

2014-2015 OSDE/FIRST Partnership Grant Rules and Guidelines

The State Board of Education has approved a competitive grant that was awarded to *FIRST* for \$70,000 in order to help support public school student participation in the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology Robotics Programs (*FIRST*). The Oklahoma State Department of Education will provide grants up to \$5,000 per school to facilitate both recent start-up and existing team opportunities.

Eligible recipient: Oklahoma public K-12 schools including charter schools

Grant funds may be used for:

- *FIRST* Lego League (FLL)
- *FIRST* Tech Challenge (FTC)
- *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC) teams

Allowable uses of funds include:

- *FIRST* competition registration fees
- Needed or necessary equipment related to *FIRST* competitions
- Other costs associated with direct participation in any of the *FIRST* Programs

Funds available: *NOTE: Grants will be awarded directly to the applying school district's central office and must be placed into the GENERAL FUND not the ACTIVITY FUND*

Applicants are eligible to apply for grants in the following amounts.

Recent start-up Teams (1st and 2nd year teams)

FLL – up to \$1,000

FTC – up to \$1,000

FRC – up to \$5,000

Established Teams (3rd and 4th year teams)

FLL – up to \$500

FTC – up to \$1,000

FRC – up to \$2,000

Veteran Teams (5 years plus)

FLL- up to \$500

FTC- up to \$500

FRC – up to \$2,000

Successful applications will address:

- Oklahoma Academic Standards in Math and Science connections
- Increased student engagement in STEM education through *FIRST* Competitions.
- Demonstrate commitment to the development of student teams of all learning levels, recruitment of volunteer mentors/industry specialists, exploring engineering design through robotics.
- Participate in the Oklahoma *FIRST* Regional Competitions. Information on competitions and registration can be found in the ***Timeline of FIRST Events*** in this document.

Application Process:

- Complete a grant application form
- Submit application(s), signed assurance, and photo consent form via email or U.S. Mail
- Grants will be evaluated by the OSDE and *FIRST* partnership committee members
- Grant award notification letter will be sent to the *FIRST* Coach identified in the application via email from OSDE:
 - FLL and FTC announcement: August 28, 2014
 - FRC announcement: September 25, 2014
- Award checks and official notification notices will be mailed to awarded school district and must be placed in the GENERAL FUND
 - FLL and FTC awards to be mailed in September 2014
 - FRC awards to be mailed in October 2014

Links to follow for assistance in all three FIRST programs:

- How to start a FLL team:
 - <http://www.firstlegoleague.org/challenge/startateam>
- How to start a FTC team:
 - <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/ftc/start-a-team>
- How to start a FRC team:
 - <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/start-an-frc-team>

Oklahoma FLL website: <http://oksef.org>

Oklahoma FRC website: <http://oklahomafirst.org/>

Oklahoma FTC website: <http://ftc.swosuengineeringtech.org/>

Due Date:

Phase 1: FIRST LEGO LEAGUE (FLL) and FIRST TECH CHALLENGE (FTC)

- Completed FLL and FTC Teams ONLY applications are **DUE 5:00 pm Monday, August 25, 2014.**
- Any FLL and FTC applications received **AFTER August 25, 2014** will not be considered.
- ***Completed applications including original signed assurances and consent for release forms signed by each member of your FIRST team can be printed then***

scanned in and emailed or can be mailed to:

Jeff Downs
Executive Director of STEM
Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 315
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Jeff.Downs@sde.ok.gov

Phase 2: FIRST ROBOTICS CHALLENGE (FRC)

- **Completed FRC applications are DUE 5:00 pm Monday, September 22, 2014.**
- Any FRC applications received ***AFTER* September 22, 2014** will not be considered.
- ***Completed applications including original signed assurances and consent for release forms signed by each member of your FIRST team can be printed then scanned in and emailed or can be mailed to:***

Jeff Downs
Executive Director of STEM
Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 315
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Jeff.Downs@sde.ok.gov

Timeline of FIRST Events

	FIRST Lego League (FLL)	FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC)	FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC)
Team Size	Up to 10 students	Up to 10 students	Recommended minimum of 12 students.
Training Opportunities	Oct 4, 2014 Tulsa & Shawnee, OK	Oct 4, 2014 Tulsa & Shawnee, OK	Oct 4, 2014 Shawnee, OK
National Registration Deadline	May 2014 to Sept 30, 2014	May 2014 to Sept 30, 2014	December 5, 2014
Competition Kick off Events	Online- August 28, 2014	Online-September 17, 2014 Statewide	January 9, 2015 OSU College of Engineering
Finished Robot Ship	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	February 18, 2015
Oklahoma Regional Competitions	Qualifiers Nov 15, 2014 Championship Dec 6, 2014	Qualifiers/Nov to Jan Championship Jan 31, 2015	March 26-28, 2015 at OKC- Cox Convention Center
FIRST Championship (open to qualifiers)	April 22 - 25, 2015- St. Louis, MO	April 22 - 25, 2015- St. Louis, MO	April 22 - 25, 2015- St. Louis, MO

For questions regarding the grant application, please contact:

Jeff Downs
Executive Director of STEM
Director of Science Education
Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 315
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
405-521-2107 Jeff.Downs@sde.ok.gov

Or

Joel Smith
STEM Department Coordinator
2500 N. Lincoln Blvd., Ste. 315
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599
(405) 521-3363; (405) 521-4855 – Fax
Joel.smith@sde.ok.gov

For questions regarding *FIRST* programs, please contact:

FLL Partner - Craig Shreve
craig@oksef.org
www.oksef.org

FTC Partner – Brad Fitzgerald
Brad.fitzgerld@swosu.edu
www.swosuengineeringtech.org/ftc/

FRC Regional Director- Harold Holley
hholley5@suddenlink.net
<http://oklahomafirst.org/>