



FLIGHT TRAINING - A CORNERSTONE FOR MANY FLORIDA AIRPORTS

Becoming a pilot opens a world of career possibilities, including those in the military, commercial air service, or agriculture industry. Pilots must be certified, and FAA's rules for getting a pilot's license differ depending on the type of aircraft. There are eligibility, training, experience, and testing requirements for student pilots, recreational pilots, and private pilots. Key among these requirements are flight training requirements, and a multitude of flight training schools have cropped up in Florida to fill this need. Florida has flight training schools meeting potential pilots' basic training needs, but also has specialty pilot schools for agricultural pilots, all-inclusive pilot packages, and international pilots. Over 100 of Florida's airports host flight training services.

Arcadia Municipal Airport - Not Your Usual Flight School

Eagle Vistas Agricultural Flight Training School is a highly specialized school in Arcadia. Eagle Vistas trains pilots specifically for the agriculture industry and offers classes in Ag Pilot Training for pilots with zero flight experience, including a Helicopter Ag Pilot Training program. Eagle Vistas also offers courses in various other Ag Pilot flight programs, including those geared towards experienced pilots seeking their Ag license. Eagle Vistas has been in operation for over 10 years and has over 125 Ag Pilot graduates. Senior mentor Ag Pilots at Eagle Vistas have logged over 25,000 hours in agriculture flights while instructing students.

Peter Prince Field - Panhandle Airport Provides a Variety of Courses

Peter Prince Field has two fixed-base operators (FBOs), Peter Prince Aviation Center (PPAC) and Aircraft Management Services (AMS), which offer FBO services such as fueling and aircraft maintenance, and flight training. Both schools offer full flight training for a breadth of fields, including Private and Commercial Licenses, Instrument, Multi-Engine, and Certified Flight Instructor (CFI). Peter Prince Aviation Center, one of the fastest growing full service FBOs in the U.S., hosts Trident Aircraft, a fully certified FAA Part 141 and Part 61 Flight School. Trident Aircraft offers all-inclusive packages for certificates and ratings, including offering a short syllabus for Navy Initial Flight Screening (IFS) personnel who would like to use their military flying experience to obtain their Private Pilot's License. AMS has a FAA Certified Part 141 Flight School and offers a full curriculum of aviation flight courses. AMS Flight School boasts of over 25 years of experience in flight training for both military and civilian students, with a proven track record as one of the best Part 141 flight schools in Florida and the Southeastern U.S.



Bartow Municipal Airport - Old School Aviation

Flight training has been offered in Florida for almost 50 years, thanks in part to Bartow Flying Service at Bartow Municipal Airport. Bartow Flying Service is a municipally owned and operated FBO/flight training school that has been serving clients for over 45 years, making it one of the oldest flight schools in the state. The flight training school offers a Private Pilot Course, Instrument Course, and Commercial Pilot Course. One unique service the Bartow Flying Service offers are "Discovery Flights." These flights are great for prospective students to experience the school's flight training style, and allow a prospective student to fly a plane (with an instructor as co-pilot) with no experience necessary.

Flagler Executive & Crystal River Airport - Training Pilots from Around the Globe

Flagler Executive Airport recently began hosting its own flight training school, offered by Phoenix East. Since 1972, Phoenix East has trained more than 12,000 pilots who have flown over 30,000 hours as students, and their new school at Flagler Executive Airport will be able to teach an additional 60 students annually. The Phoenix East flight training school is unique from many other flight training schools in the state because it draws students from all around the world. The flight training school reports that over 65% of its students are international, which is particularly important for students who wish to fly internationally during their career. Assisting their students' transition, the school is authorized by the U.S. government to issue visas to international students.

Another flight training school with an emphasis on international students is Crystal Aero Group, which offers a flight training school at Crystal River Airport. Many international students enroll in Crystal Aero Group's exclusive Fast Flight program, which was specifically designed for an international student to complete Private Pilot training in 30 days.

BY THE NUMBERS

Peter Prince Field

- *Peter Prince Aviation Center and Aircraft Management Services offer FAA Part 141 and Part 61 flight training*

Flagler Executive Airport

- *Tenant Phoenix East has trained over 12,000 pilots who have flown over 30,000 hours as students.*

Bartow Municipal Airport

- *Municipally owned Bartow Flying Service has been training pilots for over 45 years*

Arcadia Municipal Airport

- *Specializing in agricultural flight training, Eagle Vistas has trained over 125 pilots in its 10 year existence*

Overview

Demand for commercial pilots in the U.S. is growing, driving an influx of students to flight schools around the country. With flight training schools located at many of its public use airports, Florida is well-situated to meet this demand. Florida's many flight schools graduate thousands of pilots a year, who have hundreds of thousands of flight hours under their belt and are ready to enter the aviation industry.

