

# **FIRST Chesapeake Robotics Competition teams qualify for 2019 international championship**



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(RICHMOND) April 14, 2019 - Twenty-two of the region's best and brightest high school robotics teams will represent the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia at the [\*\*FIRST Championship presented by Qualcomm\*\*](#) in Detroit, Michigan, April 24-27, where they will face top competitors from around the world.

Most earned their spots at the international event during the [\*\*FIRST Chesapeake District Championship\*\*](#) at [George Mason University's EagleBank Arena](#) April 10-13. Teams earned points at the district competition and during a grueling month-long series of qualifiers around the region. Five of the teams advanced to the Detroit championship based on their demonstrated commitment to **FIRST's** high standards in engineering and community engagement. (See notes in the list below)

Working with volunteer mentors from their communities, the teams had just six weeks to design, build and test their industrial sized robots for the [\*\*FIRST Robotics Competition\*\*](#) (FRC).

To see a collection of images from the **FIRST** Chesapeake District Championship, click [here](#).

“These students really rose to the occasion and displayed tremendous energy, ingenuity and teamwork,” said Leighann Scott Boland, Executive Director of **FIRST** Chesapeake, the non-profit that organizes the FRC program throughout the D.C./Md./Va. district. “They’ve sharpened their technical abilities and learned important life skills during this exhilarating season, and we will be rooting for them in Detroit!”

#### **Six of the Detroit-bound teams are from Maryland:**

- FRC Team 449 – The Blair Robot Project – Montgomery Blair HS, Silver Spring, Md.
- FRC Team 836 – The RoboBees – family/community team, Hollywood, Md.
- FRC Team 1629 – Garrett Coalition – Northern & Southern Garrett High Schools, Accident, Md. (Chairman’s Award Winner)
- FRC Team 2534 – Lumberjack Robotics – Boys’ Latin School of Maryland, Baltimore, Md.
- FRC Team 4541 – CAV-ineers – Archbishop Spalding HS, Severn, Md.
- FRC Team 7886 – Cadet Robotics – Frederick HS, Frederick, Md. (Rookie All-Stars Award Winner)

#### **Sixteen of the Detroit-bound teams are from Virginia:**

- FRC Team 346 – RoboHawks – Lloyd C. Bird HS, Chesterfield County, Va.
- FRC Team 384 – Sparky 384 – J.R. Tucker HS, Henrico County, Va.
- FRC Team 401 – Copperhead Robotics – Montgomery County Public Schools, Christiansburg, Va.
- FRC Team 614 – Night Hawks – Hayfield Secondary School, Alexandria, Va.
- FRC Team 619 – Cavalier Robotics – Charlottesville-Albemarle Robotics, Charlottesville, Va.
- FRC Team 977 – Cometbots – Halifax County HS, South Boston, Va.
- FRC Team 1086 – Blue Cheese – Deep Run HS, Henrico County, Va. (Invited to Championship based on past performance via wait list)
- FRC Team 1262 – the STAGS – New College Institute, Martinsville, Va.
- FRC Team 1418 – Vae Victis – George Mason HS, Falls Church, Va.
- FRC Team 1610 – Blackwater Robotics – Franklin HS, Franklin, Va.
- FRC Team 1885 – ILITE Robotics – Battlefield HS, Haymarket, Va. (Chairman’s Award Winner)
- FRC Team 2998 – VikingBots – Thomas Jefferson HS, Richmond, Va.
- FRC Team 5243 – Aegis Robotics – Centreville HS, Clifton, Va. (Engineering Inspiration Award Winner)
- FRC Team 5587 – Titan Robotics – T.C. Williams HS, Alexandria, Va. (Engineering Inspiration Award Winner)

- FRC Team 5724 – Spartan Robotics – Salem HS, Salem, Va. (Qualified for Detroit at FRC regional tournament in Dayton, Ohio)
- FRC Team 6802 – Mean Caimans – James Monroe HS, Ridgeview HS, Tazewell HS, Richlands HS, Honaker HS, Southwest Virginia Community College Upward Bound, Cedar Bluff, Va.

At about 125 pounds each, the student-built robots are impressive, but the program is about much more than the machines. Teams work from a common core set of parts, but determine on their own how to accomplish tasks. Thus, no two robots are exactly alike.

The competition changes every year. This year's game, [Destination: Deep Space, presented by Boeing](#), simulates a mission to an alien planet where teams work in alliances and pilot their remote controlled robots to secure hatches and load cargo on space ships.

Students who participate in **FIRST** programs gain workforce skills including teamwork, communication and problem solving. They also qualify to apply for more than \$80 million in college scholarship opportunities.

[FIRST Chesapeake](#) is an independent non-profit that brings STEM-based leadership programs to middle and high school students in Virginia and high school students in the District of Columbia and Maryland. More than 6,700 students participate in the 300+ teams administered by **FIRST** Chesapeake. Almost 57,000 people attended **FIRST** Chesapeake events last year and another 90,000 viewed them online.

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