

# The National Robotics League Colorado Competition

A S.T.E.M. PROGRAM



The National Robotics League Colorado (NRL Colorado) is a manufacturing workforce development program of the Rocky Mountain Tooling & Machining Association (RMTMA) where schools partner with local manufacturers (industry advisors) and collectively help students design and build remote-controlled robots (Bots) to face off in a gladiator-style competition against teams from other schools. Your child's school is a competing in NRL Colorado State Competition. **This year's competition is on Saturday, April 11, 2026 at Mesa Ridge High School, 6070 Mesa Ridge Pkwy, Colorado Springs, CO 80911 -- please plan to attend and watch your child compete!**

Through the manufacturing process of Bot building, students' imaginations are captured as they design, build and compete with their own robotic creations. **Through this hands-on effort along with industry partnerships, students gain practical knowledge of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)** – all essential skills for manufacturing.

Why should students consider a career in manufacturing?

1. **They'll be joining a high-demand industry with many entry-level opportunities** – Meaning, there will be more available jobs than there are qualified workers.
2. **Manufacturing offers good pay and benefits** – According to DataUSA.com, the average manufacturing salary is over \$63,000 with benefits.
3. **They'll avoid student debt** – The average student debt of a college graduate today is over \$31,000. There are many different paths to a career in manufacturing, including apprenticeships and paid-on-the-job training.
4. **Work with new technologies** – Manufacturers constantly integrate new technologies to enhance productivity, quality, and safety. This includes 3D printing and robotics.
5. **Access to opportunities for advancement** – Once they get a foot in the door with a manufacturer, they can advance their career, from working up to a manager role to transitioning to a different department such as sales, operations, programming, engineering, or owning their own manufacturing company at some point.
6. **Increased safety** – The manufacturing industry has made significant advancements in safety with the help of robots, Internet of Things, and automation, making jobs safer than ever before.

## Types of Career Opportunities & Salaries\*

CNC Machine Operator - \$56,710  
CNC Lathe Operator - \$75,366  
CNC Programmer - \$86,308  
Quality Inspector - \$77,784  
Automation Technician - \$99,517  
Industrial Engineer - \$99,845  
Robotics Engineer - \$105,884  
Machine Learning Specialist - \$149,203  
Manufacturing Manager - \$96,497  
Sales Manager - \$110,000

## For more information:

NRL Colorado: [www.NRLcolorado.org](http://www.NRLcolorado.org) / [NRLcolorado@rmtma.org](mailto:NRLcolorado@rmtma.org)

Rocky Mountain Machining & Tooling Association:  
[www.rmtma.org](http://www.rmtma.org) / [ChapterExec@rmtma.org](mailto:ChapterExec@rmtma.org)

\*Data collected from <https://www.indeed.com/career/salaries> specific to Colorado.

**PLEASE SIGN THE 2 SECTIONS ON THE BACK OF THIS DOCUMENT TO GIVE YOUR CHILD PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN NRL COLORADO - A S.T.E.M. PROGRAM.**



**PLEASE READ AND SIGN BOTH SECTIONS BELOW.**

**MEDIA RELEASE RELEASE & AUTHORIZATION**

I give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_ (**print name**), a student at \_\_\_\_\_ (school) to have photographs, videos, live streaming, and interviews to be used for the day of the event and future marketing of the NRL Colorado Robotics League event in Colorado to be used publicly on our website, on social media, in brochures, flyers, news releases, and in presentations to future prospective program participants. I understand that he/she will receive no compensation for such uses. I retain the right to have any photographs discontinued from use in any or all of the above venues upon request, and if, at any time, I wish these photograph(s) to be discontinued from any of the above, it is my responsibility to contact the program director to make this request. The below signed parent or legal guardian of the above-named minor child hereby consents to and gives permission to the above on behalf of such minor child.

**Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**EVENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

The Event participant or audience member (hereafter "Grantor") named below acknowledges that among other things the Event involves mechanical robots engaged in combat, and that such an activity involves risks of injury to Grantor, competitors, and others attending the Event. In consideration for being permitted to attend or participate in the Event, Grantor and Grantor's assignees, heirs, guardians, next of kin, spouse and legal representatives expressly release, waive, discharge, and hold harmless the Event Organizers and Sponsor, NRL COLORADO and ROCKY MOUNTAIN TOOLING ASSOCIATION (RMTMA), their officers, directors, agents employees and assigns from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, damages and/or liabilities ("Claims") that may now or hereafter exist, arise or be caused, whether negligently or otherwise, in connection with the Event and/or Grantor's attendance at the Event, including, but without limitation claims related to death, personal injury, bodily injury, and/or property damage or destruction.

Grantor is aware that the Event involves hazardous activities, and voluntarily participates in or attends these activities with the knowledge of the danger involved, and agrees to assume any and all risks of bodily injury, death, and/ or property damage. Grantor, if an Event participant, has read and agrees to comply with all rules and regulations as posted on the website or as distributed by the Event Committee. Grantor hereby agrees that Grantor and Grantor's assignees, heirs, distributes, guardians, next of kin, spouse and legal representatives will not make a claim, sue, or attach the property of Event Organizer and Sponsor NRL COLORADO and RMTMA or any other sponsoring, licensing, or associated organization, for injury or damage resulting from the Event and/or any act or omission of said parties.

I, the Grantor, have read and understand the above agreement and release and agree to the terms hereof.

**Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT: Please sign, print name and date.**

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## SAFETY CONTRACT

As a student using school equipment (either purchased by the school or on loan to the school), it is important to develop safe work attitudes and habits to ensure a safe working environment. Students will be completely responsible for the construction of a robot. The building process will require the use of tools that are not normally found in the classroom environment. Therefore,

- 1) The students are required to have an adult in the room with them while they are using a tool that does not require power (unless they are 18 years of age), and
- 2) The students are required to have an adult BESIDE them when they are using a power tool (unless they are 18 years of age).

ALL tools have inherent dangers and can cause injury to the user as well as persons in the immediate area. Any safety infraction could result in termination from the team.

### Student Affirmation:

#### I RECOGNIZE THAT:

- Safety is ultimately the responsibility of the person using the tool.
- Safety regulations have been provided to me by my instructor and school.
- It is possible for accidents to occur even when everyone involved is following safety guidelines. The likelihood of accident and/or injury increases if I do not follow all the safety guidelines.
- Because there will usually be more students using tools than adults supervising them, I must act responsibly to ensure my own safety AND the safety of others in the work area.

#### I AGREE TO:

- Never use a tool without adult supervision.
- Read and practice all the safety regulations that have been distributed to me in this course.
- Act in a responsible manner at all times while assembling the robot.
- Follow all instructions given by the teachers and mentors.
- Immediately report any unsafe condition or activity to my teacher or mentor.
- Know where all safety equipment is located and what should be done in an emergency.
- Wear eye protection at all times when working with tools or working anywhere near someone who is using tools.
- Tie back long hair, remove dangling jewelry, secure loose clothing, and wear shoes with closed toes in the work area.
- Clean all work areas and put equipment away before being dismissed.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student) , recognize that the robotics work area is a safe place in which to work and learn ONLY IF I conduct myself in a responsible manner.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT: Please sign, print name and date.**

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_