

UNIVERSAL ROBOTICS CHALLENGE 2026

Real Robotics Competition Overview

Published April 1 (Wed), 2026

The top three teams from each country will proceed to the World Finals in Osaka.

- 1. Dates**
[Preliminaries] Contact your local Universal Robotics Challenge representative for details
[World Finals] September 19 (Sat), 2026
- 2. Venue**
[World Finals] ŌMM Building
1-7-31 Otemae, Chuo Ward, Osaka City,
Osaka, Japan, 540-0008.
- 3. Qualifications**
Preschool to junior high school-aged children
- 4. Entry Fee**
Contact your local Universal Robotics Challenge representative for details
- 5. Application Period**
Contact your local Universal Robotics Challenge representative for details
- 6. Results**
The results of the World Finals will be announced at the competition on **September 19 (Sat)**, then published online on **October 30 (Fri), 2026**.
- 7. How to Apply**
 - ① The Early and Regular Division is intended for younger students while the Advanced Division is open to students of all ages. The Early Division is intended for ages 9 and below. The Regular Division is open to students from ages 10-12. Middle school students (ages 13+) are only eligible to participate in the Advanced Division. Follow the links below to find the rulebooks for each division.

[Early Division](#)

[Regular Division](#)

[Advanced Division](#)

- ★ The basic rules for the Regular Division and Advanced Division are the identical, the Regular Division allows participants to handle their robot during the competition while it's in the starting area. In the Advanced Division, the robot has to be fully autonomous and participants will not be able to touch it once it's left the starting area.

- ② Follow the rules in the rulebook to build your robot or machine. Follow the link below to view a sample video:



- ③ Contact your local Universal Robotics Challenge representative for details.

8. Notes When Applying

- Be sure to apply as a team.
- A team can be 1-5 members.
- Teams with members of multiple different ages must enter the division corresponding to the age of the oldest member. Example) A team with a 14, 12, and 9 year-old is only eligible for the **Advanced Division**.
- Real Robotics participants should apply with the expectation that they **can attend the World Finals if they win the preliminary round**. Participants unable to attend should consider applying to the Idea Contest instead.
- Submissions of robots or machines with identical movements and features will be considered as a duplicate submission even if submitted by different teams. You may be asked to withdraw in the event this happens.

9. The World Finals

- The top three teams in each domestic division are expected to proceed to the World Finals (this number is subject to change).
- The World Finals will also host the top participants from 11 countries overseas (this number is subject to change).
- While participants can use the same robot or machine in the preliminaries and World Finals, they can also create a different one if they wish to aim for a higher score.
- Courses made using official competition materials will be made available prior to the World Finals. Contact your local Universal Robotics Challenge representative for availability.
- No time will be given to build robots or machines on the day of the World Finals. Participants must build theirs in advance.
- Participants will be given two rounds, and the highest score between these two rounds will be their score for the competition. While participants won't be allowed to make any changes to their robot between each round, they will be given 20 minutes before the round for a trial run and fine tuning.

Find out more about the Universal Robotics Challenge at

<https://www.urc21.org/en>

