2017-18 VEX IQ Challenge Championship Qualifying Criteria

Overview

Below are the criteria for registered VEX IQ Challenge teams (Elementary and Middle School) to qualify for participation in the 2017-18 VEX IQ Challenge State (United States), Regional, and Provincial (Canada) Championships at official VEX IQ Challenge Qualifying Events being held from **June 2017 through February 2018**.

VEX IQ Challenge Official Qualifying events (Tournaments, Leagues, and Skills-Only) must meet the following criteria:

- Be listed as a VEX IQ Challenge event with online registration hosted on www.RobotEvents.com.
- Be an event held between **June 1, 2017**, 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 2017-18 VEX IQ Challenge 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 **November 1, 2017**, and be open for registration at least 8 weeks in advance of the event.
- **Posting Deadline:** Official Qualifying Skills-Only Events must be posted on RobotEvents.com by **January 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.
- RobotEvents.com registrations and payments must be completed a minimum of one week before any event, at which point online registration/payment will be unavailable. Teams may still be added to an event manually by the event partner, but event fees for those teams must be paid directly to the Event Partner and cannot be processed on RobotEvents.com
- Tournaments and Leagues with 24 or more teams registered, and all Skills-Only events, must offer Driving and Programming Skills Challenge Matches. Skills Challenge Matches are highly recommended for all events.
- Tournaments and League with 24 or more teams registered must offer the STEM Research, Design and Excellence Awards.
- Any event offering the Robot Skills Challenge must offer both Driving and Programming Skills Challenge attempts to attending teams.
- Skills Only events may be run after a State/Regional/Provincial/National Championship if it occurs prior to **March 12, 2018**, and adheres to all other official qualifying criteria.
- Skills Challenge scores for all official qualifying events will be included in the World Skills Standings on RobotEvents.com.
- New Leagues must have a minimum of 16 teams participating; existing leagues must have a minimum of 24 teams participating**.**
- Leagues are encouraged to have multiple unique match play dates; the required minimum is 3 Ranking Sessions and a Final League Championship Session.
- Events must have at least 6 organizations registered, and no organization may have more than 33% of the total number of registered teams.
- For an event to award an Excellence Award, the event must also offer a STEM Research and Design award.
- All State/Regional/Provincial Championship events must be held no later than **March 11, 2018**.

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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

- 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)
- Leagues within the state will qualify their top teams for the State Championship (details below)
- Top Robot Skills Challenge scores within the state may qualify for the State/Regional/Provincial Championship (details below).

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 the Championship, and the size of the qualifying event. The REC Regional Support Manager will determine how many spots each event will be given to fill the Championship event, categorizing events as Large, Medium and Small. More spots may be given to Large events and less spots may be given 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 charts, depending on whether one (1) or two (2) Excellence Awards are given at the tournament.

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 event is a blended event of both Elementary and Middle School teams with at least ten (10) teams from each grade level registered two (2) weeks prior to event.

Note: If no Excellence Award is given, only the two (2) or three (3) Tournament Champions will qualify to the State/Province Championship event.

Please reference this chart below for qualifying events giving only one (1) Excellence Award.

Spot Level	Excellence Award	Teamwork Champion	Teamwork 2nd Place	Design Award	STEM Research Project	Robot Skills Champion
1 Spot	1	-	-	-	-	-
3 Spots	1	2	-	-	-	-
5 Spots	1	2	-	1	1	-
6 Spots	1	2	-	1	1	1
8 Spots	1	2	2	1	1	1

Please reference this chart below for qualifying events giving two (2) Excellence Awards (blended events).

Spot Level	Middle School Excellence Award	Elementary School Excellence Award	Teamwork Champion	Teamwork 2nd Place	Design Award	STEM Research Project	Robot Skills Champion
4 Spots	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
6 Spots	1	1	2	-	1	1	-
7 Spots	1	1	2	-	1	1	1
9 Spots	1	1	2	2	1	1	1

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Top Robot Skills Challenge scores will be used to fill the remaining capacity of the State/Province Championship event. Top Robot Skills Challenge teams are listed in Robot Events on the World Skills Standings page. The team(s) will be notified upon the conclusion (within 72 hours) of the last official VEX IQ Challenge event in the State if their score has qualified that team to the State/Regional/Province Championship. Scores posted after the top Robot Skills teams have been invited will no longer be used to invite additional teams. Scores earned at events that occur after the State Championship will also be posted to the World Skills Standings, but will not be used to qualify teams for state allocation spots.

Teams that qualify for State/Regional/Provincial Championship, on or before, **February 1, 2018**, will have three weeks to register and pay by credit card, check or PO for the State Championship. Teams that qualify on or after **Feb 2, 2018**, (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.

2018 VEX Worlds qualification from State/Regional/Provincial Championships

The number of qualifying spots a State/Province Championship will allocate for VEX Worlds 2018 is based on the percentage of VEX IQ Challenge teams the state had last season in relation to the total number of teams in the program from that previous season, separated by Elementary and Middle School. The same charts found above are used to show which awards at a State/Reginal/Province Championship Tournament will qualify for the 2018 VEX Robotics World Championship based on the how many VEX Worlds spots the state has been allocated.

Important Considerations

- Any state that shows extraordinary growth will be awarded “bonus spots” for VEX Worlds based on that growth as of **January 1, 2018**.
- While many States/Regions/Provinces will continue to host events open to Elementary and Middle Schools, referenced as “blended” events, many States/Regions/Provinces will have championship events for Elementary 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 Elementary School World Championship spot may give that qualifying spot to the Excellence Award winning team at a blended State/Regional Championship, if the State/Regional Championship event has at least ten (10) Elementary School teams registered two weeks prior to the event.
- States that have more than one assigned Elementary School World Championship spot should make every attempt to hold separate Elementary and Middle School Championship event. If the only option is to host a blended event, the Elementary School spots can only go to Elementary School teams. The Middle School spots can be won by Elementary or Middle School teams. This could result in some of the Elementary School spots being awarded to the Top Elementary School Robot Skills teams. The top Elementary School Robot Skills Score team(s) would be determined upon the conclusion (within 72 hours) of the Championship Event.
- When inviting teams from the World Skills Standing, the Elementary School Spots will be given to Elementary School teams, and Middle School Spots will be given to Middle School Teams.
- Please contact your REC Foundation Regional Support Manager for additional information regarding qualifying events, qualifying spots, growth considerations, and any other questions.

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Current projections of VEX IQ Challenge World Championship spots allocated to each Region:

Territory	Elementary School Spots	Middle School Spots	Total Spots
Australia	**1**	**1**	**2**
Bahrain	**3**	**1**	**4**
Bermuda	**0**	**0**	**0**
Brazil	**0**	**0**	**0**
Burundi	**0**	**0**	**0**
Alberta	**0**	**0**	**0**
British Columbia	**1**	**3**	**4**
Ontario	**3**	**5**	**8**
Quebec	**0**	**0**	**0**
Saskatchewan	**0**	**0**	**0**
Chile	**0**	**3**	**3**
China	**22**	**22**	**44**
Colombia	**3**	**1**	**4**
Dominican Republic	**0**	**0**	**0**
Egypt	**3**	**1**	**4**
Ethiopia	**1**	**0**	**1**
Finland	**1**	**3**	**4**
France	**0**	**1**	**1**
Guam	**0**	**0**	**0**
Guatemala	**0**	**1**	**1**
Haiti	**0**	**1**	**1**
Hong Kong	**3**	**3**	**6**
India	**1**	**1**	**2**
Ireland	**4**	**1**	**5**
Japan	**0**	**0**	**0**
Jordan	**0**	**1**	**1**
Kazakhstan	**0**	**0**	**0**
Lebanon	**0**	**3**	**3**
Liberia	**0**	**1**	**1**
Macau	**0**	**0**	**0**
Malaysia	**3**	**1**	**4**
Mexico	**4**	**9**	**13**
Nepal	**0**	**0**	**0**
New Zealand	**1**	**3**	**4**
Paraguay	**1**	**3**	**4**
Peru	**0**	**0**	**0**
Philippines	**0**	**1**	**1**
Puerto Rico	**3**	**1**	**4**
Russia	**0**	**3**	**3**
Saudi Arabia	**1**	**0**	**1**
Senegal	**0**	**0**	**0**
Singapore	**0**	**0**	**0**

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Territory	Elementary School Spots	Middle School Spots	Total Spots
South Korea	**3**	**3**	**6**
Spain	**1**	**1**	**2**
Syria	**0**	**1**	**1**
Taiwan	**0**	**0**	**0**
Thailand	**0**	**0**	**0**
Turkey	**0**	**1**	**1**
UAE	**1**	**5**	**6**
United Kingdom	**3**	**9**	**12**
Alabama	**5**	**7**	**12**
Alaska	**0**	**3**	**3**
Arizona	**7**	**7**	**14**
Arkansas	**1**	**1**	**2**
California	**29**	**16**	**45**
Colorado	**8**	**3**	**11**
Connecticut	**3**	**5**	**8**
Delaware	**1**	**1**	**2**
District of Columbia	**1**	**1**	**2**
Florida	**14**	**22**	**36**
Georgia	**7**	**6**	**13**
Hawaii	**11**	**9**	**20**
Idaho	**1**	**3**	**4**
Illinois	**1**	**3**	**4**
Indiana	**40**	**13**	**53**
Iowa	**0**	**1**	**1**
Kansas	**1**	**0**	**1**
Kentucky	**9**	**3**	**12**
Louisiana	**1**	**1**	**2**
Maine	**0**	**1**	**1**
Maryland	**3**	**8**	**11**
Massachusetts	**5**	**1**	**6**
Michigan	**10**	**9**	**19**
Minnesota	**3**	**1**	**4**
Mississippi	**8**	**3**	**11**
Missouri	**1**	**1**	**2**
Montana	**0**	**1**	**1**
Nebraska	**1**	**1**	**2**
Nevada	**1**	**3**	**4**
New Hampshire	**0**	**0**	**0**
New Jersey	**5**	**8**	**13**
New Mexico	**1**	**1**	**2**
New York	**1**	**8**	**9**
North Carolina	**3**	**1**	**4**
North Dakota	**0**	**0**	**0**

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Territory	Elementary School Spots	Middle School Spots	Total Spots
Ohio	**5**	**5**	**10**
Oklahoma	**3**	**7**	**10**
Oregon	**1**	**3**	**4**
Pennsylvania	**1**	**7**	**8**
Rhode Island	**0**	**0**	**0**
South Carolina	**3**	**1**	**4**
South Dakota	**1**	**1**	**2**
Tennessee	**1**	**3**	**4**
Texas	**19**	**13**	**32**
Utah	**5**	**3**	**8**
Vermont	**1**	**0**	**1**
Virgin Islands	**0**	**0**	**0**
Virginia	**5**	**4**	**9**
Washington	**5**	**9**	**14**
West Virginia	**1**	**1**	**2**
Wisconsin	**3**	**3**	**6**
Wyoming	**0**	**0**	**0**

**Indicates that the region is receiving one spot for both Elementary and Middle School teams.*

Notes:

- At least one official VEX IQ Challenge event must take place in a state/region/country to receive a spot to VEX Worlds.
- The spots for each State/Regional/Provincial Event will be given to that number of different teams.
- If a team qualifies multiple times, there will be spots that need to be re-allocated. Remaining Middle School Spots will be given to Middle School Teams, and remaining Elementary School Spots will be given to Elementary School Teams. The highest, unqualified team on the Robot Skills Challenge Score from the World Robot Skills Standings will get the spot and be invited within 72 hours upon the conclusion of the State/Regional/Province Championship. Scores from the State/Regional/Province Championship will be included on the World Robot Skills Standings for consideration in this process.
- If the number of spots is not listed in the charts on page 3 (one (1) Excellence, seven (7) spots) the unused spots will be given to highest ranked team on the World Skills Standings according to Grade Level.
- VEX Worlds qualifications are held for teams for a limited time from the date of the event at which they qualified. Teams that qualify before **February 1, 2018**, will have three weeks to register and pay by credit card, check or PO. Teams that qualify on or after **February 1, 2018**, will have one week to register and pay by credit card, check or PO.

2018 VEX Worlds qualification from the World Robot Skills Standings

The Top 25 Elementary School and Top 25 Middle School Robot Skills Teams listed in the World Robot Skills Standings on RobotEvents.com, as of **March 12, 2018**, will qualify for and be invited to VEX Worlds 2018. These spots cannot be transferred to other teams for any reason.

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