

Science Olympiad and the Varsity Robotics Team are open to all Poway High School students. Students who are enrolled in the Engineering Academy Pathway must choose either two years of Science Olympiad or one full consecutive year of Robotics in order to earn their Engineering Academy Certificate of Completion upon graduation.

	Science Olympiad	Varsity Robotics Team
Required for Engineering Academy?	2 years (Engineering Event Only)	One Consecutive Full Year of the Full Program (5.5 Robotics + Robotics Program)
Will I receive high school credits?	No (This is only a club)	Yes – 15 elective credits/year (3 trimesters)
What is the time commitment?	Late September to Mid-February	Full year commitment includes:
	Weekly Club Lunch or After School Meetings	Wednesday evenings 6-9pm + Mentoring a team
	5-10 hours per week – dates and times vary by sub-team (at least 18 weeks must be documented)	Community Outreach/Events – At least 8 hour Saturdays, once a month Sept-Dec or Equivalent
	One day local competition on a Saturday in February (must be documented that you attended)	At least 8 hour Saturdays weekly 1 st Jan-1 st week of March (6 week build + 2 additional Saturdays)
		5 hours/week with sub-team from 1 st Jan-1 st week of March
		Attend at least one FRC Competition (Miss one to three days of school)
	Additional time, as required, to assist with fundraising and outreach programs	Additional time, as required, to assist with fundraising and outreach programs
Is there opportunity for out of state travel?	YES – National Tournament	Yes - in previous years the team travelled to competitions in Calgary, Hawaii and the World Championship
Cost	There is no cost but can be up to \$500 or more (Depends upon the Engineering event you participate in; must be engineering). You decide what you need to support.	There is no cost but many families provide a donation of \$250 to run the program per student. All optional events are typically out of state travel costs (partially subsidized by our generous corporate sponsors). Those costs are subsidized leaving \$300 to \$800 per student, per event. Some years they are free. It all depends upon fundraising.
Does it look good on college applications?	Yes (But keep in mind that it is not on your transcript. You need to add it into your college letter/write up. UC schools do not have a write letter up on their college application. They only look at grades/SAT)	Yes (It will show up on your college transcript and you can write about it in your college write up application letter for schools outside of UC schools. Having it on your transcript is huge! Every school you apply to sees Robotics every semester)

Are Scholarships Available?	Yes!	Yes! Over 50 million in FIRST Robotics Scholarships and over 4 Million in VEX Robotics
Can I letter in this activity?	Yes, after participating for 2 years	Yes, after participating for 2 years and holding a leadership position
Does this activity have a community service requirement?	No (It did in the past, but ASB has removed that requirement at the school)	Yes, students must serve as a mentor and perform community outreach as expected by FIRST Robotics