



FRC Rookie Application

GuamFIRST is the FIRST franchise organization responsible for daily execution of the FIRST family of programs on the island of Guam. Our organization has a clear mandate to be good stewards of our limited resources by not only operating our programs as sustainably as possible, but also to build long-term sustainability among our community of teams.

The ostensible [1] goal of this FRC Rookie Application is to serve as a modest barrier [2] to the hasty formation of rookie FRC teams, surmountable with an appropriate amount of effort. This application should cause careful self-reflection by team leaders and healthy debate within the team’s community.

While we do not expect that applicants will have all the best answers at this early stage of their development, the tough questions posed in this application are designed to ensure that potential new entrants into this community are aware of our expectations:

- Teams will have achieved a reasonable level of advance preparedness for the effort they are about to undertake,
- Team leaders will carry a sustainability mindset and a fundamental respect for their community’s resources,
- Teams will be equipped to be an active peer-level participant in the existing shared learning community of local teams, and
- Teams facing a greater than “normal” hardship (e.g. their community is socioeconomically depressed, is isolated by geography or language, faces current and/or historical discrimination, etc.) will attain an even greater level of preparedness commensurate with the anticipated amount of extra effort required to start a successful team in these adverse conditions.

At minimum, please answer yes or no to the following statements. It is OK if your team’s answer requires more explanation; please provide this explanation in an attachment. Substantive answers will more readily indicate to GuamFIRST that the team has considered these items and is more prepared for program entry.

	Yes	No
1. Our team members are able to concisely state what “success” looks like in years 0, 1, and 3 of our program. These criteria have been communicated to all key stakeholders. Our community wants us to be successful.		

[1] The true purpose of this “application” is to serve as a checklist for the rookie FRC team creation process, a preparatory effort requiring both introspection and research. This process involves evaluating the costs, gaining an awareness of the existing resources at hand to cover the costs, and readying a team that is eager not only to build robots together, but to also first build a process of building robots together.

	Yes	No
2. Our team has recognized one individual as our champion. This key person is not only committed to the long term success of our new team, but through their leadership they also cause others to share in this commitment. The ownership transfer process, which empowers all categories of team members to perform at their best for the benefit of the whole team, proceeds from this person.		
3. Our team has secured partnerships with local groups to provide physical space in which we can effectively mentor students. We have begun initial planning which accounts for all applicable utility, access, and transportation costs as well as liability insurance as required in our area.		
4. We have done our due diligence in investigating other less resource intensive programs in my region (FTC, VRC), and we attest that FRC is the most effective way to achieve our desired outcomes pertaining to STEM education and inspiration. Additionally, we have discussed partnering with other teams in our region and have concluded it is not in alignment with our outcomes. Please see the related GuamFIRST publication " <i>Which competitive youth STEM program is right for me?</i> "		
5. Our team has completed an evaluation of our local community and found that has carrying capacity for at least one more team. In particular, we can readily identify as-yet untapped sources of students, mentors, and sponsors.		
6. We recognize that a diversity of ideas is important to both the engineering process as well as student development, and our team's student population will celebrate the socioeconomic diversity of our community.		
7. Our plan for money handling will allow: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Access to funds up to \$500 within 2 calendar days, and ● Access to funds up to \$5000 within 5 business days. 		
8. Our team's communication plan includes collaboration tools which will accommodate team members with different learning styles and generational expectations for communication.		
9. We recognize that the Kit of Parts (KoP) provided as part of the competition is not all inclusive of what we will need to effectively compete in the competition. As such we have secured funding for, or access to, various tools suitable for working with materials such as wood, plastic, and metal. We also recognize that these tools present a very real danger to operators and have taken all reasonable steps to provide safety equipment and training to any operators. A recommended list of these tools is available from FRC3847 .		

[2] GuamFIRST does not deny FRC Rookie Applications. Teams who answer 'no' to this application's statements acknowledge they have received our feedback and still intend to pursue entry to the FRC program despite having not achieved our expected level of preparedness.