STEAM: Frequently Asked Questions

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2. Can a Ford retiree serve as the Ford contact or mentor in our grant submission?

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Contact for Additional Information
1. Who do I contact if I still have questions?
We have no Ford facilities in our region. Can a Ford dealership employee serve as the Ford contact or mentor in our grant submission?
No. Ford dealers are independent enterprises that are not owned by Ford Motor Company. Many dealerships and their employees support STEAM and Better World initiatives in their communities, however these grants are at a corporate level. We are currently evaluating how to leverage and coordinate overall STEAM efforts. As we grow Ford’s STEAM footprint in the future, we believe our dealerships will play an integral role in our STEAM outreach in the local communities.

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Can a Ford retiree serve as the Ford contact or mentor in our grant submission?
No. We are currently evaluating how to leverage our talented retiree population in our STEAM efforts. We are setting up systems to enable our retirees to participate as mentor/volunteers in the STEAM programs we support. Stay tuned.

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Does Ford support K-12 FIRST®Robotics teams?
Ford welcomes team grant applications from Jr.FLL®, FLL®, FTC® and FRC® robotics teams in the U.S. Ford support usually is limited to teams that are in close proximity to U.S.-based Ford facilities and those with a Ford employee team mentor. Please refer to the Ford locations list on the website. The Ford FIRST Board will review the grant applications and the selected teams will be notified.

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Who can apply for a support grant for a FIRST team?
Ford believes in engaging our employees as mentors in the teams we sponsor. However, Ford employees are not eligible to apply. We encourage employees to request a non-employee coach, mentor or teacher affiliated with the team to apply. By submitting a grant application, the submitter understands that there is no guarantee of an award by Ford Motor Company now or in the future.

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What are the steps involved in applying for a FIRST team grant?
To be considered for support, requesters need to complete a two-step application process.

• During STEP 1, the requester must register and provide preliminary data related to the request.
• Once the company reviews this information, and determines the request meets select criteria, the submitter is invited to STEP 2, where an actual team grant application can be submitted.
• The Ford FIRST Board will review the grant applications and the selected teams will be notified.

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What is the application deadline for K-12 FIRST team grants?
The team coach/mentor submits a preliminary request for support online on the Ford STEAM website. If approved, the submitter will be invited to complete the actual grant application. The grant application must be completed online no later than September 30, 2017.

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Can you provide some information regarding of the FIRST team grants provided by Ford?
• Teams applying for a Ford FIRST grant must be a registered FIRST team
• This is an annual grant. All teams must re-apply every year. A team cannot submit more than one application every year
• The Ford FIRST grant can be used for registration fees, travel expenses, and general robot and FIRST related costs
• The Ford FIRST Board will review the grant applications each year and the selected teams will be notified
• The level of support provided to selected teams is answered in the next question
• Refer to the website for complete details.
What is the level of support available for FIRST Jr.FLL®, FLL®, FTC® and FTC® teams?
The FIRST Jr.FLL®, FLL®, FTC® and FRC® teams with mentors from Ford Motor Company that are selected for Ford sponsorship will receive the following awards:

• $100 for Jr.FLL® team
• $200 for FLL® team
• $300 for FTC® team
• $3000 for FRC® team

The selected teams will be notified regarding details of grant disbursement. FIRST in Michigan will disburse Jr.FLL®, FLL® and FTC® awards for teams based in Michigan on behalf of Ford Motor Company.

Does Ford offer any support to FIRST teams that advance to the next level in the competition?
Ford offers limited advancement grants to sponsored teams that advance to FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Championship, FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) World Championship, FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Super Regional Championships, FIRST LEGO League (FLL) World Festival, or Junior FIRST LEGO League (Jr.FLL) World Festival Expo. Advancing teams will be provided details.

What are some of the requirements regarding grant acknowledgement/interaction with Ford Motor Company?

• Teams receiving a Ford FIRST grant must display the Ford logo on their competing robot and in their pit area.
• Ford should be listed as a sponsor in the FIRST Team Information Management System (TIMS).
• Teams receiving Ford grants will be provided a contact for Ford logo details and guidelines on usage.
• Ford FIRST grant is not transferable to other teams.
• Upon student/team member or parental consent (in cases where student/team member is under the age of 18), the team receiving a Ford FIRST grant agrees to support Ford’s request for participant information by providing the student/team members’ contact information to Ford, so that they can be invited to participate in Ford sponsored/supported STEAM activities and related programs.
• Refer to the website for complete details.

What is the Ford HSSTP Program?
The High School Science and Technology Program (HSSTP) is a Ford-designed program to expose high school students in southeast Michigan to real careers in STEAM fields at Ford Motor Company. Student participants gain valuable insight into real-life application of the skills learned in classrooms.

When are the Ford HSSTP Events/Sessions?
On six Saturday morning (9:00 am – 11:30 am) sessions during the school year, Ford volunteers welcome students and teachers into their workplaces to explore and demonstrate various aspects of science, technology and manufacturing.

How do students benefit from HSSTP Events/Sessions?
Participants are able to:

• Meet Ford scientists, engineers and technicians in a wide variety of disciplines.
• Visit state-of-the-art laboratories and manufacturing facilities.
• Explore recent advances in science and engineering and their applications.
• Understand emerging technologies and the factors that drive them.
High school juniors and seniors who have attended at least five of the Saturday sessions are eligible to apply for a limited number of unpaid summer internships.

How can I register for an HSSTP event?
Ford’s HSSTP events are held at a Ford facility in Dearborn and surrounding areas. Due to driving distance and other considerations, participants typically are from southeastern Michigan and surrounding areas.

Prior to registration, the parent consent form or liability waiver form needs to be downloaded, completed and uploaded (PDF or image) depending on whether the participant is less than 18 years at the time of registration or older.

Participants are encouraged to enroll online on our registration site. If you have difficulty with the online registration, please email hsstp@ford.com so we can assist you.

How will I know that I have been confirmed to attend an HSSTP event?
Registration requests will be confirmed and participants will be notified by email. Space is limited so attendees must enroll for HSSTP events. Ford Motor Company reserves the right to limit event attendance.

What should I bring with me to the HSSTP event?
Unless you register AND bring proper ID, you may NOT be admitted to the event. Acceptable forms of identification include: driver’s license, student photo ID, birth certificate, or passport. No cameras are permitted on the Ford campus. Cell phones and pagers must be turned off.

Who can attend HSSTP events?
High school students and school representatives can attend. Due to space limitations, sessions are not open to parents/guardians. Please arrive on time. Entry after 9:00 a.m. may not be guaranteed.

Do I need to attend all six events?
It is strongly recommended that the students attend all the events or as many events as possible to get the full benefit of the HSSTP program. High school juniors and seniors who have attended at least five or more of the Saturday sessions may be eligible to apply for a limited number of summer internships.

How do I cancel my registration if I am unable to participate?
Please contact hsstp@ford.com if you need to cancel your registration for an upcoming event.

How will I hear of changes to an event?
For changes to event topics, date or hazardous weather conditions we will communicate to our registered participants via email and on our Events page in the HSSTP website. In case of hazardous weather conditions, a cancellation announcement also will be made on radio station WWJ (950 AM)
Does Ford support STEAM proposals from non-profit or other STEAM organizations?
Ford welcomes support requests from U.S. organizations. The proposal submitter must be authorized to act on behalf of their organization or provide the contact information of the authorized person during the submission process.

Ford support usually is limited to programs or projects that are in close proximity to U.S. based Ford facilities and those with a Ford employee engagement. Please refer to the Ford locations list on the website.

The Ford STEAM Board will review the grant applications and the selected proposal submitters will be notified.

Who can apply for Ford STEAM grants?
External organizations will be required to apply for Ford STEAM grants using this website. STEAM organizations that are current supported will have to re-apply every year.

By submitting a grant application, the submitter understands that there is no guarantee of an award by Ford Motor Company now or in the future.

What are the steps involved in applying for a STEAM proposal grant?
To be considered for support, requesters need to complete a two-step application process.

- During STEP 1, the requester must register and provide preliminary data related to the request
- Once the company reviews this information, and determines the request meets select criteria, the submitter is invited to STEP 2, where an actual team support application can be submitted.
- The Ford STEAM Review Board will review the proposal and the submitter will be notified.

For a quick tutorial on how to submit a STEAM proposal, click here

How do I identify a Ford Primary and/or Secondary Project Liaisons on my STEAM proposal?
During STEP 2 of the application process, external parties requesting Ford support for their STEAM proposal must collaborate with the Ford employee(s) identified as their STEAM Program/Project liaison.

If an applicant does not already have a Ford primary or secondary liaison, the Ford STEAM Council will attempt to find a liaison to support the proposal. Only Ford employees can function as a Primary and/or Secondary Liaison on the STEAM support proposal application. Ford agency personnel and Ford suppliers are not eligible to act as a primary or secondary project liaison. The submitter of the application is responsible for ensuring the data provided in the proposal is accurate.

What is the application deadline for STEAM proposals?
First a preliminary request for STEAM proposal support is submitted online on the Ford STEAM website. If approved, the submitter will be invited to complete the actual STEAM proposal application. Applications are reviewed 5 times each year. Application deadlines for 2017 are:

- January 11, 2017
- March 8, 2017
- May 31, 2017
- July 26, 2017
- October 4, 2017
What happens if I am unable to meet the deadline?
Unfortunately, no exceptions or extensions will be given. Requests should be submitted as soon as possible, and a minimum two-month lead time is required. Please plan ahead and submit your applications on time. If you miss a deadline you are always welcome to submit for the next review cycle.

How will I know that my STEAM support proposal has been selected by Ford Motor Company?
The submitter of the proposal will receive a written notification (email) from the Ford STEAM Programs Manager regarding partial or full support for the proposal.

How can I submit a multi-year proposal?
Ford does not provide multi-year grants. If a program spans more than one year, the submitter must reapply on an annual basis. Program support/approval for one year does not imply subsequent year support.

Can I announce that I received a Ford STEAM Proposal grant in local or social media?
Any media communication on this topic needs coordination and prior approval from the Ford STEAM department at STEM@ford.com, Ford Fund Education Manager and Chief Trademark Counsel.

Who do I contact if I still have questions?
If you still have a question after reading the FAQ and reviewing Ford’s STEAM website, please contact the specific program email below. These emails are monitored periodically.

- For High School Robotics (FRC®), please contact Ford FIRST Robotics: ffirst@ford.com
- Ford Jr.FLL®, FLL®, FTC® questions, please contact Ford FIRST K8 Robotics: ffirstk8@ford.com
- For STEAM Proposals and general STEAM questions, please contact Ford STEAM programs: STEM@ford.com
- For Ford’s High School Science and Technology Program (HSSTP), please contact: hsstp@ford.com

Does Ford accept proposals from individual schools or teachers?
Ford STEAM team does consider proposals from school districts, but not unsolicited proposals from individual teachers or schools. Teachers and schools involved in FIRST Robotics Teams should review the “FIRST team funding” guidelines for more detail.
Submitting a STEM Proposal

Go to www.stem.ford.com
Start the Preliminary request process.

## Preliminary request form

Ford welcomes STEM program support requests from established organizations. To be considered for support, requesters need to complete a two-step process. During STEP 1, the requester must register and provide preliminary data related to the request. Once the company reviews this information, and determines the request meets select criteria, the submitter is invited to STEP 2, where an actual STEM support application can be submitted.

Ford believes in engaging our employees as mentors in programs we sponsor. For this reason, our support usually is limited to STEM programs in close proximity to U.S.-based Ford facilities. This allows our employees to mentor and volunteer for the STEM programs we support. Please refer to the locations list below. [Click here to view FAQs](#).

- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Florida
- Illinois
- Kentucky
- Michigan
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- New York
- Ohio
- South Carolina

## Registration

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- **Do you currently reside in the U.S.?**
  - Yes
  - No

- **Are you 18 years old or older?**
  - Yes
  - No

- **First name**

- **Last name**

- **Email**

- **City**

- **State**

- **ZIP**