

B.S., AERONAUTICAL STUDIES PILOT CAREER FOCUS

WHY CHOOSE KENT STATE B.S., AERONAUTICAL STUDIES

Join Our Community!

We are excited to welcome YOU, new students, and support systems into our community! What sets us apart is how we come together. With Kent State, you do not just get an education - you get a family!

About Aeronautical Studies

The Aeronautical Studies major:

- Is AABI Accredited;
- Will allow students the same access to all pilot-specific professional development opportunities as their professional pilot major counterparts at Kent State. This means the same academic courses (less flight), the same opportunities to interact with the airlines, the same pilot-focused career fairs, the same opportunities to explore professional pilot careers outside of the airlines (corporate, cargo etc), the same focus on developing professional pilot leadership skills.
- May allow you to earn academic credit for flight training completed elsewhere!



Career Connection

Our **dedicated aeronautics career fairs** and **constant exposure** to professionals in the aviation industry provide you with early access to career and networking opportunities!



Eligible, Employed, & Earning

As a student in the Aeronautical Studies program, you are not required to take the Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) and Certified Flight Instructor – Instrument (CFI-I) courses (both theory and flight practicum).

The advantage to earning your CFI and CFI-I ratings are you can serve as a flight instructor and earn flight hours while working as a flight instructor.

If you choose not to earn CFI and CFI-I ratings, you will earn your required flight time by working as a pilot, but **not** a flight instructor. The options here are endless: any and all types of flight are eligible.

There are three pathway options under the Aeronautical Studies program.

No pathway option allows a student to earn the Restricted-Airline Transport Pilot certification (R-ATP), which enables them to be hired with 1000 hours of flight time, vice 1500 hours of flight time. Students will need to earn 1500 hours of flight time on their own before being hired by the airlines (we have guidelines for this).

Option 1: Complete the Catalog-Copy Aeronautical Studies academic plan.

- This plan has 21 hours of AERN electives and 9 hours of General Electives.
- Students can fill the above elective hours as they wish.
- Students must pursue their flight ratings and certificates elsewhere.
- This is a four year, fall/spring plan.
- Students could fly in the summers at a location of their choice.
- Students may also fly local to Kent State during the academic year if their studies permit.

Option 2: Complete the Modified Aeronautical Studies academic plan.

- This plan has 9 hours of General Electives.
- We've used the 21 hours of AERN electives to include all the same academic courses the Professional Pilot student takes.
- If students follow this plan, the only difference in academics will be the absence of the flight courses.
- This is a four year, fall/spring plan.
- Students could fly in the summers, at a location of their choice.
- Students may also fly local to Kent State during the academic year if their studies permit.

Option 3: Complete the Accelerated Aeronautical Studies academic plan.

- This plan has 9 hours of General Electives.
- We've used the 21 hours of AERN electives to include all the same academic courses the Professional Pilot student takes.
- If students follow this plan, the only difference in academics will be the absence of the flight courses.
- This is a three- year, fall/spring/summer (year-round) plan.
- Students could use the "saved" year to earn their required certificates and ratings.
- Students may also fly local to Kent State during the academic year if their studies permit.

For all three options, students may earn academic credit for flight training completed elsewhere.

- Credit must be granted before degree is conferred.
- Students may earn up to 12 hours of academic credit (equivalent to almost one semester) for flight training completed elsewhere.
- See Table 1 for application of credit.

For all three options, students will need to earn their private pilot certificate, instrument rating, commercial certificate and multi-engine rating elsewhere.

- To help you plan, at Kent State these would collectively cost \$67,130.00
- One may be able to earn these ratings and certificates at an off-campus, or close-to-home-location, for less than this amount.

In the CAE Professional Pilot program, students are required to take the Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) and Certified Flight Instructor – Instrument (CFI-I) courses (both theory and flight practicum).

- For all three Aeronautical Studies options, these courses are not required.
- The cost savings to the Aeronautical Studies option student is \$12,730.00

The advantage to earning one's CFI and CFI-I ratings are that the individual can serve as a flight instructor and earn flight hours while working as a flight instructor.

- On average, students must earn about 700 hours of flight time, after completion of their flight training, to be eligible for the Restricted-ATP. This takes our students about 18 months.

Those students who do not earn CFI and CFI-I ratings must earn their required flight time by working as a pilot, but not a flight instructor. The options here are endless: any and all types of flight are eligible.

- Any student on Options 1, 2, or 3 will not be eligible for the R-ATP; this means they must have 1500 hours of flight time before hire.
- This could take anywhere from 6-12 additional months over that of a student with R-ATP (may take 24 to 30 months, as opposed to 18 months)

All students, regardless of where and how they earn their 1000 hours (for R-ATP) or 1500 hours (non R-ATP) will be eligible for hire with a beginning annual salary anywhere between \$90k and \$120k.

THE AERONAUTICAL STUDIES MAJOR, PILOT CAREER FOCUS

Table 1

	Curriculum overview	Eligible for R-ATP	Flight Hours Required for Hiring at Airline	Academic Credit for Transfer in of Private Pilot Certificate	Academic Credit for Transfer in of Instrument Rating	Academic Credit for Transfer in of Commercial Certificate	Academic Credit for Transfer in of Multi-Engine Rating	Time to Degree Completion
Option 1	Electives undefined; students can fill as desired. This is the program as it currently exists.	No	1500	5 credit hours, general elective	3 credit hours, general elective	Satisfies CAE 45092 requirement	1 credit hour, general elective	4 years
Option 2	Electives are defined. This program is identical to Professional Pilot, less flight courses. It includes ground schools.	No	1500	5 credit hours, general elective	3 credit hours, general elective	Satisfies CAE 45092 requirement	1 credit hour, general elective	4 years
Option 3	Electives are defined. This program is identical to Professional Pilot, less flight courses. It includes ground schools.	No	1500	5 credit hours, general elective	3 credit hours, general elective	Satisfies CAE 45092 requirement	1 credit hour, general elective	3 years

Advantage of AEST over PROP

- Ability to complete your training anywhere; you can take your hours and your experience with you from school to school, if you wish and need to. For example, you could start training in the Kent State area during the academic year, but finish with a school local to your home during the summer.
- Ability to fly at your own pace and on your own schedule, not tied to an academic schedule. You have complete flexibility and personal control over your flight training.
- Not required to complete CFI and CFII, which is an overall cost savings.
- Sometimes student loans are not certified in time for students to appropriately register for the following semester; if a student can't register, they may be locked out of classes that fill up before they're able to generate their academic schedule. Because of the higher cost of flight fees, this can have a larger impact on settling bursar bills. A student in AEST who is flying outside of Kent State won't have these fees attached to their semester schedule and may reach bursar resolution more quickly, thereby scheduling their classes and progression through their degree in a timelier fashion.
- Flexibility of schedule and flight school location allow AEST students to pursue work and part-time employment.

Advantage of PROP over AEST, PROP focus

- Structure is provided; because of this our average time to completion in any given flight course is often below the national average, which takes into account all flight schools, not just Part 141 (of which Kent State University is one). For example, Kent State University's average time to completion of the Private Pilot Course is 58 hours; the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reports the national average to be 75 hours.
- Earning one's CFI has been shown via several academic studies to enhance the training performance of regional airline pilots by means of fewer extra training events and fewer non-completion events. Earning one's CFII allows a person to instruct not only private pilot students, but also instrument students, thereby enhancing their own instrument experience which is a benefit during the hiring process. CFIs can also train and educate more students, thereby reaching their 1000-hour threshold sooner.
- Graduates are eligible for the Restricted-Airline Transport Pilot certificate (R-ATP) which allows a person to be hired with 500 fewer flight hours than someone without the R-ATP.



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