

BUMPER Robotics Mentor Expectations Agreement

The Johns Hopkins University Center for Educational Outreach is proud to arrange for college mentors to assist with City Schools robotics programs around Baltimore through the BUMPER program: Baltimore Undergraduate Mentoring Program for Excellence in Robotics. Robotics mentors serve as role models for students in afterschool robotics, and help to guide the experience so that the students can make the most of the opportunity to participate in robotics. In return, mentors benefit from the chance to engage the local community and connect with children in Baltimore, to build their resume and their professional skillset, and to grow as a person. College students of any level of experience with robotics or working with youth are welcomed into the program, with the understanding that they will make an effort to improve through training and active mentoring. In addition to taking responsibility for their own experience, mentors are expected to assume responsibility for four relationships that come with the position: the students, the coach, the other mentors, and the JHU CEO.

With regards to the time commitment we expect the following:

- The mentor will attend one practice a week during robotics season when college is in session. When attending practice the mentor should devote their time to the students and their robots.
- The mentor will attend three or four league events with their site's team, which are always on Saturdays.

With regards to the students, we expect the mentor to abide by these guidelines:

- The mentor will be punctual and reliable.
- The mentor will support the students in the building and programming of the robot.
- The mentor won't tolerate immature or disrespectful behavior.

With regards to the coach, we expect the mentor to adhere to these guidelines:

- The mentor will follow the site's guidelines with regards to checking into the office, registering as a volunteer, etc. The coach will familiarize the mentor with this process, and the JHU CEO will send a representative to the first practice to facilitate introductions.
- The mentor will attend practices every week in time for the start of practice and for the entire session. If part or all of a practice must be missed, the mentor will inform the coach and the JHU CEO with as much notice as possible and as much information as necessary.
- The mentor is only required to attend practices while their classes are in session. They are, however, encouraged to attend if possible during breaks, holidays, and exams.
- The mentor is required to inform their coaches and the JHU CEO of their inability to attend a practice or competition as soon as they realize there is a schedule conflict.
- The mentor will respect the coach's vision and process for their site's robotics program.
- If any concerns, ideas, or issues arise at or between sessions, the mentor will share these with the coach, or, if necessary, the JHU CEO.

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With respect to the other mentors, we expect the mentor to adhere to these guidelines:

- Mentors will support each other.
- Mentors who share a site will communicate with each other if they expect to be absent from a practice. They will coordinate transportation and will communicate as quickly as possible any inability to pool transportation.

And with regards to the JHU CEO, we expect the mentor to abide by these guidelines:

- Mentors will attend the mandatory mentor training session. If they are inexperienced with VEX robotics, they will attend the VEX workshops in building and programming.
- Mentors will be fingerprinted for a background check with City Schools before mentoring begins, as instructed during training.
- Mentors will complete weekly check in surveys to help the JHU CEO track their progress and stay informed on issues, concerns, and triumphs.
- Mentors will inform the JHU CEO in advance or at the first opportunity--along with an explanation--of any absences, cancellations, or rescheduling of practices.
- Mentors will inform the JHU CEO of any major changes in their class schedule that will impact their ability to mentor as arranged. They will be mindful of exam scheduling, holiday breaks, and semester changes, and inform the JHU CEO of likely conflicts as soon as possible.

We expect these actions to foster a beneficial atmosphere of mutual support between mentors and everyone that depends upon them, optimizing the experience of all involved, especially the students.

I understand and agree to these stipulations. _____ (sign and date)