



2101 Maywill St
Richmond, VA 23230
(804) 572-8454
contactus@firstchesapeake.org
www.firstchesapeake.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Scott Turnbull

Executive Director, **FIRST** Chesapeake

sturnbull@firstchesapeake.org

c/804 215 2218

60 VA, MD, and DC middle and high school teams compete at Championship ROBOTICS events Apr 7-8 at EagleBank Arena

FIRST Chesapeake Robotics District Championship Sponsored by Booz Allen Hamilton

Fairfax, VA, April 8, 2023: Sixty of the best and brightest middle and high school robotics teams from Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia will compete in the [**FIRST Chesapeake District Championship Sponsored by Booz Allen Hamilton**](#) at the [EagleBank Arena](#) April 7-8, 2023.

The event is free and open to the public.

[**FIRST** Robotics Competition](#) (FRC) is recognized as the premier international high school engineering challenge. Working closely with teachers and volunteer mentors, student teams have a short period of time to conceptualize, design, build, program, modify and test remote-controlled robots to participate in a competition that changes each year. Teams work with a common core set of parts, but determine on their own how to accomplish tasks. Thus, no two robots are exactly alike.

This year's game, [CHARGED UP](#) Presented by Haas, inspires teams to see the potential of energy storage in a new light as they compete in alliances to charge up their communities.

Teams earn points by piloting their remote-controlled robots to create sustainability links in their grid and to engage with their power station.

Approximately 112 FRC teams in DC/MD/VA vied throughout March in [qualifying matches](#) to earn spots in the Championship that will play out at EagleBank Arena. Top performers at the District event will go on to compete at the [2023 FIRST World Championship presented by Qualcomm](#), in Houston, TX, April 19-22.

"The **FIRST** Chesapeake FRC Championship is the pinnacle of robotics sports competitions, bringing together the brightest minds from across the region to design, build, and program their own robots", said Scott Turnbull, **FIRST** Chesapeake Executive Director. "The pride and excitement on display is palpable, as teams compete for a chance to represent their school and district at the **FIRST** World Championships. With the support of Booz Allen Hamilton and other major partners, the **FIRST** Chesapeake FRC Championship is a shining example of what is possible when young people are given the opportunity to explore their passions and pursue their dreams. We're inviting you to be part of that journey too."

Participants in **FIRST** programs also qualify to apply for more than \$80 million in [college scholarships](#).

The **FIRST** Chesapeake Championship Sponsored by Booz Allen Hamilton will be held at the EagleBank Arena, 4500 Patriot Cir, Fairfax, VA 22030, April 7-8, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free parking and free admission. A [Live Feed](#) will be viewable online the days of the event.

Friday, April 7: Opening Ceremonies 8:30am

Qualifying Matches 9am-5:30pm (lunch break 12-1pm)

Saturday, April 8: Opening Ceremonies 8:30am

Qualifying Matches 9:00am-11:20pm

FIRST LEGO League Parade of Teams 11:30am (lunch break 1-2pm)

Playoff Matches and Awards 1-5:30pm (estimated)

A free Technology and Scholarship Row will also be at this event from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. each day. These free exhibits include demonstrations, information, and giveaways by some of the top employers in the DC Metro area, as well as technology-based universities.

This event will also feature a [**FIRST LEGO League**](#) Explore Festival on Saturday, April 7th 10am-1pm. **FIRST** LEGO League is designed to introduce STEM concepts to kids ages 6 to 10. See what our youngest future technology leaders are learning and discovering with this year's challenge, SUPER POWERED.

[**FIRST** Chesapeake](#) is an independent non-profit that brings STEM-based leadership programs to middle and high school students in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. More than 7,000 students participate in the 300+ teams administered by **FIRST** Chesapeake.

[**Booz Allen Hamilton**](#) is a consulting firm with experts in analytics, digital solutions, engineering, and cyber, that helps organizations transform. For more than 100 years, military, government, and business leaders have turned to Booz Allen Hamilton to solve their most complex problems. It is a key partner on some of the most innovative programs for governments worldwide and trusted by their most sensitive agencies. It works shoulder-to-shoulder with clients, using a mission-first approach to choose the right strategy and technology to help them realize their vision.

FIRST Chesapeake thanks our many [corporate sponsors](#) who make our programs possible and available for students across our service area.

###