

2014 1st Annual FIRST National Advocacy Conference

Presented by FRC 27 - Team RUSH
Washington, DC
June 15-17, 2014
www.teamrush27.net

Only One
Team Per State
Can Register Before March 15th.

Spaces are Limited!

Email us to let us know your registration is
coming and we will hold your space.

Reserve your space now because
spots will fill up quickly!



This is an opportunity for YOU to make a difference in our future!

We invite students and mentors, train them on STEM issues, send them out to storm Capitol Hill to meet with their Senators and Members of Congress to tell them about FIRST and let them know how they should be prioritizing the expansion of FIRST and STEM in upcoming legislation. Teams will have a chance to network and collaborate as they prepare for Advocacy! Students will leave as globally minded confident experts and Congress will know that they should listen to these students!



About the Conference

To change culture to value STEM, we must get our policy makers in our Nation's Capitol on board with knowing about and supporting FIRST and STEM in education. If we are not there telling them about our experiences, no one else is! This is a conference consisting of training to prepare students and mentors for meeting with your Senators and Members of Congress in their offices on Capitol Hill.

We will train you in the Do's and Don'ts of these meetings and give you time to practice and organize your talking points so you are ready for the meeting. We will help you navigate around Capitol Hill and be available to help if you need it.

If this is your first year in DC or first time meeting with your Senators or Members of Congress, we will focus on relationship building. If you've already formed a meaningful relationship, you will be focusing on advocating for FIRST and STEM initiatives. You will have the chance to ask your school if there are any local issues they would like you to bring forward as well.

Students will gain a tremendous amount of self-confidence as they learn, prepare, and lead meetings with Senators and Members of Congress. Students and Mentors alike are typically enlightened with how their government works and usually take a stronger interest in advocacy in the future.



AGENDA

Sunday, June 15th

- 10am - Registration Opens
- Noon - Conference Starts - Welcome Luncheon - Networking with Other Teams
- 1:00pm - General Session Welcome and Introductions
- 1:30pm - US Government 101
- 3:00pm - Break
- 3:30pm - Briefing on the Issues
- 5:00pm - Conference Adjourned for the Day and Dinner on Your Own

Monday, June 16th

- 8:00am - Continental Breakfast
- 8:30am - Opening Session - Talking about FIRST
- 9:00am - Guest Speaker - FIRST Legislative Agenda
- 10:30am - Break
- 11:00am - Training on Congressional Meetings
- Noon - Lunch
- 1:30pm - FIRST Legislative Agenda
- 2:00pm - Congressional Meetings - How To
- 2:30pm - Work in Groups to Practice Meetings
- 3:45pm - Break
- 4:00pm - Logistics of Getting Around Capitol Hill
- 5:00pm - Conference Adjourned for the Day and Dinner on Your Own

Tuesday, June 17th

- 9:00am - 5:00pm - Meetings with your Senators and Members of Congress
 - 6:00pm - 8:00pm - All Participant Reception (Your Senators/Congressman and their staff invited)
- Agenda Subject to Change*

Where Can I Get More Information?

Check out our website at www.teamrush27.net or Call Steve at 248-625-0817 X110 or Email us at nac@teamrush27.net. We are happy to help or answer any questions you might have!

Who is Invited?

This conference is geared towards students and mentors of FRC Teams. Students can travel and attend the conference with a mentor(s) or parent(s) from their team. Students and mentors will attend a day and a half of training and then a full day of meetings on Capitol Hill with your Senators and Members of Congress.

In order to cover as many Members of Congress and Senators as possible, we will only take one registration per state until April 1st and then allow everyone else to fill up the spots we have remaining. Email us to let us know your registration is coming (nac@teamrush27.net).

What is included and what is not:

Each participant gets a book of conference materials, lunch on Sunday and Monday, breakfast on Monday, and a reception on Tuesday evening. We will also work with you to schedule your meetings.

You will be responsible for your hotel rooms. Dinners are on your own and meals on Tuesday are on your own (except for the reception)

What to bring:

Each student or mentor:

- Should have business cards (at least 10 each)
- Portfolio with pad for note taking
- Informational handouts on your team/school/district (at least 10)
- Umbrella if it looks like rain
- Bathing suit for pool time
- Comfortable shoes and casual clothes for sightseeing in the evening
- SmartTrip Metro Cards (see note under Travel Arrangements)

What to wear:

- Sunday and Monday will be team uniforms
- Wear comfortable shoes
- Formal dress attire for Tuesday hill meetings (suit and tie, pants suit)
- Wear two pairs of socks with dress shoes to avoid blisters from all the walking



Travel Arrangements

You can fly into any of three airports. Reagan (DCA) is the closest and a quick metro ride or cab ride from the hotel. Dulles (IAD) or Baltimore (BWI) may offer cheaper flights but you may need a Shuttle Service to get from the airport to the hotel (gotheairportshuttle.com or supershuttle.com). From Baltimore, you can take the B30 bus from the airport to the Greenbelt metro stop and take the metro to the hotel. It is a good idea if you plan to take the metro that you buy a SmartTrip card ahead of time for \$2 (\$10 card comes with \$8 in fare value loaded). This card saves you at least a dollar on each metro trip you take and can be managed or purchased online at www.wmata.com.

You should be landing by 11am on Sunday morning, June 15, (or you can fly in Saturday any time and get in some sightseeing if you like) and you should make arrangements to fly out any time on Wednesday, June 18th. We can help you find flights or ground transportation, just contact us (nac@teamrush27.net).

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NATIONAL ADVOCACY CONFERENCE

Registration Form

Team Number: _____ Team Name: _____

School and District Name: _____

City, State: _____

Key Contact Name: _____ Key Contact Email: _____

Key Contact Phone: _____ Student or Mentor: _____

Conference Attendees:

Name

Email

Student/Mentor
or /Parent
(Circle One)

Conference or
Reception Only
(Circle One)

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Whole Conference or Reception Only

Whole Conference Participants _____ x \$150 each = \$ _____

Reception Only Participants _____ x \$ 50 each = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Please return this form with a check (made out to Clarkston Community Schools) for the conference registration total to:

Clarkston High School, Team RUSH - Kyle Hughes, 6093 Flemings Lake Road, Clarkston, MI 48346

Please email us and let us know your form is coming so we can hold your space!

For questions, contact Steve at 248-625-0817 X110 or email nac@teamrush27.net

Conference Location

Holiday Inn - Capitol

550 C Street SW

Washington, DC 20024

www.hicapitoldc.com

202-479-4000

Conference Rate \$219/night
plus tax for Single/Double/Triple
or Quad Occupancy

Use this link to book your rooms:
www.teamrush27.net/hotel

You must book your rooms by
May 13, 2014. If you want to
get the conference rate, reserve
early because once our block
of rooms is gone, we cannot
guarantee the conference rate.
You will need rooms for at least
June 15th, 16th, 17th

Hotel Amenities:

Capitol Bistro - Full Service Restaurant
21st Amendment Bar & Grill
Shuttle Express Deli for Meals on the Go
Exercise Room, Rooftop Pool, Gift Shop
Starbucks Coffee Shop On-site
Close Proximity to Metro
(L'Enfant Plaza and Federal Center)
4 Blocks to Capitol Hill
FREE High Speed Internet in All Rooms

