

SUMMARY

Aviation Influence, Inc. (AVi) is a registered nonprofit organization founded in 2019 with a mission to serve young people in discovering STEM and aviation through outreach. Working directly with industry, AVi is dedicated to growing a pipeline of future talent across science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and aviation. Their purpose is to elevate the interest, engagement, and enthusiasm of youth through hands-on STEM and aviation outreach locally and in underrepresented regions.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Current Junior at West Michigan Aviation Academy
- Must maintain both good standing with the WMAA Student Code of Conduct & WMAA Flight Training Expectations
- Pursuing the opportunity to earn a private pilot license within the WMAA flight training program
- Proof of acquired 3rd Class Medical or higher
- Demonstrate academic potential with a minimum 2.5 GPA in coursework.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application materials should be submitted as one PDF document that includes:

- A completed application form (see below)
- Applicants must complete essay, 500-word max, sharing one of these two topics on following page.
- The selection committee will review all complete applications submitted by the deadline.
- The scholarship is awarded without regard to race, sex, religion, age or national origin.

AMOUNT

There will be one scholarship awarded up to \$1,500. Scholarship funds will be credited to the student's SkyManager account after they have completed their solo flight during their Senior year, pending all requirements have been met.

What To Expect As An AVi Scholarship Recipient

- Scholarship recipients are expected to follow-up and share progress of their flight training, ratings achieved, next steps, plans for post high school. Scholarship recipients may have photo published by AVi.
- Scholarship recipients may have opportunities to engage beyond the scholarship within the industry, at events, or participate in the AVi ambassador program. AVi ambassadors are sometimes sent on location to airshows, interact with airshow talent/performers, and may be involved in our flying platform – getting the chance to fly “Lady Liberty.”

TIMELINE

- February 2, 2026 - Aviation Influence (AVi) Aviator Scholarship application opens
- March 2, 2026 - Aviation Influence (AVi) Aviator Scholarship applications are due
- May 19, 2026 - Aviation Influence (AVi) Aviator Scholarship winners announced | Spring Awards Assembly

WMAAF

The West Michigan Aviation Academy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization established in 2019 in support of West Michigan Aviation Academy. The Foundation's role is to cultivate donors and private philanthropy, raising the additional money needed to fund priorities set by West Michigan Aviation Academy.

WMAAF ADDRESS:

A: 5363 44th Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

E: scholarships@wmaafoundation.org W: wmaafoundation.org

THANK YOU FOR APPLYING

DATE OF REGISTRATION

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STUDENT INFORMATION

Full Name :

Email :

Address :

City : State : Zip Code :

Weighted 5th Semester GPA Current Grade Level

APPLICATION

Application materials should be submitted as one PDF document that includes:

- A completed application form
- Proof of acquired 3rd Class Medical or higher
- Applicants must complete essay, 500-word max, in response to #1 or #2 below:
 - 1.What has led you to choose WMAA's Flight Program and driven your interest in becoming a pilot?
Where do you see yourself thriving in the industry? (ex. Commercial pilot, missionary pilot, medical flying, cargo/freight, business/corporate pilot, other).
 - 2.What do you feel is your greatest challenge/barrier in becoming a professional pilot? How do you plan to overcome these challenges?

SIGNATURE

All of the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if asked by an authorized official, I agree to give proof of the information stated on this form. I also understand that any falsified information is cause to revoke any further scholarship funds, and could result in repayment of any monies already paid.

By signing below, we grant West Michigan Aviation Academy staff permission to share free or reduced lunch status information with the scholarship committee for the sole purpose of identifying demonstrated financial need.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

SUBMIT APPLICATION

Please submit your application, along with all necessary documentation, to the West Michigan Aviation Academy Foundation at scholarships@wmaafoundation.org no later than March 2, 2026 at 4:00pm.