Award Requirements Quick Reference

Common eligibility requirements: Complete registration; participate in scheduled matches; pass inspection; follow event rules; and demonstrate authentic, student-centered participation. Teams may earn only one Judged Award per event but may also earn Performance and Nominated Awards.

Award	Requirements to Earn the Award
Performance Awards	
Tournament Champion	Win the event's elimination bracket or championship finals as a member of the winning alliance, under the applicable game rules.
Teamwork Champion	Earn the highest score in the event's Teamwork Challenge finals as a member of the winning alliance, under the applicable program rules.
Robot Skills Champion	Finish with the event's highest official Robot Skills ranking, based on the combined scores required by the applicable game rules.
Judged Awards	
Excellence Award	Be the event's strongest all-around team across judged and performance areas: satisfy Design Award standards; submit a Fully Developed Engineering Notebook; complete an interview; demonstrate authentic student ownership, professionalism, and teamwork; and meet the published performance thresholds.
Design Award	Best demonstrate a student-driven Engineering Design Process through a Fully Developed Engineering Notebook, team interview, and clear consistency among the notebook, interview, robot design, testing, and iteration.
Innovate Award	Demonstrate an effective, original engineering solution or design feature that is clearly documented in a submitted Fully Developed Engineering Notebook and explained by students during the interview.
Think Award	Demonstrate effective, student-developed programming or autonomous strategy that students can clearly explain, with comments and notes in the code; no Engineering Notebook is required.
Amaze Award	Demonstrate a consistently high-performing robot, sound competitive strategy, and an effective overall design that students can clearly explain.
Build Award	Demonstrate a durable, safe, reliable, and well-constructed robot with strong attention to detail; students must understand and explain the construction choices.
Create Award	Demonstrate a creative engineering solution to a competition challenge, with students able to explain the idea, its development, and how it contributes to robot performance.
Judges Award	Complete a team interview and demonstrate noteworthy attributes, effort, perseverance, teamwork, or accomplishments that the judging panel determines deserve special recognition.
Inspire Award	Demonstrate student-led passion, positive leadership, teamwork, professionalism, and conduct that meaningfully inspires others and advances the program's educational values.
Nominated Awards	
Sportsmanship Award	Be nominated based on consistently respectful, helpful, fair, and gracious conduct toward competitors, volunteers, and event personnel throughout the event.
Energy Award	Be nominated based on sustained enthusiasm, positive attitude, team spirit, and constructive energy that improves the event experience for others.
Recognition Awards	
Mentor of the Year	Be selected by the Event Partner for exceptional mentorship and meaningful support of student growth, team development, and program values.
Teacher of the Year	Be selected by the Event Partner for exceptional educational leadership and sustained impact on students through robotics and STEM learning.
Partner of the Year	Be selected by the Event Partner for exceptional organizational, financial, or community support that materially advances the event or robotics program.
Volunteer of the Year	Be selected by the Event Partner for exceptional service, reliability, leadership, and positive impact on the event or robotics community.

Important: Awards will not be presented when no candidate meets the published criteria. Judges will use the current Event Qualification Guide and award rubrics; and not invent criteria, rely on prior knowledge or past performance, or overlook student-centered or conduct concerns.

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