

Lunabotics Junior Contest FAQs

<https://www.futureengineers.org/lunaboticsjunior>

What is the Lunabotics Junior Contest?

- The Lunabotics Junior Contest invites K-12 students in the U.S to design a robot that can dig and move lunar soil (regolith) from one area of the Lunar south pole to a holding container near a future Artemis Moon base. Students are asked to create at least one drawing of their robot's design (e.g., original work of art, 3D model, diagram, or photo of a prototype etc.) and a written summary that explains their robot's design in 150 words or less.

Who can enter?

- Legal residents of the United States who are registered students in grades kindergarten through twelfth grade attending a public, private, or home school in the United States (including U.S. Territories or Possessions and schools operated by the U.S. for the children of American personnel overseas) are eligible to enter (eligible "Participants").

Can homeschool or after school program students participate?

- Yes. Any K-12 student in the U.S. can participate in this contest.

What's the Timeline for the NASA Lunabotics Junior Contest?

- Contest Launch: October 20, 2021
- Entries Due: January 25, 2022
- Semifinalists Announced: March 8, 2022
- Finalists Announced: March 22, 2022
- Winners Announced: March 29, 2022

Do students need to build a robot?

- No. While students are not tasked to actually build a robot, they are asked to envision a robot design that is no larger than 3.5 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet. To enter the contest, students must submit an image of the robot design (which could be an original work of art, 3D model, diagram, or photo of a prototype, etc.) by January 25, 2022.

How far is the robot supposed to travel when transporting lunar soil?

- Your robot should be designed to operate on crater rim, in sunlight, and transport lunar soil approximately 100 meters (328 feet), which is about the length of football field.

Are entries divided in age groups?

- Yes. Entries will be separated into two categories--grades K-5 and grades 6-12--to be judged. Ten semifinalists, four finalists and one winner will be selected in each grade category.

What are the prizes?

- Ten semifinalists will receive a Lunabotics Junior prize pack and four national finalists from each category will win a virtual session with a NASA subject matter expert. The national winner from each category will be awarded a virtual chat for their class with Kennedy Space Center Director, Janet Petro.

Can I send my entry via U.S. Mail?

- No. Only entries submitted online at www.futureengineers.org are accepted. No exceptions.

I'm a minor. Can I enter the contest on my own?

- Entrants in class must be linked to their teacher's account to enter— either by entering a teacher's class code during registration or by your teacher registering for you. If you are not participating with a teacher and are a minor you must get a parent's or legal guardian's permission to enter.

Can one entry be submitted by a team of students?

- No. This is an individual contest.

Can I submit more than one entry?

- No. You may only submit one entry for the Lunabotics Junior Contest; however, you are welcome to edit your entry until the contest deadline on January 25, 2022. Your last submitted entry is the one that will be considered the final entry.

How and when do I submit my entry?

- Please log into your Future Engineers account, go to your dashboard or to the Lunabotics Junior Contest page and submit your entry on or before January 25, 2022. For more detailed instructions, refer to the [How to Submit](#) help article.

How are the entries judged?

- A panel of judges will review eligible entries based on the following criteria.
 - 25 Points: Likelihood of your robot's design to successfully move lunar soil
 - 25 Points: Your design's consideration for the unique lunar environment
 - 25 Points: Creativity and originality of your design
 - 25 Points: Communication of your robot's design through images and text

Is this Contest open to International Participants?

- No. This Contest is only open to students in the United States and its territories.

Do I need to get parent signatures for students to participate?

- Parent signatures are not required to enter the contest; however, the potential semifinalists' parents or legal guardians will be notified via email and they will be required to sign and return additional documents by a specified time, which may include: Affidavit (or Declaration, as determined by Sponsor) of Eligibility, Liability and, where legal a Publicity Release.

One of my parents works for NASA. Am I eligible to participate?

- Unfortunately, no. Children of NASA employees are not eligible. However, children of NASA contractors are eligible to enter, and grandchildren of NASA employees are eligible.