



AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS & SPONSORSHIP GUIDE

Pilots · Mechanics · Air Traffic Control · Management
Dispatch · Avionics · Engineering · Flight Attendants

Your Dream Career in Aviation Starts Here



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Air Dance Battle Champion - Japan (1st) 2025
Air Master Cup Series Champion - Europe (1st) 2024
Sky Grand Prix Champion - South Africa (1st) 2023
Australian Unlimited Aerobatic Champion (1st) 2019
Australian Freestyle Aerobatic Champion (1st) 2019
International Danube Cup Aerobatics Champion (1st) 2018



Make sure to Follow Aarron on Social Media as he post epic content and updates

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TikTok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@aarrondeliu>
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/aarrondeliu>

Updated: February 2026 | Verify all deadlines before applying

Welcome, Future Aviation Professional!

I put this guide together for you because I know firsthand how transformative a scholarship can be. My entire aviation career started with a scholarship. Without that initial financial support, I honestly don't know if I would be where I am today. That scholarship didn't just pay for training—it told me that someone out there believed in my dream, and that gave me the confidence to go after it with everything I had.

I owe my whole career to the people and organizations that invested in me when I was just getting started. Now, I want to pay it forward to you.

Aviation is one of the most rewarding industries on Earth. The feeling of lifting off a runway, the satisfaction of keeping aircraft safe and airworthy, the pride of managing operations that move millions of people—there is nothing like it. And right now, this industry needs YOU. There is an unprecedented demand for pilots, mechanics, controllers, dispatchers, engineers, and managers. The doors are wide open.

I know the cost of aviation training can feel overwhelming. Flight school, A&P programs, university degrees—none of it is cheap. But please don't let the price tag stop you. There are hundreds of scholarships and sponsorships out there, and many of them go unclaimed every year simply because people don't know they exist or don't bother to apply.

That's why I created this guide. I've done the research so you don't have to. Inside, you'll find scholarships for every path in aviation—whether you want to fly, fix, manage, or build—along with tips on how to win them.

Go after your dream. Apply to every scholarship you qualify for. Write that essay. Get that recommendation letter. Take that first step. The sky isn't the limit—it's just the beginning.

Blue skies and tailwinds,

Aarron Deliu

Airshow and Air Race Pilot

❖ YOUR #1 RESOURCE: AVIATIONSTART.ORG ❖

Before you dive into the list below, head to AviationStart.org right now.

Founded by Jamail Larkins, AviationStart is the **largest centralized database of aviation scholarships in the industry**, connecting aspiring professionals to over **\$20 million in scholarships, training programs, and career pathways**. It covers everything—pilots, mechanics, controllers, aviation business, airport operations, and cabin crew.

It's completely FREE to sign up. Register and you'll get access to the full scholarship database plus monthly updates on new opportunities. Many of these scholarships go unclaimed every year!

 [www.AviationStart.org](http://www.aviationstart.org) 

Scholarship Finder Tool: avstart.org/find-scholarship

Disclaimer: Always verify deadlines and eligibility at the official scholarship website.

PILOT TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
AOPA Flight Training Scholarships	Primary certificates & advanced ratings for AOPA members. Over \$1M awarded annually. Open to high school students, teachers, and adults.	\$250 - \$14,000	Apply Here
AOPA You Can Fly (High School)	90+ scholarships for students aged 16-18 to earn a private pilot certificate. Must pass FAA written exam first.	\$10,000	Apply Here
EAA Flight Training Scholarships	For aspiring pilots pursuing primary certificates or additional ratings. EAA members prioritized. Apply Oct 1 - Dec 19 annually.	Varies	Apply Here
EAA Ray Aviation Scholarships	Youth scholarships funded by the Ray Foundation for flight training toward a pilot certificate.	Up to \$11,000	Apply Here
LeRoy W. Homer Jr. Foundation	For students 16+ pursuing a private pilot license independently (not through a college program). Honors the Flight 93 hero.	Varies	Apply Here
Richard L. Taylor Flight Training Scholarship	For high school seniors or college students enrolled in a flight program aspiring to become professional pilots. PPL required.	\$22,000	Apply Here
The Ninety-Nines Scholarships	International organization of licensed women pilots. Multiple scholarships for women at all stages of pilot training.	Up to \$20,000	Apply Here
Whirly-Girls Helicopter Scholarships	Multiple scholarships for women in rotorcraft: initial training, add-on ratings, instrument, ATP, ag spray, and maintenance.	\$2,400 - \$22,000	Apply Here
Epic Flight Academy Pilot Scholarships	Annual scholarships for U.S. high school students pursuing pilot training at Epic campuses.	Up to \$20,000	Apply Here
Museum of Flight Scholarships (WA)	For Washington state high school students aged 16.5+ pursuing a private pilot license.	\$14,000	Apply Here
ALPA Scholarship	For children of medically retired, disabled, or deceased ALPA pilot members. Disbursed over four years.	\$12,000	Apply Here

 **PRO TIP:** Many pilot scholarships require you to pass the FAA Private Pilot written exam BEFORE applying. Study early and get it done!



AVIATION MAINTENANCE & MECHANIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
NBAA Maintenance AMT Scholarships	Technical training for current and aspiring A&P mechanics in business aviation. Model-specific courses at top training centers.	Full course tuition	Apply Here
PAMA Scholarships & Awards	For students in FAA Part 147 programs or recent graduates. Must be a PAMA member. Deadline: March 2 annually.	Varies (incl. \$1,500)	Apply Here
AEA Educational Foundation (Multiple)	Multiple scholarships for avionics and aircraft maintenance: David Arver Memorial, Jim Joubert, Pat Napolitano, and more.	\$1,000 - \$2,500	Apply Here
Aviation & Aircraft Maintenance Scholarship	For students studying avionics or aircraft maintenance (certificate, associate, or bachelor's). Min 2.5 GPA.	\$1,000	Apply Here
Epic Flight Academy Mechanic Scholarship	Annual scholarships for high school seniors to attend Epic's Aircraft Mechanic Program (A&P training).	\$20,000	Apply Here
Duncan Aviation Scholarship	For students pursuing careers in aircraft maintenance at accredited programs.	Varies	Apply Here
Sheltair & Avfuel: Future Takes Flight	Six scholarships across flight training, maintenance training, and continuing education categories.	\$5,000 each	Apply Here
ADMA Scholarship Fund	For 2nd-year A&P students at 2-year programs or 3rd/4th year at 4-year programs. Min 3.0 GPA.	Varies	Apply Here

 **PRO TIP:** A&P Mechanics are in massive demand. The industry needs over 600,000 new technicians by 2042. Your skills will be highly sought after!



MANAGEMENT, ATC, DISPATCH & OPERATIONS

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
ATCA Scholarship Fund	For students in air traffic control programs or aviation-related degrees. Also for children of controllers. \$75K awarded annually.	\$5,000 - \$15,000	Apply Here
Chuck Peacock Memorial (AEA)	For students in accredited aviation management programs. Min 2.5 GPA.	\$1,500	Apply Here

Disclaimer: Always verify deadlines and eligibility at the official scholarship website.

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
AMAC Aviation & Professional Development	For students pursuing degrees in airport management, ATC, dispatching, aviation business, engineering, and related fields.	Varies	Apply Here
AMAC Ronald J. Gomes Scholarship	For minority students pursuing aviation careers at accredited universities. Business, engineering, or aviation-related majors.	Varies	Apply Here
NBAA Flight Attendants/Technicians	For business aviation flight attendants and flight technicians seeking professional development training.	Varies	Apply Here
Regional Airline Association (RAA)	For students pursuing careers in the airline industry including operations, maintenance, and management.	\$4,000	Apply Here
Airline Dispatchers Federation	For students pursuing or advancing careers in aircraft dispatch.	Varies	Apply Here
AAAE Foundation Scholarships	For airport management and aviation administration students. Over \$5.7M awarded since 1989.	Varies	Apply Here
UAA Scholarship (Univ. Aviation Assoc.)	For students at UAA member institutions in aviation-related degree programs.	Varies	Apply Here

 **PRO TIP:** Air Traffic Control, Dispatch, and Aviation Management are outstanding career paths often overlooked. The FAA is actively hiring ATC candidates!

★ DIVERSITY & INCLUSION SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
Women in Aviation International (WAI)	50+ scholarships totaling \$200K+ for flight training, maintenance, engineering, dispatch, and career advancement. WAI membership required.	Varies widely	Apply Here
OBAP Scholarships	For minority and all aspiring aerospace professionals. Nearly \$7M awarded to date. Covers pilots, ATC, maintenance, engineering. Membership required.	Varies	Apply Here
Latino Professionals in Aerospace (LPA)	Flight training, A&P certification, and United Aviate Academy scholarships. Must be an active LPA member.	Varies	Apply Here
NGPA Scholarships	For LGBTQ+ aviation community members pursuing pilot certificates, advanced ratings, A&P licenses, and endorsements.	Varies	Apply Here
AMAC AECOM FLY Scholarship	Emphasis on students from diverse communities pursuing aviation-related careers in architecture, engineering, construction.	Varies	Apply Here
AMAC Delaware North Aviation Scholarship	For minority students enrolled in an accredited university pursuing aviation/airport careers.	Varies	Apply Here
332 Heritage Foundation (Tuskegee Airmen)	Scholarships honoring the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen for students pursuing aviation careers.	Varies	Apply Here
Assoc. for Women in Aviation Maintenance	Scholarships specifically for women pursuing careers in aviation maintenance.	Varies	Apply Here

★ PRO TIP: Membership-based organizations like WAI, OBAP, NGPA, and LPA are incredible resources beyond just scholarships. Join for mentoring, networking, and job placement!

🚀 AEROSPACE ENGINEERING & STEM SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
AIAA Foundation Scholarships	For students studying aerospace engineering and related STEM fields. Multiple awards available.	\$2,500 - \$10,000	Apply Here
Pennsylvania Space Grant Consortium	Multiple awards for PA undergrads in conjunction with NASA Space Grant. Rising juniors/seniors.	\$4,000	Apply Here

Disclaimer: Always verify deadlines and eligibility at the official scholarship website.

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
NBAA/NORDAM Scholarship (Embry-Riddle)	For undergrads in aerospace engineering or aeronautical systems maintenance at Embry-Riddle.	\$2,500	Apply Here
Perryman Foundation STEM Scholarship	For college students pursuing STEM degrees including aviation and aerospace engineering.	\$15,000	Apply Here
Aero Club Foundation of Washington	For D.C. area students pursuing aviation and aerospace education and careers.	\$5,000	Apply Here



BUSINESS & CORPORATE AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
NBAA Scholarships (Multiple Programs)	Multiple programs for pilots, maintenance techs, schedulers, dispatchers, flight attendants, and management in business aviation.	Nearly \$100K/yr	Apply Here
CABAA Scholarships (Chicago)	Multiple scholarships for students pursuing aviation degrees: flight, ATC, maintenance, management. Free student membership.	\$5,000 - \$8,000	Apply Here
Sheltair & Avfuel: Future Takes Flight	Three categories: flight training, maintenance training, and continuing education.	\$5,000 each	Apply Here
WAI Harvard Emerging Leaders	For high-performing WAI members with 7+ years of career experience and leadership aptitude.	Full program	Apply Here

Disclaimer: Always verify deadlines and eligibility at the official scholarship website.



REGIONAL & SPECIALTY SCHOLARSHIPS (U.S.)

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
Colorado Pilots Association	Two scholarships for Coloradans pursuing flight training or next certification. Apply Jan 1 - Feb 15.	Varies	Apply Here
Alaska Airmen Scholarships	Multiple scholarships for aspiring aviators in Alaska. Over \$10,000 awarded annually.	\$10,000+	Apply Here
Joshua Esch Mitchell Aviation (MI)	For students studying Aviation/Flight Science. Must have a valid pilot certificate. Min 2.75 GPA.	Varies	Apply Here
Explorers Aviation Scholarships	For Aviation Explorer scouts: \$3,000 each for pilot, avionics, and maintenance tracks.	\$3,000	Apply Here
National Agricultural Aviation Assoc.	For students interested in agricultural aviation (aerial application/crop dusting).	Varies	Apply Here
Vertical Aviation International (HAI)	Scholarships for helicopter and vertical aviation careers including commercial pilot ratings.	\$5,000 - \$10,000	Apply Here

Disclaimer: Always verify deadlines and eligibility at the official scholarship website.



INTERNATIONAL & OVERSEAS AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Aviation is a global industry, and scholarship opportunities exist around the world. Whether you are based in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Africa, or beyond, the following programs can help launch or advance your aviation career internationally.

GB United Kingdom & Europe

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
Honourable Company of Air Pilots (UK)	PPL, ATPL ground school, Flight Instructor Certificate, and gliding scholarships. One of the most prestigious programs in the UK. London interviews.	Full training costs	Apply Here
Air League Flying Scholarships (UK)	Tiered scholarships from 3-hour introductory to full PPL for young people aged 17+. Open to all backgrounds. No barriers.	3 - 45+ hrs flying	Apply Here
Royal Aero Club Trust Bursaries (UK)	For British citizens aged 14-24. Covers gliding, microlights, helicopters, paragliding, ballooning, drones, and more.	Up to £1,000+	Apply Here
ACS Aviation Flying Scholarship (Scotland)	Two scholarships worth £4,500+ each. 8 hours flight training toward PPL in Tecnam aircraft. Includes Bose headset.	£4,500+	Apply Here
Lufthansa Aviation Training (Germany)	Cadet program: Lufthansa sponsors training for competitive German nationals pursuing careers as airline pilots.	Full training (bonded)	Apply Here

CA Canada

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
COPA Neil J. Armstrong Ab-Initio Scholarship	For aspiring pilots aged 16-21 in Canada who need financial support to earn a Private Pilot Licence. Includes free COPA membership.	\$14,000 CAD	Apply Here
COPA New Wings Scholarship	For aspiring Canadian pilots aged 21+ to cover eligible flight training costs.	\$5,000 CAD	Apply Here
COPA Réné Cutforth Memorial Scholarship	For female-identifying pilots in Canada pursuing a Commercial Pilot Licence or additional ratings.	\$1,000 CAD	Apply Here
Fly Canada / ATAC Scholarships	Aggregated list of Canadian aviation and aerospace scholarships. Multiple programs listed.	Varies	Apply Here

Disclaimer: Always verify deadlines and eligibility at the official scholarship website.

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
Amelia Earhart Memorial (Canada)	Through the Ninety-Nines Canadian chapters for women pilots pursuing advanced training in Canada.	Varies	Apply Here

AU Australia & New Zealand

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
Air Pilots Australia Flying Scholarships	PPL and advanced rating scholarships administered by the Honourable Company of Air Pilots, Australia Region.	Full training costs	Apply Here
AOPA Australia Scholarships	Flight training support for AOPA Australia members pursuing pilot certificates and ratings.	Varies	Apply Here
Air Pilots New Zealand	PPL and advanced training scholarships through the NZ region of the Honourable Company of Air Pilots.	Varies	Apply Here
Royal NZ Aero Club Scholarships	Scholarships for New Zealand residents pursuing pilot training and aviation qualifications.	Varies	Apply Here

Africa, Middle East & Caribbean

Scholarship Name	Description / Eligibility	Amount	Link
Aerocadet International Scholarship	Performance-based scholarships for international students (any country) to train for CPL/CFI in the U.S., Canada, or EU.	\$5,000	Apply Here
UAE Government Flight Training	UAE government-funded pilot training for Emirati nationals through Etihad and Emirates cadet programs.	Full training	Apply Here
Ethiopian Airlines Aviation Academy	Cadet pilot and maintenance training programs with scholarship opportunities for African nationals.	Varies	Apply Here
SkyBy Aviation Scholarships	Scholarships for international students (especially African nations) for pilot, cabin crew, dispatch, and engineering training.	Partial funding	Apply Here
Caribbean Aviation Scholarship (WAI)	Several WAI scholarships are open to international applicants from any country. WAI membership required.	Varies	Apply Here

 **PRO TIP:** Many U.S.-based scholarships (EAA, WAI, AOPA) accept international students training at U.S./Canadian schools. Don't count yourself out!



HOW TO WIN AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS: EXPERT TIPS

Disclaimer: Always verify deadlines and eligibility at the official scholarship website.

1. Start Early & Stay Organized

Create a spreadsheet tracking every scholarship name, deadline, requirements, and status. Many applications open in the fall (October) with deadlines in winter/spring. Set calendar reminders 2-4 weeks before each deadline.

2. Join Key Organizations NOW

Many top scholarships require active membership in organizations like AOPA, EAA, WAI, OBAP, LPA, or NGPA. Some require membership for 3+ months before applying. Join early! Many offer free or discounted student memberships.

3. Pass the FAA Written Exam Early

Several major scholarships (AOPA, EAA Ray, and others) require you to have passed the FAA Private Pilot Knowledge Test before applying. Use free resources like the AOPA Foundation Flight Training Scholarship Clinic and Sporty's to prepare.

4. Tell YOUR Story

Scholarship committees want to know what ignited your passion for aviation. Be specific: was it a discovery flight, an airshow, a family member who flew? Show them your "why" and what you will do differently in the industry.

5. Demonstrate Commitment

Even a few logged flight hours, a discovery flight receipt, ground school enrollment, or volunteer work at a local airport shows you are serious. Take a free intro flight lesson before you apply.

6. Get Strong Recommendation Letters

Ask your recommenders at least 3-4 weeks in advance. Choose people who know you well: flight instructors, aviation mentors, teachers, or employers. Give them your resume and essay so they can write a targeted letter.

7. Apply to EVERYTHING You Qualify For

Many scholarships receive surprisingly few applications. Your odds are better than you think! Do not self-eliminate. If you meet the minimum requirements, apply. Reuse and adapt your essays across multiple applications.

8. Keep Applying Every Year

Didn't win this year? Many scholarships allow you to reapply. Update your application with new accomplishments, hours, and ratings. Persistence pays off in aviation and in scholarship applications.



PRO TIP: Stack your scholarships! There is no rule that says you can only win one. Some students fund their entire training through multiple awards.



KEY RESOURCES & WEBSITES

Disclaimer: Always verify deadlines and eligibility at the official scholarship website.

Resource	Website
AviationStart.org (Over \$20M in Scholarships!)	https://www.aviationstart.org/
FAA Aviation Start Dashboard	https://www.faa.gov/education/grants_and_scholarships/aviation
Future of Aviation Scholarship Database	https://futureofaviation.aero/scholarships/
AOPA Scholarship Resource List	https://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/learn-to-fly/aviation-scholarships
Scholarships.com - Aviation	https://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/aviation-scholarships
Bold.org - Aviation Scholarships	https://bold.org/scholarships/by-major/aviation-scholarships/
Choose Aerospace - Industry Opportunities	https://www.chooseaerospace.org/industry-opportunities.html
Scholarships360 - Aviation	https://scholarships360.org/scholarships/aviation-scholarships/
Select Aviation (Canada Directory)	https://selectaviation.com/scholarship-directory/

*"The engine is the heart of an airplane,
but the pilot is its soul."*

— Walter Raleigh

The sky is not the limit. It is just the beginning.

Disclaimer: Scholarship details, amounts, and deadlines change frequently. Always verify current information at the official scholarship website before applying. This guide is provided as a free resource and is not affiliated with any listed organization.



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TikTok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@aarrondeliu>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/aarrondeliu>

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