



## Capitol BEST Boosting Engineering, Science, and Technology

### School Commitment Policy

Please make note of the following policy changes surrounding school commitments.

We will use a 2-step process this year:

- 1) Participation Interest in the Spring, followed by
- 2) Commitment in late summer.

#### ***Intent to Participate Forms***

Schools/teams will return an Intent to Participate form in the Spring and will be placed on a participants list on a first come first serve basis. The order of this list will be available on the website and will be used to determine the order in which schools will be considered for participation in the program. Once the allocated number of available spots has been reached, other interested schools will be placed on a waiting list.

It is vitally important that EVERY interested school/team return an Intent to Participate form as early as possible in the Spring to put their school on the list for consideration. It is ***vitally important*** that a point of contact be specified on the interest form (e.g., teacher sponsor) along with ALL contact information. A ***valid email address*** should be included as this will be the primary method for contacting schools for final commitment in August. Make sure that the email address is one that will be ***monitored during the summer***.

This is when you start recruiting your students. Don't wait until school starts in the fall. Students certainly will be added at that time, but you must be ready with a core set of students due to the early start of the contest in the fall. There is not much time for recruiting a team in the fall.

#### ***Commitment Forms***

In early August, schools will be contacted (through point of contact email provided on Intent to Participate form) and asked to confirm their commitment for the fall contest. Schools will be contacted in the order they exist on the participants list, followed by the waiting list, until all available spots are allocated.

We will take only the first 24 teams to confirm their commitment for the fall contest. Please return your commitment form as soon as possible after being contacted so that your team will be ensured a spot.

DO NOT confirm your commitment if you feel that a team will not make. We are trying to eliminate teams that sign up early, then drop out at the last minute. There are valid reasons that this might occur, but "I couldn't get any students together" is not one of them. Additionally, if you want to participate and are willing to put together a team, fill out an Intent to Participate form in the Spring/Summer, as early as possible.

#### ***Drop-Outs***

A school/team dropping out after orientation will not be given priority in the following contest year. They will be placed on the waiting list.

A school/team that drops out after kickoff will not be allowed to participate in the contest for one year.

Only one team is allowed per school campus or homeschool group.

#### ***BEST Robotics Policy on Student Participation***

If a student desires to participate and attends a public school which has a team, he/she may only participate on that school's team except under specific circumstances. This is to avoid having a team of students from multiple schools.

Any number of students may participate on a team. We encourage cross discipline and grade levels. The school/team sponsor is free to determine any eligibility requirements for students participating on the team.

#### ***Questions***

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Capitol BEST. We will work with you. We want all students to participate and enjoy their experience!