

2019 FTC State Championship generates crowd and excitement, and sends teams on to *FIRST* World Championship

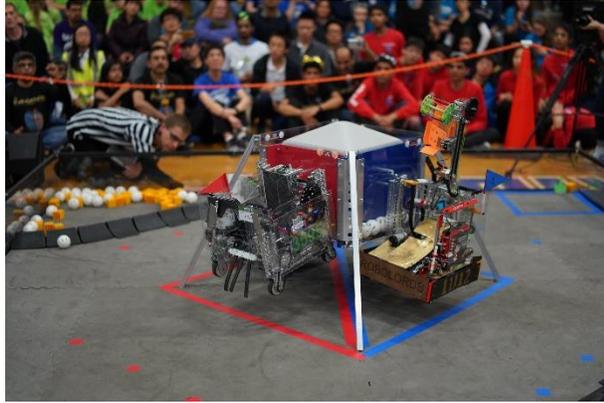


More than one thousand students and robotics fans turned out for the **FIRST** Tech Challenge (FTC) Virginia Championship sponsored by ECPI University, February 2nd at Atlee H.S. in Hanover County.

Nine of the best high school and middle school robotics teams from Virginia and Maryland have won places to compete at the world's premier international robotics tournament this spring.

The nine squads were top finishers at the [FIRST Tech Challenge VA Championship](#) Sponsored by [ECPI University](#), held at Hanover County's [Atlee High School](#) February 2, 2019.

More than one thousand students and family members came together for the daylong event, where remote controlled robots, designed and built by students, worked in alliances in a contest that simulated mining precious minerals on an alien planet.



You can view a video of the game, ROVER RUCKUS presented by Qualcomm [here](#). And To see hundreds of photos of the FTC Virginia Championship Sponsored by ECPI, click [here](#).

After 70 qualifying rounds and an elimination tournament, four teams advanced to the [FIRST World Championship](#) in Detroit April 24-27 based on their scores at the state event. Five additional teams advanced to the international event because they were [judged](#) to embody important **FIRST** values such as teamwork, creativity, innovation, quality engineering, community involvement, and the ability to compete while showing “[gracious professionalism](#)” to competitors.

Teams advancing to Detroit from the **FIRST** Tech Challenge (FTC) Virginia Championship sponsored by ECPI University:

- FTC Team 15167 - Robo Troopers, Woodbridge, Va.
- FTC Team 11112 - RoboLords, Ashburn, Va.
- FTC Team 8788 - Hexadecimal, Suffolk, Va.
- FTC Team 14607 – Robot Uprising, Alexandria, Va.
- FTC Team 4634 – FROGbots, Gainesville, Va.
- FTC Team 9794 – Wizard.exe, Rockville, Md.
- FTC Team 3595 - Schrödinger’s Hat, Alexandria, Va.
- FTC Team 4924 – Tuxedo Pandas, Christiansburg, Va.
- FTC Team 6010 – Thunderstone, Alexandria, Va.

To see a complete list of results from the **FIRST** Tech Challenge VA Championship Sponsored by ECPI University, [click here](#).

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is an international non-profit that engages kids in kindergarten through high school in exciting, mentor-based, research and robotics programs that help them become science and technology leaders, as well as well-rounded contributors to society.



“We were thrilled at the excitement and turnout at the FTC Virginia Championship Sponsored by ECPI,” said Leighann Scott Boland, Executive Director of ***FIRST*** Chesapeake.

“This program encourages students to think creatively and work as teams to tackle different engineering challenges every year. It’s about so much more than just building robots,” Boland added. “We like to call it ‘the hardest fun you’ll ever have.’ Our students are guided by adult mentors to develop not just technical, but also important life skills.”

Students participating in ***FIRST*** robotics programs also qualify to apply for more than \$80 million in college scholarship opportunities.

About *FIRST* Chesapeake:

FIRST Chesapeake is an independent non-profit that brings STEM-based leadership programs to middle school and high school students in Virginia and high school students in the District of Columbia and Maryland. More than 6,700 students participate in the 300+ teams administered by ***FIRST*** Chesapeake. Almost 57,000 people attended ***FIRST*** Chesapeake events last year and another 90,000 viewed them on line.

About ECPI University:

ECPI University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award the associate's, baccalaureate, and master's degrees and diplomas. SACSCOC is the regional body for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions in the Southern states. A private university founded in 1966, ECPI University has campuses in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, and Texas and offers convenient classes during the day, evening, and online; graduate employment services, continuing education, certification classes, and testing are also available.

On campus or online, fields of study include: HEALTH SCIENCES; TECHNOLOGY: Master of Science in Information Systems, Master of Science in Cybersecurity, [Cyber and Network Security](#), Information Systems, Software Development, Mobile Development, Cloud Computing, Web Design and Development, [Electronics Engineering](#), [Mechatronics](#), Mechanical Engineering Technology; BUSINESS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, and CULINARY. (Program field availability varies by campus.)