

VA, MD, DC High School Students to Compete in Robotics Competition at Deep Run High School March 1-3

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Forty of the best and brightest high school robotics teams from Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia will compete in the [FIRST Chesapeake District Richmond VA Event Sponsored by Dominion Energy](#) at [Deep Run High School](#) March 1-3, 2019.

The event is free and open to the public.

[FIRST Robotics Competition](#) (FRC) is recognized as the premier international high school engineering challenge. Working closely with teachers and volunteer mentors, student teams have six weeks to conceptualize, design, build, program, modify and test remote-controlled robots to participate in a competition that changes each year. Teams work with a common core set of parts, but determine on their own how to accomplish tasks. Thus, no two robots are exactly alike.

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.

Approximately 130 FRC teams in VA/MD/DC vie throughout March in [qualifying matches](#) to earn spots at the [FIRST Chesapeake District Championship](#) at [George Mason University](#) in Fairfax, VA April 10-13. Top performers at the District event will go on to compete at the [FIRST World Championship presented by Qualcomm](#), in Detroit, MI April 24-27.

"FRC is known far and wide as the 'ultimate sport for the mind,'" said Leighann Scott Boland, executive director for **FIRST** Chesapeake. "We're so proud of what

these students accomplish. They gain technical and engineering skills along with learning critically important life skills like teamwork and problem solving. **FIRST** Chesapeake thanks our Title Sponsor, Dominion Energy, and our many [corporate sponsors](#) who make our programs possible and available for students across our service area. ”

“I’ve seen first-hand how these competitions spark curiosity in students and inspire them to become involved in science and technology,” said Cristie Neller, Vice President Eastern Pipeline Engineering and Construction, Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc. “Dominion Energy is pleased to support **FIRST** Chesapeake and these teams of future innovators.”

Participants in **FIRST** programs also qualify to apply for more than \$80 million in [college scholarships](#).

The **FIRST** Chesapeake District Richmond VA Event Sponsored by Dominion Energy will be held at Deep Run High School, 4801 Twin Hickory Road, Glen Allen, VA 23059.

Friday, March 1: Teams arrive & set up (this day only not open to public)

Saturday, March 2: Opening Ceremonies 10:30am

Qualifying heats 11am-7pm (lunch break 1-2pm)

Sunday, March 3: Opening Ceremonies 9am

Qualifying heats 9:30am-12:30pm, (lunch break 1-2pm)

Elimination rounds 2-5pm

Awards ceremonies: 5pm-6:30pm (estimated)

This event will also feature a [FIRST LEGO League Jr](#) Expo on Saturday March 2nd at 10am. **FIRST** LEGO League Jr. is designed to introduce STEM concepts to kids ages 6 to 10. See what our youngest future technology leaders are learning and discovering with this year's challenge, MISSION MOON.

A Live Feed Sponsored by Northrop Grumman will be viewable online the days of the event, with both a [Primary Camera View](#) and a [Quad View](#).

About *FIRST* and *FIRST Chesapeake*

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is an international non-profit that engages kids in kindergarten through high school in exciting, mentor-based, research and robotics programs that help them become science and technology leaders, as well as well-rounded contributors to society.

FIRST Chesapeake is an independent non-profit that brings STEM-based leadership programs to 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.