



Application to attend the National Flight Academy Pensacola, Florida

Presented by Friends of Fernandina Aviation along with our funding sponsors:

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Introduction

Six (6) **8th** grade student applicants will be selected to attend the National Flight Academy's Joint Operations Centers, Aircraft (simulators) and Joint Intelligence Centers aboard the world's only virtual land-locked aircraft carrier, AMBITION. Onboard AMBITION, dynamic teaching methods promote hands-on learning designed to inspire and engage students in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) while also reinforcing 21st Century Workforce Skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, and teambuilding. This experience will also cover aviation principles, communication practices, and soft skill challenges.

Students selected for this award will receive tuition-free enrollment (\$1,500 value per student) for the 6-day 5-night deployment at the National Flight Academy, Pensacola, Florida. Slots for the 6 students to be selected have already been reserved for the National Flight Academy's summer deployment:

Sunday, July 16, 2023 through Friday, July 21, 2023.

Selection is made without regard to race, sex, religion, or national origin.

Information for parents: www.nationalflightacademy.com

The National Flight Academy's in-residence program is offered on the virtual aircraft carrier, AMBITION, located adjacent to the National Naval Aviation Museum on Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida. The AMBITION Program is six days and five nights focused on ages 11 through 17 and incoming grades 7 through 12.

The curriculum, developed by the University of West Florida, includes aerodynamics, propulsion, navigation, aviation physiology and meteorology. However, the National Flight Academy is more than just academics. A fully immersive gaming environment is the conduit for students to participate in exciting missions. Each mission is aligned to the National Common Core Standards for Math and Science. An additional area of focus is on 21st Century Core Competencies, to include emphasis on core values, leadership development, peer teaming/cooperative learning, effective communication and public speaking.

This program is currently accredited through the American Camp Association. ACA ensures a safe and effective camp operation. Their review comprehensively covers all aspects of camp operations including severe weather plans, health services, staff vetting, staff training, food service, and facility infrastructure. More information can be found at the American Camp Association website, www.acacamps.org.

Full-time, 24/7 physical and electronic security are provided throughout the facility when programs are in session. Access to the National Flight Academy facility, especially the berthing (staterooms) and academic floors, is monitored and closely controlled by proximity card readers. Assigned as AMBITION Experimental Pilots (AXPs), the students are issued hotel-room like keys that allow access to their berthing areas, assigned staterooms, and work spaces. During program hours, each squadron of AXPs is assigned a full-time staff "facilitator". Outside of those hours, overnight staff resident assistants, healthcare professionals, and trained security personnel are on-site. Security cameras monitor common areas and all hallways. A fully qualified nursing staff led by an RN oversees a four-bunk sickbay on-site, along with storage and administration of specialized medications. Safety and medical care is based on requirements set forth by the American Camping Association.

APPLICATION

Students who wish to apply for this program must meet the following requirements:

- Be an 8th grade student enrolled at either FBMS, YMS or St. Michael Academy
- Submit a written recommendation from their science teacher
- Have attained at least a 3.5 GPA - Please submit a copy of most recent report card
- Demonstrate a marked interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.
- Submit a 250- word essay answering the question:

In your opinion what is Man's most significant technological achievement and what did it contribute to mankind?

- Be interviewed by the selection board

Applicant's Name: _____
School: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Parent's Name: _____
Parent's Best Contact # _____
Parent's Email _____
Street Address: _____
City and State: _____

Students must submit this application to their school guidance office by the end of the school day on **Friday, March 10, 2023.**

Parents: Since a trip to Pensacola is somewhat lengthy we encourage carpooling. We will develop a list of parents' contact information and provide it to the parents of students who have been selected so they may make arrangements for travel. We will consider financial assistance for travel on a case by case basis for those who may incur a financial hardship.

COVID Guidelines: The National Flight Academy does not require that students be vaccinated.