practicing building techniques and learning the programming software. Meet in early September, as FLL unveils the 2011 challenge and learn the **Food Factor** table challenge and project rules. (<http://www.usfirst.org/community/fll/>). Start working on the Challenge.

Coaches' Training Provided! http://edoutreach.wpafb.af.mil/Robotics/pages/resources_coac.html or iSPACE website www.ispacescience.org

FLL is a team sport!

There are many roles to fill on a team, and each team member should be open to try different ones. The best teams divide up the work so individual efforts complement each other.

Builders: build the robot and all the parts that attach to the robot to move challenge playing pieces

Programmers: write programming for robot

Competition Robot Handlers: two students who operate the robot at the competition

Researchers: gather information from various sources on a real world problems

Interviewers: communicate with experts in the field related to the project

Writers: write script for the competition presentations, or marketing materials for team

Graphic Designers: make boards or props for presentations, team shirt designs

Teams will have to prepare three presentations in addition to preparing their robot for competition.

Project Presentation – develop an innovative solution to a real world problem and present to the judges in a creative way

Technical Presentation – communicate the merits of your robot, your design decisions, and strategies

Core Value Presentation – explain how your team demonstrates FLL core values, such as Gracious Professionalism and sharing work with others

For more information, go to www.ispacescience.org or call 513-612-5786