



BREAKOUT SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Aviation Maintenance in High School and Beyond

America needs as many new aviation maintenance technicians as new pilots. Learn how to add a maintenance pathway to your high school aviation program and discover career and training opportunities for graduates.

Aviators Wanted: The United States Air Force

Where can the United States Air Force take your students? In this session, Air Force representatives will discuss how the Air Force can help students discover their strengths, learn new skills, earn a degree, and advance their careers.

Beyond High School

The next steps after high school can be daunting. But with the proper support and preparation, they don't have to be. Learn what aviation programs and colleges are looking for and how to help your students prepare. Explore airline partnerships with universities, pilot requirements, dual enrollment opportunities, and industry expectations.

Deep Dive: Work Through an AOPA Foundation High School Aviation STEM Curriculum Lesson

You've seen it on paper, but what does a high school aviation lesson look like in practice? Find out by observing an entire lesson from start to finish. We'll highlight the rigor and fun of a typical class session and offer tips for pacing, management, and adapting to the realities of *your* classroom and students.

Drones in the Classroom

Flying drones in class is a lot of fun, but these machines are more tools than toys. Learn strategies for getting the most from your drones with a focus on drone selection and maintenance, accessories worth having, classroom and materials management, and safety.

FAA's STEM AVSED Program

The FAA has a wealth of education resources that can help build and support your aviation program. From its annual Airport Design Challenge to classroom activities for grades K-12, the FAA's STEM AVSED (Aviation and Space Education) Program has free resources to help you.

Fund Your Aviation Program: How to Write a Winning Perkins Grant

Need money to start or expand your school's aviation program? The Perkins Act provides the primary federal funding source for high school CTE programs, and more than \$1.3 billion is available each year. Find out how to tap into this money to make your aviation program soar!

Get Connected to Get the Most from Your Aviation Program

Learn how to extend the reach of your new or established aviation program by building collaborative partnerships with local aviation community members and organizations. Get tips for finding and connecting with aviation businesses, airports, pilot groups, and others who can support your efforts and create opportunities for your students.

Hands-On Learning: Curriculum Activities Lab

Engaging activities and problem-based learning are at the core of the AOPA Foundation High School Aviation STEM Curriculum. Try a selection of the fun student activities found in our lessons with experienced teachers who can share their tips for classroom success.

Introducing the AOPA Foundation High School Aviation STEM Curriculum

Transform your classroom with the AOPA Foundation's High School Aviation STEM Curriculum. Learn about the breadth, rigor, and fun of the FREE curriculum in this high-level overview. Discover the engaging activities, comprehensive teaching materials, and extensive teacher support available to curriculum users, and learn how you can get started.

Join the (Aviation) Club!

Creating a high school aviation club is not only feasible but can also be a great way to drive student engagement and achievement. The size and purpose of aviation clubs can be as diverse as your student population—with the sky truly being the limit! We will provide examples of different types of aviation clubs and steps you can take to get your club off the ground.

Opportunity Calling: An Inside Look at the Aviation Job Market

There's more to aviation careers than flying. From aeronautical engineers to air traffic controllers and airport managers to meteorologists, there are many ways to make a living in the world of aerospace. Learn from experts about today's job market, including the types of jobs available, pay rates, and employer expectations.

Preflight Planning: How to Start a New High School Aviation Program

You want to start an aviation program that prepares students for STEM career success, but how do you turn that idea into reality? Staff members from the AOPA Foundation have helped hundreds of programs get off the ground. We'll answer your questions and share strategies for pitching, planning, and launching high school aviation programs.

Remote Possibilities: Emerging Trends in Drone Careers

Earning a remote pilot certificate allows those as young as 16 to be paid to fly drones. But what options are available to students once they have passed the test? Learn about the diverse and rapidly evolving jobs available now and get tips for helping your students launch a successful drone career.

Simulators in the Classroom

Flight simulators are a great way to enhance your aviation curriculum and motivate your students, but it can be hard to know where to start. Learn about some of the most popular flight simulators on the market today and how you can put them to work to bring aviation concepts to life.

Something for Everyone: Free and Low-Cost Resources to Help Your Program Soar

Round out your aviation program with free and low-cost materials from prestigious aerospace organizations. Discover the wealth of content available to you and your students from the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Civil Air Patrol, Experimental Aircraft Association, Federal Aviation Administration, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Volunteers Needed: Public Benefit Flying Opportunities

Volunteering with a public benefit flying organization can be a great way to gain flight experience, support causes you care about, and explore a range of aviation-related careers, including many that don't require a pilot certificate. Learn how teachers and students can benefit from volunteering with Angel Flight, Turtles Fly Too, SouthWings, Pilots and Paws, Patient Airlift Services, Operation Airdrop, and other national organizations. Leave with concrete ways for your students to get involved in your community.

You Can Be a Pilot (and So Can Your Students)

Becoming a pilot is within reach, and we can help. Join our pilot presenters to learn what it takes to become a pilot and how scholarships just for you and your students can make it more affordable. We'll look at each phase of the flight training process, debunk many myths about learning to fly, and share some exciting experiences that await new aviators.

Your Ticket to the Airlines

Regional and major airlines are welcoming high school graduates into their pilot training programs like never before. Learn about some post-high school pathways designed to lead your students to the flight deck of an airliner, sometimes even without a college degree.