

Overview

Below are the criteria for registered VRC teams (Middle and High School) to qualify for participation in the 2018-19 VEX Robotics Competition State (United States), Regional, and Provincial (Canada) Championships at official VEX Robotics Competition Qualifying Events being held from **June 2018 through February 2019**. This Criteria will have a scheduled update on **August 15, 2018** and **January 15, 2019**.

VRC Official Qualifying events (Tournaments and Leagues) must meet the following criteria:

- Be listed as a VRC event with online registration hosted on RobotEvents.com.
- Be an event held between **June 1, 2018**, and two weeks prior to the State/Regional/Provincial Championship event for which they will qualify.
- All teams participating at the event have completed their 2018-19 VRC Team registration. Teams will not be able to register for events until their Team Registration is completed and paid via credit card, check, or purchase order.
- The event must follow the Official Rules in the Game Manual (including tournament/alliance selection guidelines) and Tournament Manager results must be uploaded within 48 hours of event completion.
- The event must follow the Judges Guide and Judging Rubrics.
- **Posting Deadline:** Official Qualifying Tournaments and Leagues must be posted on RobotEvents.com by **October 1, 2018**, and be open for registration at least 8 weeks in advance of the event.
- Events are required to have at least 16 registered teams. League Ranking Sessions may have less than 16 teams participating, if the league has the required 16 registered teams.
- RobotEvents.com registrations and payments must be completed before any event. The Event Partner must mark teams as **Paid** on RobotEvents.com for any team that pays the Event Partner directly. This includes payment by trades and deals allowed by the Event Partner. The Event Partner does not have to accept direct payments and can require all teams to pay through Robot Events.
- Tournaments and Leagues with 24 or more teams registered, must offer Driving and Programming Skills Challenge Matches. Skills Challenge Matches are highly recommended for all events.
- Any event offering the Robot Skills Challenge must offer both Driving and Programming Skills Challenge attempts to attending teams. The recommended maximum number of matches is 3 of each skill.
- Skills Challenge scores for all official qualifying events will be included in the World Skills Standings on RobotEvents.com.
- Leagues are encouraged to have multiple unique match play dates; the required minimum is 3 Ranking Sessions and a Final League Championship Session.
- If an event has fewer than 6 organizations registered, no organization may have more than 33% of the total number of registered teams.

- Event Partners will be permitted to host 1 event without organizational or team percentage registration restrictions given that they host another equal sized or greater event the same season in the same program following all registration restrictions.
- For an event to award an Excellence Award, the event must also offer a Design award.
- All State/Regional Championship events within the US must be held no later than **March 10, 2019**. All Provincial/Regional/National Championship events outside of the US must be held no later than **March 3, 2019**.
- **Note:** Skills-Only Events are not qualifying events, and will not have their results uploaded to the World Skills Standings. These are for practice only.

Note: From time to time, the REC Foundation may make an exception to one of these criteria to better support a growing State/Province/Region/Nation. For more information, please contact your REC Foundation Regional Support Manager.

Three Ways to qualify for your State/Regional/Provincial Championship

1. All official local tournaments held at least two weeks prior to the State/Regional/Provincial Championship will qualify their top teams for the championship in the same State/Region/Province (details below).
2. Leagues within the state will qualify their top teams for the State Championship (details below).
3. Top Robot Skills Challenge scores listed on the World Skills Ranking within the state may qualify for State/Regional/Provincial Championship (details below).

State/Regional/Provincial Championship Qualification Details

- Teams are permitted to attend only one (1) State/Regional/Provincial Championship
- State/Province/Country Championships are closed to teams outside of that State/Province/Country. Some regions may have States/Provinces that band together to hold a Regional Championship. When that is the case, only teams from that region may attend that Regional Championship.
- The Spot Level is the number of qualifying spots an event is given to qualify teams to the Championship level. This Spot Level is dependent on the capacity of the Championship, the number of events leading up to Championship, and the size of the qualifying event. The REC Regional Support Manager will determine how many spots each event is given to fill the Championship event, categorizing events as Large, Medium and Small. More spots may be given to Large events and less spots to Small events. Events of the same size in the State/Province should expect to have the same number of spots.
- Once the Spot Level is determined for each event, the qualifying awards are based on the following chart, with either one (1) or (2) Excellence Awards being given.
- Events will give one (1) Excellence Award when there is only one (1) grade level registered to the event, OR when there are less than ten (10) teams from one grade level registered two (2) weeks prior to the event.
- Events will give two (2) Excellence Awards when the event is a blended event of both middle and high school teams with at least ten (10) teams from each grade level registered two (2) weeks prior to the event.

- If there is an out-of-state/region/province team, or a team that double qualifies from the event (not from previous events or other methods), that spot will go to the next highest unqualified team on the Robot Skills ranking at that event. There is no look-back to previous events to see if a team has previously qualified. These spots will be filled by the Regional Support Manager.

Note: If no Excellence Award is given, only the two (2) Tournament Champions will qualify to the State/Province Championship event.

Spot levels must follow the order of priority found in the table below.

Spot Level	Excellence Award	Tournament Champions	Design Award	Robot Skills Champion	Tournament Finalists	Semi Finalist	Amaze, Think, Innovate, Build, Create**
1 Spot	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 Spots	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
4 Spots	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
5 Spots	1	2	1	1	-	-	-
6 Spots	1	2	1	-	2	-	-
7 Spots	1	2	1	1	2	-	-
10 Spots	1	2	1	-	2	4	-
11 Spots	1	2	1	1	2	4	-
12-16 Spots	1	2	1	1	2	4	1-5

** If the Event is giving 2 Excellence Awards, simply add 1 to the Spot Level for the additional Excellence Award, in which case there would be a Middle School Excellence Award and High School Excellence Award given.*

*** Priority is given to Awards listed in order, starting with Amaze and ending with Create.*

Top Robot Skills Challenge scores will be used to fill the remaining capacity of the State/Region/Province Championship event. Top Robot Skills Challenge teams are listed in Robot Events on the World Skills Standings page. The team(s) that will be invited, will be determined based on their scores after the last official VRC event in the state/region/province. If there is remaining capacity due to teams not accepting the invite, the capacity will either be lowered and the event will be closed, or teams will be invited from the wait list.

Teams that qualify for State/Regional/Provincial Championship, on or before, **February 1, 2019**, will have two weeks to register and pay by credit card, check or PO for the State Championship. Teams that qualify on or after **February 2, 2019**, (or qualified for a Championship that is less than three weeks away) will have one week to register and pay by credit card, check or PO for the State Championship.

2019 VEX Worlds Qualification from the State/Regional/Provincial Championships

The number of qualifying spots a State/Province Championship will allocate for VEX Worlds is based on the percentage of VRC teams the state had last season in relation to the total number of teams in the program from that previous season, separated by Middle and High School. The same chart found above is used to show which awards at a State/Regional/Province Championship Tournament will qualify for the 2019 VEX Robotics World Championship based on how many spots the state has been allocated.

Important Considerations

- On **January 1, 2019**, additional spots will be allocated to regions that have higher-than-average growth to re-balance spot levels due to these additional teams. Teams added after **January 1, 2019**, will not be considered in this re-balancing allocation of spots.
- While many States/Regions/Provinces will continue to host events open to High Schools and Middle Schools, referenced as “blended” events, many States/Regions/Provinces will have championship events for high school and middle school teams separately. Please be sure to check RobotEvents.com for a complete listing of events and more information.
- States that have only one assigned Middle School World Championship spot may give that qualifying spot to the Excellence Award winning team at a blended State/Regional Championship.
- States that have more than one assigned Middle School World Championship spot should make every attempt to hold separate Middle School and High School Championship events. If the only option is to host a blended event, the middle school spots can only go to middle school teams. The high school spots can be won by middle school or high school teams.
Note: This could result in some of the Middle School spots being awarded to the Top Middle School Robot Skills teams. The top Middle School Robot Skills Score team(s) would be determined after the final Championship Event in that State/Region.
- When inviting teams from the World Skills Standing, the Middle School Spots will be given to Middle School teams, and High School Spots will be given to High School Teams.
- Please contact your REC Foundation Regional Support Manager for additional information regarding qualifying events, qualifying spots, growth considerations, and any other questions.

2019 VEX Worlds Qualification from the World Robot Skills Standings

Teams will no longer be invited from the World Robot Skills Standings unless it is to award a spot to a team based on a Double Qualification scenario as described in the previous section.

2019 VEX Worlds Qualification from Signature Events

The REC Foundation is excited to announce that a series of Signature Events, from around the world, will begin enabling teams to earn an invitation to directly attend the VEX Robotics World Championship. The intent of these special events is to promote cross-regional and international play and provide teams with an additional opportunity to qualify for the World Championship. During the 2017-2018 Season, the following events were selected to pilot this new opportunity:

- 2017 Hawaiian Electric Companies ECUH Pan Pacific VEX IQ Championships (Completed)
- 11th Asia-Pacific Robotics Championship 2017 (Completed)
- 2017-18 Asia Open VEX Robotics Competition – High School (Completed)
- Kalahari Classic – VEX IQ Challenge and VRC

REC Foundation Event Partners are encouraged to submit their 2018-2019 event for consideration as a Signature Event, if they meet the requirements below:

1. No more than 75% of teams participating can be from single state/province/nation (as defined by the spot allocation table above)
2. A minimum of 3 state/province/nations (event regions) must be represented at event (as defined by the spot allocation table above)

3. Events must be posted by **October 1** of the competition season
4. Event applications (found by clicking here) must be received by September 1st of the competition season
5. The primary event partner applying for event designation must have served as a primary event partner for an official tournament previously
6. The event must not be held during the same date range (within one week) as another regional/state/provincial/national championship in the expected attendance area
7. The event must satisfy all other “official event” requirements listed on page 1 of this document
8. The event must not have any other World Championship spots and must not be designated as an official state/regional/national championship.

Considerations Section*:

1. Other applications in your geographic area will be considered alongside
2. Economic impact on projected teams in attendance
3. Evaluation of probable teams vs. posted capacity
4. Events will be evaluated on a rolling basis, please submit your events for consideration as early as possible, beginning on **June 1, 2018**.

** The REC Foundation will consider many different factors when determining which events will be selected to receive World Championship spots. Application submission does not guarantee selection as a Signature Event, and not all eligible events will be selected.*