

BEST™ DIVISIONS

Robotics

Each participating school fields a robotics team. Teams must also submit a Project Engineering Notebook that describes how the Engineering Design Process was utilized in the design of their robot.

BEST Award

The highest achievement in BEST, this optional competition includes an oral presentation, educational exhibit, spirit and sportsmanship, and robot performance.

Competition Events

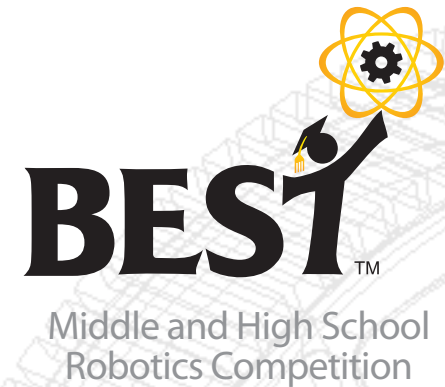
- ❁ **Kick-off Day (September)** — Game challenge and playing field unveiled and the six-week long "design-and-build" phase begins.
- ❁ **Mall Day (Early October)** — Typically during the fourth week, teams practice-drive their robots on the playing field set up at a local mall.
- ❁ **Game Day (Late October)** — The actual competition takes place and winners of both the robotics and BEST Award divisions advance to a Regional Championship.
- ❁ **Regional Championship (December)** — Winning teams from all hubs within a BEST geographical region compete for the regional title.
- ❁ **National Championship (Following April)** — Winners of the Regional Championships compete for the national title.

For more information about ...



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Engaging, exciting and inspiring students to pursue careers in engineering, science and technology through participation in a sports-like, science and engineering-based robotics competition.

BEST

BOOSTING ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, and TECHNOLOGY

Take plywood, PVC pipe of various sizes, threaded rods, a box filled with screws and other hardware, an irrigation valve cover, piano wire, an aluminum paint grid, a bicycle inner tube, something called a 'micro-energy chain system,' an assortment of other odds-and-ends and give it all to a team of students with the challenge to design and build a functioning competitive robot in six short weeks!

BEST – BOOSTING ENGINEERING, SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY ...

- ⚙️ the **EXCITEMENT** of a basketball game
 - ⚙️ the **STRATEGY** of a chess match
 - ⚙️ the **INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGE** of a science fair
 - ⚙️ the **PRESSURE** of a competitive sporting event
- ... plus hundreds of screaming fans, pep bands, cheerleaders, music, dancing and mascots!

BEST Core Objectives

PROVIDE STUDENTS with a **real-world engineering** experience that incorporates the practical application of math & science

PREPARE STUDENTS to be **technologically literate** and thus better prepared to enter the workforce

HELP STUDENTS develop **leadership, project management, teamwork and organizational skills**

DEVELOP STUDENTS' **confidence and competence** through self-directed learning, decision-making, abstract thinking and problem-solving



BEST Core Values

STUDENTS are the sole participants and primary decision-makers, designers and builders

Any **STUDENT** may participate

THE PROGRAM IS FREE TO SCHOOLS — There are no registration or participation fees

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS ARE PROVIDED AT NO COST to participating schools

ANY SCHOOL MAY PARTICIPATE regardless of type, size location or socioeconomic status

The Engineering Design Process

is the fundamental problem-solving tool **BEST** teachers and mentors use to help guide students through the design-and-construction phase of the competition.

BEST is less about building robots and more about teaching students how to analyze and solve problems.

What **BEST** students learn is what industry needs in its future workforce and what communities need in their future leaders.

