

2026-2027 Robotics Team Expectations

Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri is pleased to offer the opportunity for Girl Scouts to participate in the FIRST® Robotics during the 2026–2027 season. Girl Scout Robotics teams receive financial support, equipment, resources, and events from Girl Scouts in addition to the amazing program from FIRST® Robotics. Please see below for an overview of what a Girl Scout Robotics team can expect from their 2026-2027 season participation.

Cost

- Reduced cost to register as a FIRST Robotics team (more than 50% discount)
- Entry fees paid to FIRST MO/KS for any team event to compete or present (I.e., Festival, Qualifier, Celebration, Tournament, Regional)
- Reduced cost to travel to a Regional or International Event
- Financial scholarship for Girl Scouts covering membership and/or program cost.

Equipment

- Core robot and/or LEGO Education equipment per program level requirements.
- Season themed equipment set.
- Additional LEGO or robot supplies as needed.
 - Stipends are provided to FTC Teams for additional equipment.

Additional materials and support

- Explore and Challenge youth members and coaches will receive a special season themed Girl Scout Robotics shirt.
 - FTC teams will receive a stipend for custom “swag” items they design as part of their branding requirements for competition.
- Girl Scout branded lanyard with badge holder.
 - Customized team’s name and design badge.
- Season themed Girl Scout patch.
- Coaches training facilitated by Girl Scout staff.
- Season Kickoff event.
- End of season celebration.
- Ongoing support from Girl Scout staff throughout the season.

Please read through the 26-27 Girl Scout Robotics team expectations. If there are any questions or concerns pertaining to details, please contact Amanda Leonard, Robotics program manager at Aleonard@girlscoutsem.org.

As a Girl Scout Robotics Team, we ask that coaches commit to the following items.

- All team participants, both adult and youth, must be members of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri. Adult Volunteers must comply with the USFIRST Youth Protection Program and complete a background check with Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri.
- One or more coaches must attend a Robotics Coach Training session offered by the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri.
- The team will consist of at least two unrelated adults and the minimum number of youth members, as required by the robotics program level.
- The team will provide survey feedback each year at the conclusion of the season.
- The team will keep equipment clean and in good condition for the program's duration and use it only as intended.
 - Upon completion of the season, Robot kits and LEGO pieces must be taken apart, separated, and organized prior to returning to Girl Scouts.
- New Robotics Coaches will complete New Troop Leader Training to learn Girl Scout policies and procedures. Training must be completed within 30 days of the course being assigned in gsLearn.
 - Volunteers assigned to this training will receive an email with further instructions. Failure to complete this course will result in the volunteer being removed from their volunteer role.
- The team is expected to participate in one team event/competition for their robotics program level, regardless of how far the team has progressed.
- Teams must clearly identify themselves as Girl Scouts in any recruitment event, media event, or competition by wearing Girl Scout lanyard and Badge, Girl Scout Uniform or Seasonal Girl Scouts robotics shirt.
- Teams must abide by Girl Scout [Safety Activity Check Points](#).
 - When traveling outside the Council boundaries approval for trips and travel must be submitted to aleonard@girlscoutsem.org and be approved by GSEM risk management.
- If the team decides to request grants, donations or participate in money earning opportunities, all money will be kept in a Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri bank account. Please contact Amanda Leonard before setting up this account to ensure the correct documentation is done.
- If the Robotics team receives any donation value, leadership must notify and provide details of donation to Amanda Leonard. Funds will be processed and provided to the team via check once approval is completed by the accounting department.