



Be a *FIRST* in Ohio Showcase Team!



No one tells – or shows - the *FIRST* story better than *FIRST* teams! We are raising the bar in showcasing *FIRST*, and we're inviting *FIRST* in Ohio teams to be an active part of our statewide outreach efforts, gain some recognition for your teams and schools, and hone student marketing and presentation skills in the process.

Here's how it works:

1. **Actively and professionally participate and document involvement in a minimum of three grand scale outreach events.** These are events with a potential attendance of 1000+ (such as state/county fairs, Minor League baseball games, parades, Hamvention, etc). It is expected that 50% of your team or a minimum of 8 students (which ever number is smaller) are in attendance at these events.

Other ways to reach grand scale status:

A. Mentoring another *FIRST* team counts as one of these outreach events as long as it meets these guidelines:

1. Provided consistent (at least once a week during the lead up to competitions (e.g. *FIRST* Robotics Competition Build Season) communication, either in person or via phone/email/video conference to the Mentored team helping with technical or non-technical *FIRST* program specific issues.

2. The Mentored team would agree that the Mentoring team did provide this level of support

B. Reaching the same number of people through a combined number of normal scale events.

1. Each event can only count once so you cannot count it for both a normal and a grand scale event.

2. For example if your team does 4 math and science outreach events and each reaches 250 people- those combined would count as 1 grand scale event.

3. If you are doing this option, please make a note of it on your form.

2. **Document involvement in at least three additional normal scale outreach events in your community** –science fairs, math and science night, school board meeting, etc.

That's it! Of course, we have some protocols for teams seeking Showcase status.

- **Gracious Professionalism conduct at all times** - Everyone (adults & students) at an event must be dressed appropriately with team shirts unless otherwise advised; be attentive to guests, and chaperones must be attentive to kids - no texting, non-*FIRST* game playing (gaming, horseplay, etc.)
- **Students do the outreach** - We're trying to showcase how capable our students are and they need every opportunity to become capable of explaining what they do and how they do it. Outreach events are great practice!
- **Understand your *FIRST* program** – Team members should have an "elevator speech" explanation of *FIRST* that's easy for kids to share (i.e. something like "*FIRST* teaches science and engineering through robot competitions."), and refer to *FIRST* programs by their full names instead of acronyms.
- **Be informed about the event at which you're exhibiting** – And be able to relate *FIRST* involvement to the business or educational community involved in the event.

Showcase teams will be:

- Recognized on the Wright Patterson Educational Outreach website at <http://wpafbstem.com>
- Receive letters of appreciation from Wright Patterson AFB
- Receive a blue ribbon with the year and program printed on them to display in their pit or at outreach events.

Program runs from Kickoff date 2025 to Kickoff 2026. We will have the blue ribbons for you for display by your first tournament. If you would like to participate in the program, document outreach on the attached form and submit it by OCT 31, 2026 to Bre Holt, bholt@firstpartners.org