



Thank you for your interest in the Aviation Program at Big Bend Community College. We hope you will find the following information helpful and will call to arrange a tour of our training facilities. (509-793-2241).

HISTORY

The Big Bend Community College Aviation Program is an FAA authorized community college commercial pilot training program, which started in 1965 with 23 students and three airplanes. Today, there are up to 120 students, 25 aircraft, and 14 full-time instructors. During the course of our two-year program, an average student will fly 240 hours to gain a commercial pilot certificate with an instrument rating. Aviation training at Big Bend is taken in conjunction with academic or vocational courses that the student chooses, to fulfill the requirements of the ***Associate in Arts and Science Transfer Option*** or the ***Associate in Applied Science Occupational Program***.

OPTIONS

One of the many advantages of attending Big Bend Community College's flight program is that upon completion, you will have many options available.

One option is to go immediately into a flight career. You will have the best training available and will wear the name of the Pacific Northwest's most respected program. Employers from all over the United States call to employ our graduates. Another option is to transfer to any four-year college or university to receive a degree in a field of interest. The BBCC transfer degree (AA & S) is fully accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. A third option is to take advantage of Bachelor degree programs offered on the BBCC campus by several four-year institutions. A fourth option is to take part in the transfer agreements we have with several four-year aviation programs. Our agreement with Central Washington University allows you to combine your flight training from Big Bend with the flight technology degree from CWU, making a powerful preparation for an aviation career. Students also use our agreement with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

THE FLEET

Our airplanes are among the finest trainers available. Seventeen are four-place, fully instrumented Beechcraft Sports and Sundowners. We also have three Beechcraft Bonanzas with retractable gear and a constant speed propeller for high performance and complex training. A Citabria is used to give tail wheel experience. This gives the student a good background for all types of single engine aircraft. A Beech Travelair is used for the multi-engine rating. Additional training is available in a floatplane. Two new Piper Warriors with Avidyne "glass" cockpit displays arrived in the Spring of 2006. These provide the latest in cockpit technology.

AIRPORT FACILITIES

We fly from the best training airport in the Northwest. Jet traffic is sufficient to indoctrinate our students to large aircraft traffic. Airport and radio facilities are unsurpassed, with ATIS, two tower frequencies, ground control, approach control, and the latest state of the art radar service available. All Air Traffic Control facilities are FAA operated. We also have three nearby auxiliary airfields available for training.

FLIGHT STAFF

The BBCC flight staff has an extensive and varied industrial background including: Multi-engine jet pilots, commuter airline pilots, ex-military pilots, charter pilots, seaplane pilots, helicopter pilots, and private fixed base operators. Our six senior flight instructors have over 55,000 hours of flight experience, and have 95 years of combined instruction experience at Big Bend alone! Our Junior Flight Instructors, are students who have completed our training, and were selected to serve in our Internship Program. They are highly qualified, skilled, and motivated.