



**2026-2027 FIRST LEGO League Robotics
Coronado Middle School Application
FLL Robotics Competition Team**



Application Information

Students enrolled in and attending classes at Coronado Middle School in Fall 2026 may apply for the FLL Robotics Competition Team. The application is due on **Tuesday, August 25, 2026 at 3:30 pm**. It must be emailed to James.Laaperi@coronadousd.org.

The application must include the following:

1. Signed Parent/Guardian/Student Agreement
2. Signed Student Agreement
3. Completed Student Questionnaire

Students may be contacted for an interview.

Students will be notified about team selections by **Tuesday, September 1st, 2026**.

What is FLL Robotics?

Tomorrow's innovators practice imaginative thinking and teamwork. Guided by coaches, mentors and engineers, the teams are given a task where they must identify a real-world problem related to the theme and create a solution. They also must design, build, and program a robot using LEGO SPIKE PRIME then compete on a table-top playing field to complete missions for points.

Why Join Robotics?

Robotics is an amazing opportunity for students to develop real-world skills in areas such as:

- Engineering & Design
- Coding & Programming
- 3D Printing & CAD
- Public Speaking & Outreach
- Website Development
- Business, Marketing & Fundraising
- Leadership & Team Management

Whether you're interested in hands-on technical work or creative problem-solving, there's a role for everyone on the team. You don't have to be a tech expert to join — just come with a willingness to learn and a passion for growth!

Team Member Responsibilities

Robotics is a time-intensive, team-centered activity stretched out over a long competition season, and it often ramps up in the weeks before competition as extra practices are needed to get projects, presentations and robots ready to compete. Please use discretion when applying for a spot in the program. While we honor students' commitments to other activities, we expect them to take seriously their commitment to robotics as well. If a student misses multiple meetings without notifying the coach, he/she may be removed from the team so that another student can have an opportunity to join. Student may also be removed from the team for not honoring the commitment of the signed contract.

Citizenship and Behavior

Students must maintain excellent citizenship and behavior (in the classroom and at practices) to be considered for a team. This includes following school rules and exhibiting FLL Core Values. Students are expected to be respectful to other students, parents, and coaches. Technology use at practice is limited to what is appropriate and necessary for the robotics team. In the rare event that a student is not following school rules, a parent will be notified to immediately pick up the student and/or the student may be excused from the team.

Time Commitments

Teams will begin meeting this school year on Tuesdays 3:05-4:30 pm. More practices may be added as we get close to competition.

Competitions (Saturday or Sunday, 7 am-5pm). Parent/Guardian is expected to be in attendance as well:

- 2026: FLL Qualifier in November (Guaranteed competition)
- December 2026: FLL Regionals (teams must qualify to compete)
- January 2027: FLL Championships (teams must qualify to compete)

How is CMS FLL Funded?

The CMS LEGO Robotics program is offered by CUSD and is supported through targeted fundraising by the Coronado Schools Foundation (CSF), a non-profit that supports STEM and arts programs in the district. The CMS program gives students valuable hands-on experience in engineering, teamwork, and collaboration. Sustainability of the program requires ongoing financial support to operate at the most robust level.

- **Program Cost:** Approximately \$550 per student annually.
- **Suggested Donation:** \$295 per family during September registration (or any amount comfortable for you).
- **Participation:** Donations are **strictly voluntary** and do not impact a student's eligibility to join.
- **Program Sustainability:** Parent donations and CSF grants are critical. Without adequate funding, CUSD may have to discontinue the program.

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STUDENT/PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

Please take the time to read and sign this agreement with your child. We want to ensure that both parents/guardians and students understand the responsibility and commitment needed by each FLL team member and family. A signed agreement by both the student and parent/guardian is a required part of the application and must be submitted as part of the completed application.

STUDENT AGREEMENT Please review each item before initialing each item and signing below:

 I realize that no FLL problem has a single solution and that a successful team is one which cooperates by considering everyone's ideas. I will be supportive of my team members and avoid criticizing anyone's ideas.

 I will be respectful towards coaches, people, equipment, and workspaces at all times.

 FLL team meetings are valuable, and I will attend each meeting as best as I can. If a conflict arises, I will notify Coach JD in advance.

 I will use technology appropriately and responsibly.

 I will work collaboratively as a team member. This will help us accomplish more and be a successful team.

 The FLL program recognizes all teams that bring a solution to the tournaments and are considered "winners". I will show other teams the utmost respect and good sportsmanship.

 The goal of my team should be to do our best to solve a challenging problem.

 If my behavior is not consistent with these expectations, my parent/guardian will be notified to pick me up from practice or competitions immediately. I understand that I may be removed from the team if the misconduct continues.

 I have read and agree to the above statements. I understand that if my behavior does not align with the Student Agreement I may be removed from the CMS Robotics Team.

Name:

Grade:

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:

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PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

Please review each item before initialing each item and signing below:

_____ I agree the Coaches have the right to let me know if my student is not abiding by the student contract and FLL Core Values which may prevent my student from continuing to be part of the team at the coach's discretion.

_____ I understand that if our team loses parts or harms the robot during the season, our team may be charged for the replacement parts or replacement robot.

_____ I agree to hold harmless the team coaches, mentors, volunteers, engineers, principals, Village Elementary and CUSD, for any injuries that may occur during participation in the CMS Robotics program.

_____ I am willing to help with the team throughout the season to support our students.

_____ I agree that CMS Robotics is a privilege and support the expectation that my student must consistently demonstrate behavior aligned with FIRST Robotics CORE Values and Code of Conduct.

_____ I will pick up my student immediately if contacted by a coach or site coordinator in the event of student misconduct. I realize that if this happens more than once, my student may be removed from the team.

_____ I will agree to make every effort for my student to attend all practices and tournaments. I will provide transportation to and from events such as practice and competitions and be prompt with pickups after practices and tournaments.

_____ I have read and agree to the above statements.

Parent/Guardian Name:

Date:

Parent/Guardian Email:

Parent/Guardian Phone:

Student Name:

Grade in Sept. 2026: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

CONFIDENTIAL

CMS Robotics Teacher Recommendation

Students: Ask a teacher to complete and email this to James.Laaperi@coronadousd.net Completed forms must be received by August 25th, 2026 at 3:30pm.

Teachers: Thank you for taking time to complete this recommendation form. This form is CONFIDENTIAL and will only be seen by the CMS Robotics Coach JD Laaperi and CUSD Robotics Director Roberta Lenert.

Do not send this form back to the student.

Student Name:

Teacher Name:

Subject:

An FLL Robotics Team requires self-directed, responsible students who work well in groups. **Please circle the number to rate this student on a scale of 1-5 1= NO and 5 = YES**

- Student is responsible

1 2 3 4 5

- Student is self-motivated

1 2 3 4 5

- Student listens to/follows directions consistently

1 2 3 4 5

- Student stays on task in school

1 2 3 4 5

- Student is creative

1 2 3 4 5

- Student works well with others (extremely important)

1 2 3 4 5

- Student overcomes obstacles

1 2 3 4 5

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CMS Robotics Teacher Recommendation

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Please describe the student's overall behavior in class. How does the student interact with teachers and staff?

Please explain how the student interacts with peers or group members. Include examples that reflect their teamwork, problem-solving approach and how they include others.

***Any other information you would like to share with the FLL Robotics Coach that might impact the success of the student on a competitive robotics team

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STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

Name: _____

Grade in September 2026: _____

Please type or neatly print your answers in complete sentences. (You may use lined paper or additional pages, if needed)

Submit completed application to James.Laaperi@coronadousd.net or

by Tuesday, August 25th, 2026 at 3:30 pm

1. Why do you want to be a part of the Coronado Middle School Robotics Team?

2. What previous experience do you have with Robotics, Spike Prime or First Lego League?

3. What is the most important skill or interest you believe you could offer a team?

4. What experience do you have with coding, Spike Prime, Scratch, or Hour of Code?

5. What are you most interested in on the CMS Robotics Team? **Please circle all that apply**
Coding, Creating Projects, Public Speaking, Website Design, Engineering and
Building, Logo Design, 3D Printing, Robot Design, Robot Building, Being Part of
a Team, or Playing with Legos

