



Application Due
Mar 14, 2025



Pizitz Robotics

Louis Pizitz Middle School
Vestavia Hills City Schools
2826 Columbiana Road
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
(205) 402 - 5350

What is VEX Robotics?

VEX Robotics tasks teams of students with designing, coding, and building a robot to compete against other teams in a game-based engineering challenge.

What is the team all about?

The Pizitz Robotics teams take their robot, to compete against other middle and high school teams on a playing field, in alliance with another team, to accomplish game objectives. After each competition, teams make adjustments to their robots to improve their design and function. To see the objective of this year's game, go to:

▶ [VEX V5 Robotics Competition: High Stakes | 2024-2025 Game](#)

We will have 5 teams that can consist of 3 - 5 students. Each member will be required to rotate the tasks of maintaining their team's engineering notebook, designing, building, programming, testing, and keeping inventory of supplies.

When does the Pizitz Robotics team meet?

Teams meet every day during 8th period. Team members must be present 2 days a week and attend after school practices every Tuesday from 3:15 - 4:30. Students are permitted to participate in other school teams, but should discuss this additional responsibility with their families and are strongly encouraged to consider limiting themselves to just 2 school-based extracurricular commitments (Robotics &). The goal is for all students to be able to participate to the fullest and other teammates are not inhibited by one person's excessive absences.

We will also host a 4 day summer camp for team members this year, July 28-31, 8:00 - 11:30. Students will begin designing and building the robots in response to the VEX game unveiling. A mid-morning snack will be provided.

When does the Pizitz Robotics compete?

Competitions are held on Saturdays throughout the school year. Students will be notified of upcoming competitions one (1) month in advance. Students and their families are responsible for arranging their own travel to competitions in Alabama. (Families may make plans to carpool, but those will NOT be organized or regulated in any way by teacher sponsors or the school.) Students are required to arrive at the competition site 10 minutes before the start. Depending on location, this may mean leaving by 5:30 am. Competitions can last later than 5:00 pm, meaning arrival home in Birmingham may not be until 6:00-8:00 pm. **(This past year 2 of our tournaments and state championship conflicted with Math Team events.)** Please keep these commitments in mind before applying. If you would like to see a competition you can watch a recorded live stream for the 2025 game here: ▶ [SCORE Showdown at Auburn University VRC Signature Event Day One](#)

What does the Pizitz Robotics team membership cost?

Students who are selected will pay \$200 to help cover registration fees, t-shirts, and equipment. Additionally, team members will be asked to complete their part of a sponsorship letter, then secure one business/community member sponsor. View the sponsorship letter here: [📄 Robotics Sponsor Letter](#) If students qualify for competition outside of Alabama, fundraising opportunities will be provided to help cover their hotel stay, but families will be responsible for transportation and food.

What is required to be on the Pizitz Robotics team?

Below are all criteria, some are ***REQUIRED. The team will be selected based on your qualifications. Read all of our team expectations here: [Pizitz Robotics : Team Expectations and Contract and Power Tool Permission Slip](#)

- ☐ Previous Robotics Experience
- ☐ Previous Coding Experience
- ☐ Willingness to learn and be challenged
- ☐ Ability to work as a team through collaboration and cooperation***
- ☐ 2 Teacher Recommendations*** (Write your name on the recommendation sheet and give 1 to two different teachers)
- ☐ Commitment to 80% of the Tuesday practices after school***
- ☐ Commitment to procuring your own transportation to and from in-state competitions and participating in 2/4 of those competitions***
- ☐ \$200 membership fee AND 1 business/community member sponsor*** (not due until you are selected as a team member)
- ☐ Commitment to academic and behavioral excellence and adherence to the Pirate Code of Conduct***
 - ☐ Students with any class average below 75, will not be allowed to compete, until the grade improves.
 - ☐ Students with any major offense office referrals (resulting in ISS) within the last month, will not be allowed to compete in the competition that falls within 1 month of the write-up.
- ☐ Consider what role you are most skilled to fill on your team, if chosen. Each member should contribute in as many areas as possible, but each team needs a balance of skilled members.
 - ☐ **Code Builder and Online Competitor**
 - ☐ This member will take the lead for coding their robot's remote and autonomous actions. They will also lead the team in competing in online coding competitions.
 - ☐ **Robot Design and Notebook Manager**
 - ☐ This member will take the lead for designing the robot and maintaining the engineering notebook. This member excels in the area of organization and communication.
 - ☐ **Robot Builder and Pit Manager**
 - ☐ This member will take the lead for building and maintaining the structural integrity of their robot. Must make sure the robot meets all requirements to compete.
 - ☐ **Robot Driver and Team Strategist**
 - ☐ This member will be the lead driver for competitions. They will communicate with their allied team to strategize for competitions.

Please complete the [application](#) by March 14th, 2025, if you are interested in participating in Robotics next year. Late applications will not be accepted. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Rice via email: ricem@vhcs.us

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Rice
Robotics Sponsor
Pizitz Middle School
Vestavia Hills City Schools

Student Application QR Code:



Teacher Evaluation QR Code:

Student Name:

Hi Teachers,

Thank you so much for taking the time to provide valuable feedback on students and their abilities! Please complete a separate form for each student. Your responses will only be seen by the robotics sponsors.

<https://forms.gle/pwmXiQs4GW7avUs98>



Teacher Evaluation QR Code:

Student Name:

Hi Teachers,

Thank you so much for taking the time to provide valuable feedback on students and their abilities! Please complete a separate form for each student. Your responses will only be seen by the robotics sponsors.

<https://forms.gle/pwmXiQs4GW7avUs98>

