

NAME _____

What is FLL?

FLL is a robotics program for students ages 9-14 which is intended to get students excited about science and technology while teaching them important life skills. Small teams of students program an autonomous robot to score points on a predetermined mat, do research and create an innovative solution to a problem as part of a Project, and are guided through everything they do by the FLL Core Values. These three elements - the Robot Game, Project, and FLL Core Values make up the yearly FLL Challenge.

The challenge is released in late August and Iles teams will generally meet at least twice per week after school to prepare for a tournament which takes place in late November or early to mid December (teams often meet more than twice per week as the date of the tournament approaches). Students are also expected to do research/work on their own in support of their team's efforts. What days teams meet will be based on the availability of their coaches and space to meet in. Teams do occasionally meet on weekends and/or during vacation periods at other locations and may have outings as part of their research. This is an intensive program which takes significant time, especially during the tournament season. Since this is a team activity, students must be dedicated to working both independently and with the rest of their group and to participating throughout their time on the team in order to ensure the group's greatest chances of success.

At the tournament teams are judged on their robot (mechanical design, programming and strategy), their project (research, innovative solution and presentation) and their "core values" (inspiration, teamwork and gracious professionalism) and also compete in a robot competition. Teams that do well enough at the tournament may advance to a state championship tournament that will be held in January or early February and teams that do well enough at that tournament may advance to national or international tournaments held from April through July.

Students who are interested in applying to be on an Iles FLL team should complete the following application packet and turn it in by the deadline.

You can get more information about FLL through the U.S. FLL Website: <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/fll>. You may also direct questions to Angelica Salazar (ansaga.vi@gmail.com)

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Iles FLL Application Packet:

Complete applications must be turned in by all students interested in participating on an Iles FLL team for the 2016-2017 school year (including students who have previously participated on a team). Participation is limited to students who attend Iles School during the 2016-2017 school year.

Completing this packet does not guarantee that a student will be placed on a team. How many teams there are depends upon how many people volunteer to coach. We will evaluate the applications received, consider the number of spots available, and use our best judgement to determine which students will be asked to participate and on which team those students will be placed.

Parents interested in coaching should contact Angelica Salazar (ansaga.vi@gmail.com) for more information. Students of parents who coach still must complete all applications materials, but if they are submitted properly, will automatically be placed on their parent's team.

FLL members will be required to pay \$125 to participate. (Checks payable to Iles School) Need-based scholarships are available. The participation fee is due with the application. If a student is not placed on a team, the fee will be returned.

Application Materials:

In order for applications to be complete, students must submit:

- 1) FLL Project
- 2) Two Essays:
 - A) Why you want to join an Iles FLL Team
 - B) Core Values Essay
- 3) Iles Lego League Policies signed by both student and parent/guardian
- 4) \$125 participation fee (or fee waiver request)
- 5) Photo Release Form and Contact information sheet

****All materials must be submitted to the PTO box in the office by 3:00 P.M. Monday March 21st.**

Applications will be happily accepted earlier than that date, but will be turned away if they are submitted late. Students who have submitted completed applications by the deadline will present their project to coaches and other students after school on Wednesday March 23rd. Teams will be announced shortly after.

Iles School FIRST LEGO League Application Checklist:

- FLL Project Visual Aid & Bibliography
- 2 Essays
- Iles Lego League Policies signed by both student and parent/guardian
- \$125 participation fee (or fee waiver request)
- Photo Release Form and Tournament Attendance Contract
- Contact information sheet

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FLL Project

Projects are Due along with all other application materials by 3 p.m. Monday March 21st. Late projects will not be considered. Applicants will present their projects after school on March, March 23rd in room 13.

Project Directions:

Identify a problem that people face, research about that problem, and find a current solution to that problem using an alliance between humans and animal.

All Projects must contain the following:

1) Visual Aid: **

It is required to have a visual aid to accompany your project. You should present your learning in a manner that you are comfortable with. Keep in mind that as a part of the interview process you will need to give a live presentation to coaches and other students. Playing an i-movie or other pre-recorded item by itself will not satisfy the project presentation requirement.

Some ideas for visual aids that could be utilized as a part of the project include:

- Make a poster
- Create a shoebox diorama
- Make a pop-up book using construction paper
- Make a mobile using a coat hanger and string
- Make a flip book
- Model
- Keynote
- Prezi
- Display board
- Book
- Brochure

Or, you may use your own creative idea to share your learning.

*** If you are using Keynote, Prezi or other electronic format for your visual aid, please provide some sort of physical copy (ie: printout) with your application.*

2) Bibliography: A paper copy of your bibliography should be turned in with the application. Includes at least 4 different well documented sources. Please make efforts to go beyond using only websites.

*Projects should be detailed, neat and attractive. **Acceptable work reflects the best effort of the student.** Parents may offer constructive advice but students should do their own work. This project will help team members begin to explore the challenge topic for the coming year and should help them when their team has to come up with their own innovative idea for how to improve education students in the future.*

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Essay #1

Why you want to join an Iles FLL Team Essay

In 250 words or less, tell us why you want to join an Iles FLL Team.

Let us know if you want to join the Iles Middle School team or the multi-aged team that includes grades 4th to 8th grade.

Make sure you include:

- What is involved in participating in FLL and what the goal of the program is (if you don't know you had best do some research).
- What you hope to learn and accomplish as part of an Iles FLL team.
- How do you think you would be able to contribute to the success of a team (remember to explain what you think it means for a team to be successful)

Essay #2

Core Values Essay

Choose one of the FLL Core Values. Write a brief essay (maximum 250 words) explaining what your chosen FLL Core Value means to you and give examples on how you use or demonstrate it in every day life (at school, sports home, etc).

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Iles Lego League Policies

Philosophy - All participants deserve the opportunity to participate in Lego League in a safe and nurturing environment. Participants need to represent the school and our learning community in a safe and responsible manner.

1) Although Lego League is an after-school activity, **all school rules remain in effect** and students must follow the rules in the student handbook. Students must pay particular attention to how they behave in common areas (ie: no running in the hallways) and must also follow school rules regarding computer usage (do not attempt to defeat school firewalls or use social media, etc). If in doubt, consult the school handbook of conduct. Students who cannot follow school rules will be asked to leave the team.

2) Behavior: Displays of aggressive or anti-social behavior and/or use of profanity will not be tolerated. Bullying, threatening or intimidating of other students or the use of profane language or code words for profane language will result in the student being removed from the group until s/he can behave in a respectful manner. His/her parent will be notified. The second time the student will be asked not to return to Lego League until the student, his/her parent and the coach meet to talk about the student's behavior. A third instance can result in the student not being allowed to continue with the team.

3) Assignments: There are homework and research assignments associated with Lego League. The first time a student does not complete an assigned task they will be given the opportunity to complete the task during the meeting and his/her parent will be notified. The second time a student does not complete a task her/his parent will be called to pick the student up and the student will not be able to continue with Lego League until they have completed all assignments.

4) Attendance: **Attendance is not optional.** If a student is unable to attend a meeting, his/her parent must contact the coach as soon as possible. Students with multiple unexcused absences will not be allowed to continue with the team. Unless approved by the coach, it is assumed that regularly scheduled FLL meetings will take precedence over other after school activities that the students may want to participate in. Teams get disqualified if one team member is not in attendance during competition. **Attendance to the competition is mandatory.**

5) Timeliness: Being on time for practice and competition is essential. If a parent is unable to drop-off or pick-up a student on time, his/her parent must contact the coach as soon as possible and/or make other arrangements. Students with multiple unexcused tardies or who does not have arrangements to be picked up on time on multiple occasions will not be allowed to continue with the team.

6) Core Values: Students need to adhere to the core values of FIRST Lego League. These values are:

- We are a team.
- We do the work to find solutions with guidance from our coaches and mentors.
- We know our coaches and mentors don't have all the answers; we learn together.
- We honor the spirit of friendly competition.
- What we discover is more important than what we win.
- We share our experiences with others.
- We display **Gracious Professionalism®** and **Coopertition®** in everything we do.
- We have FUN!

Student Signature: _____

Student's Birthdate: _____

Parent Signature: _____

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Photo Release Form:

We occasionally post photos of students and/or teams on the Iles Lego League website. Pictures or video of the students participating in FLL activities are also occasionally used by the media when reporting on either a specific team or an event FLL teams are participating in.

____ I **give** permission for pictures/video of _____ participating in FLL team activities to be posted online or used by media.

____ I **do not give** permission for pictures/video of _____ participating in FLL team activities to be posted online or used by media.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Tournament Attendance Contract

FLL is a competitive program. **Attendance to the tournament is NOT optional.** Students are expected to participate in and attend all the scheduled activities during the tournament. With the exception of illness and family emergencies nothing excuses a student from participating at the tournament. Teams get disqualified if the whole team is not in attendance during the competition and the team becomes ineligible to win awards.

By signing this document you are committing to have your child attend the Regional Qualifier Tournament and State Competition (If the team advances to state). These events are **mandatory** and only excused due to illness or family emergencies.

If a child is not able to attend the entire tournament, for reasons other than illness or family emergency, he or she will be dismissed from the team and all fees will be forfeit to the program.

I _____ understand that my child _____ must attend the Regional Qualifier Tournament and the State Competition, if the team advances.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

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Contact Information:
(Please PRINT NEATLY!)

It is important that we are able to stay in touch with families, especially since team meetings extend until after the school office has closed and we have occasional field trips or weekend meetings. Please fill out the following information:

Parent/Guardian #1

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

Parent/Guardian #2 (to the extent that it differs from Parent/Guardian #1)

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Address: _____