Finding Mentors

TEAM 8027



Mentors

- FIRST Robotics Competition team mentors of all kinds
 - Technical Mentors help with the programming and robot construction
 - Non-technical Mentors can help with the business and competition side of the program
- Mentors can come from a variety of different sources: local universities, the FIRST community, other teams, and even parents
- If your team needs help, you can even reach out to coaches/mentors on other teams

Sample Technical Mentors

Robot Programming/Software Engineering Mentor

- Assist team members with writing code to control robot in C++, Java, Robot C or LabVIEW (depending on program)
- Maintains process focus

Electrical Engineer Mentor

- Assist team with wiring the robot's power and signal system
- Assist and instruct the team members in the electrical and electronics systems on the robot

Mechanical Engineer Mentor

- Provides assistance with design and construction of the robot
- Advise students on the safe use of tools and safety procedures

Source: FIRST

Sample Non-Technical Mentors

Project Management Mentor

- Provides an overview of project management concepts for team
- Guides the team throughout the project life cycle

Scholarship Mentor

- Assist to educate students, Mentors and parents regarding scholarship opportunities available to FIRST students
- Coordinates applications for student/ Mentor nominations for awards

Marketing Mentor

- Provides a basic overview of Marketing concepts
- Assists students with development and implementation of a Marketing Plan in coordination with the development of a Business Plan

Finance Mentor

- Assist the team in preparing a Business Plan, financial planning/budget for the season
- Organize and assists with fundraising efforts

Source: FIRST

Reach Out To Universities

- Mentors can be found university faculty
- Reach out to professors at local universities.
- For example, our team found a CAD mentor at a local university





Reach out to Parents

- Parents are often overlooked mentors
- Make sure to ask your team parents if they have skill that might be useful for your team.
- For example, our team parents and grandparents taught us how to to use our tools and even stopped by when we need help cutting, sawing and sewing our bumpers since our team did not have any prior experience

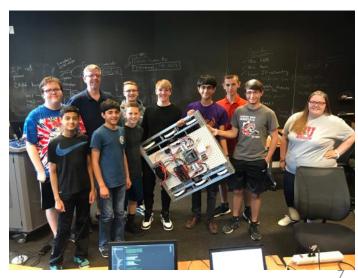




Mentors From Other Teams

- Mentors can be found everywhere, and one common place to find and meet new teams is at events or competitions
- Being allies with teams can build valuable relations on and off the field
- Mentors at local scrimmages and competitions are always there to assist teams they are partnered with and those they are competing against





Reaching out to the Community

- If you have questions, but do not necessarily need a full-time mentor, you can also reach out to coaches and mentors who you are not in the same location.
 - Chief Delphi is a popular platform for reaching out the FIRST Robotics Competition for help
 - FRC: Share and Learn Facebook Group, is also a place where teams can ask questions and get help from mentors all over the world (https://www.facebook.com/groups/FRCShareandLearn)



Useful Links

- Mentoring Guide:
 - https://www.firstinspires.org/sites/default/files/uploads/resource_library/frc
- https://www.firstinspires.org/sites/default/files/uploads/volunteer/ first-mentorcoachflyers-ftc-frc.pdf/game-and-season-info/2015frc-mentoring-guide.pdf

Credits

- This lesson was written by FRC 8027 for FRCTutorials.com
- You can contact the author at team@droidsrobotics.org



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