



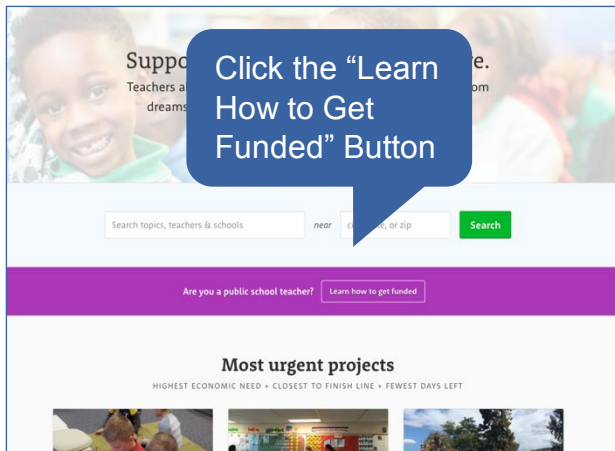
How to Use DonorsChoose.org

Overview

[DonorsChoose.org](https://www.donorschoose.org) is an online charity on a mission to make it easy for anyone to help a classroom in need of VEX Robotics equipment by allowing people to donate directly to classrooms. The REC Foundation knows your time is valuable, so we have put together this guide to make the process as quick and easy as possible.

Public School teachers post classroom project requests on the website. Here's how you set up your project page.

1. Click "Learn How to Get Funded" button on the home page of [DonorsChoose.org](https://www.donorschoose.org).



Fully Funded VEX Robotics Projects <i>(Big and Small)</i>	
These VEX Robotics projects are but a few of those that were fully funded using DonorsChoose.org .	
Project Link	Amount Funded
Mandarin Lakes K-8 Academy, Homestead, FL	\$2,830
Sutter Middle School, Folsom, CA	\$2,106
Detroit Institute of Technology at Cody, Detroit, MI	\$1,412
Paul Saylor Elementary School, Valparaiso, IN	\$1,095
Irondale Community School, Irondale, AL	\$727
Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School, Waimanalo, HI	\$133

Note: Most teachers keep their projects under \$600

2. On the next screen click on the "Get Started" button.



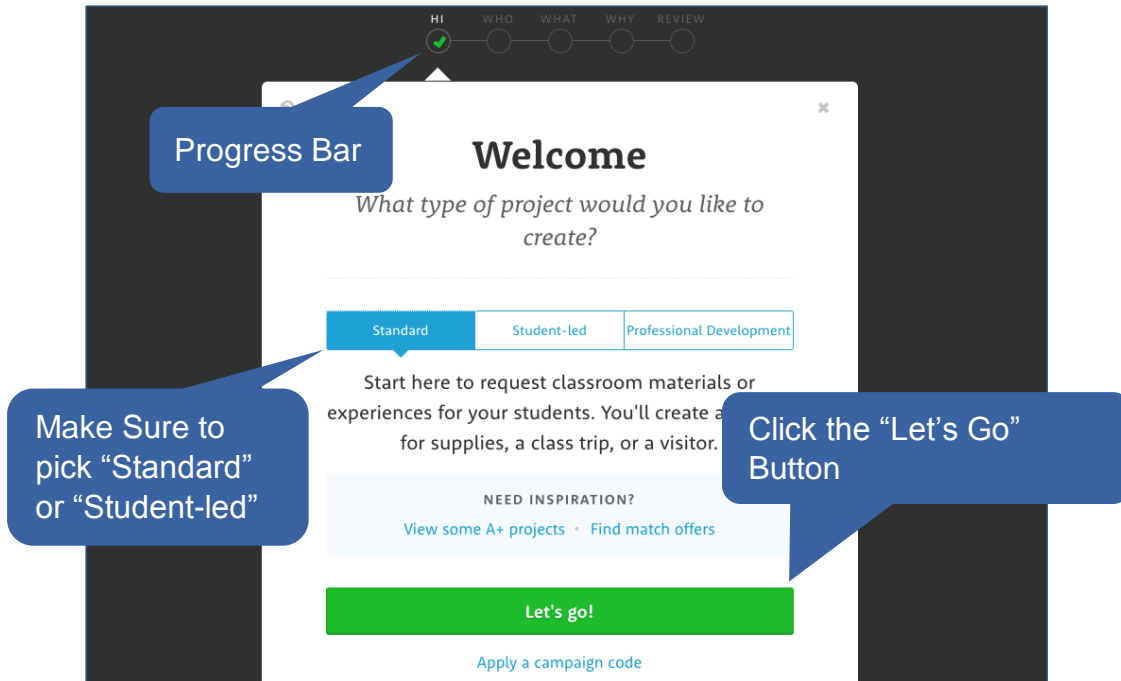
3. Follow the steps on the next screen to set up a teacher account.

The screenshot shows the DonorsChoose.org registration page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo, a search bar, and links for 'About us' and 'Help'. The main heading is 'Welcome to DonorsChoose.org!'. Below this, a list of six steps for registration is shown in an orange box: 1. Read and agree to our user agreement, 2. Find your school, 3. Enter teaching details, 4. Enter contact information, 5. Review, and 6. Take a brief tutorial. A blue callout bubble points to a 'Set up a teacher account' button with a right arrow. Another blue callout bubble points to the same button with the text 'Click the "Set up a teacher account" Button'. At the bottom left, there is a link for 'Already have an account? Sign in'.

4. Once you have completed the steps and created your teacher account, click the "Start my first project" button to begin building your project page.

The screenshot shows the DonorsChoose.org dashboard. At the top, a purple and blue header says 'Good evening, Mr. Brown'. Below this, a large green button says 'Start my first project'. A blue callout bubble points to this button with the text 'Click the "Start my first project" Button'. To the right, there is a sidebar with links for 'Projects near your school', 'Match offers', 'Tips for teachers', and 'Your teacher page'. A blue callout bubble points to the 'Your teacher page' link with the text 'TIP: "Projects under \$600 are 85% more likely to be fully-funded than more expensive projects."' Below the sidebar, there is a 'DID YOU KNOW?' section with the same tip. At the bottom left, there is a purple callout bubble pointing to a notification box that says 'Your first project is eligible for matching donations up to \$50 when your donors use our promo code: RIPPLE. Don't miss out!'.

5. On the next screen select “Standard” to request classroom materials and click the “Let’s Go” button. “Student-led” projects where students do most of the work under teacher supervision are also available.



6. Create your page by describing your students and using text laid out in the Sample Layout below. You can also add a classroom photo.

Describe your students

Tell us what you love about your students. What makes them special? Specific details and anecdotes about your students are helpful.

★ [See some good examples](#) ★

80 word minimum

7. On the “Go Shopping” page, you can select commonly requested items.

The screenshot shows the 'Go shopping' page with the following elements:

- Header:** 'Go shopping' and 'What do you need for your classroom?'
- Navigation:** Three tabs: 'Supplies' (selected), 'Class Trip', and 'Visitor(s)'.
- Text:** 'This is just like online shopping! Click a link to one of the sites below to shop through our vendor directory. Be sure to double check sizes, accessories, and warranties when shopping.'
- Link:** 'Where to find commonly requested items' (highlighted in a yellow box).
- Footer:** 'Keep in mind, most teachers keep their projects under \$600.'

Callouts:

- Blue callout on the left: 'Click here for the “Where to find commonly requested items FAQ”' pointing to the link.
- Blue callout at the bottom: 'Continue to scroll on this page to view commonly requested classroom items' with a downward arrow.

The screenshot shows the 'Where to Find Commonly Requested Items' FAQ page with the following elements:

- Header:** 'Where to Find Commonly Requested Items'
- Text:** 'Download a printable version of this FAQ for inspiration!' and 'We know figuring out which vendors to shop from in our vendor directory can be tricky, so we put together this alphabetical guide to help!'
- Text:** 'To review the categories below faster, open your browser’s “find” tool by pressing Ctrl+F (or Command+F on a Mac) or jump to a category by selecting one of the options below:'
- List:** A list of categories including Arts & Music, Books & Magazines, Digital Resources, Early Childhood, Flexible Seating, Furniture, Science & Math, Special Needs, Sports & Health, Supplies, and Technology.

Blue callout with an upward arrow: '“Where to find commonly requested items” FAQ' pointing to the FAQ page.

8. Last, add project details to your page by using text laid out in the Sample Layout below.

The screenshot shows the 'Project details' form with the following sections:

- Header:** 'Project details' and 'Make your project stand out from the crowd.'
- Project title:** 'Project title' with instructions 'Make it exciting and Capitalize It Like a Book Title.' and a link 'See some good examples'.
- Form:** A text input field with a '2 words minimum' requirement.
- About your project:** 'About your project' with instructions 'How will these materials make a difference in your students' learning?' and a link 'See some good examples'.
- Form:** A larger text input field with a '100 words minimum' requirement.

Sample Layout

Please feel free to edit or add information to the descriptions. This is only intended to be used as a guide.

Title: VEX Robotics Fundraising Challenge

My Students

The “STEM problem” is real. There are not enough students choosing STEM related paths to meet the growing global demand. We need to change the way we think about teaching these topics if we want to get more students involved. VEX Robotics is a hands-on way for my students to learn math and science skills disguised as fun. My school is considered a TITLE 1 school with money readily available for extracurricular activities.

My Project

During the 2018-19 VEX Robotics season, students will have the opportunity to discover engineering through motors, gears, sensors, and pulleys. They will be faced with modern day STEM problems to design, build, and test solutions. Working together as a team, they will apply the design method to accomplish their goal for a solution and then present it to an audience. They will use the Engineering Design Process to develop, test, and perfect their robot designs and competition skills.

Applying critical thinking using STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), students will be engaged at solving and producing a prototype as a solution. These VEX Robotics kits contain all the components, motors, wires, and parts needed for the students to compete in VEX Robotics competitions.

With your donation you are helping students to achieve abilities that extend far beyond the classroom. Without STEM projects such as these, students would not be given the opportunity to explore robotics. These students are our future engineers. Your donation will help foster and continue their excitement in robotics.

