

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 Professional Pilot degree from CWU, making a powerful preparation for an aviation career.

## **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. 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. Our **brand new** Seminole multi-engine aircraft provides the opportunity to train in a "state of the art" airplane with the same advanced 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 57,000 hours of flight experience, and have 101 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.

## FLIGHT CURRICULUM

Our flight curriculum consists of approximately 200 hours of flying time. If the course is completed in an average length of time, the flight lab fee should be approximately \$4,400 per quarter. (Fees are subject to change without notice.) This quarterly fee pays for approximately 15 hours of dual, 15 hours of solo flying, and four hours of training in simulators. Ten to fifteen hours of complex, high performance flying are also scheduled in one quarter during the second year at an increased rate. We use Beechcraft Bonanzas for this training. Flight fees are paid in advance, normally on a quarterly basis. Our program is designed to graduate successful students with a Commercial Pilot Certificate with an instrument rating.

## GROUND SCHOOL

Our ground school includes approximately 230 hours of formal classroom instruction divided among seven required subjects. Ground school classes are conducted in the late afternoon and evening, allowing students to integrate flight and ground school training into their college class schedule. We also have three optional ground schools to increase knowledge in aircraft systems, advanced weather theory, and flight instruction fundamentals.

## COURSE SEQUENCE

All new students attend a special Pre-Flight Ground School. The training begins a week prior to the normal college starting date. In order to ensure that students who complete the program have excellent backgrounds in the skills and knowledge necessary to fly safely, ground school and flight courses are sequential and required. Therefore, students begin the program Fall Quarter. Students entering with previous flight time or certificates may want to enter the program at a more advanced stage in the curriculum. This is usually done if entering with a Private Pilot Certificate. However, all required ground schools must be taken unless previous ground schools were completed under FAA 141 regulations.

## COMPLETION

Not all students will successfully graduate from the Aviation Program. Various factors can prevent completing the program. Admission to the program does not imply a guarantee of successful completion, graduation, or of receiving FAA certification.

## EMPLOYMENT

Many of our graduates are employed throughout the United States in general or corporate aviation. After gaining further flight experience, many have been employed by major airlines while others have made military flying a career. Aviation needs pilots. Hiring forecasts indicate excellent opportunities for well-trained pilots in the years ahead. Because of our well earned respect in the Aviation industry, several companies including FBOs, Commuter and Regional airlines consistently draw upon our graduates for employment.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications are accepted beginning November 1 for the next fall's entering class. Early submission of the required material is requested so that acceptance and placement can be verified. Upon receipt of your application (including the \$30 matriculation fee), transcripts, a **copy** of your **Class I or II Medical** (be sure to request a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> class certificate), the Aviation Department Application, and copy of your birth certificate or unexpired passport, the Admissions Office will send you a letter stating that your file is complete. At that time, they will ask you to send in a \$200 deposit which will secure your spot in the Commercial Pilot program for the next fall.

## SCHOLARSHIP/FINANCIAL AID

You may contact the Financial Aid office directly for information about available scholarships and federal/state financial aid. A scholarship list is published every winter quarter listing scholarships available for the following school year. The **Financial Aid Office**, 7662 Chanute Street, Moses Lake, WA 98837, can send you this information upon request. Their telephone number is (509) 793-2034.

If you have other questions or would like to schedule a tour (usually conducted Monday–Thursday at 2:00 PM), please contact the Flight Department at (509) 793-2241. The **Flight Department Internet address is:** <http://www.bigbendaviation.com>. *(This document was prepared 9/22/2011, and is intended to help you [plan for the 20012-2014 school years](#). All information is approximate, and subject to change without notice.)*

**We want to be part of your aviation education and career!**

# BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BBCC) COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS



## **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY TO ENTER THE COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM**

↪ Applications will be accepted beginning **November 1** for the following year's program.

**APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM WITH A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA**

- Cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher
- completed at least one year of algebra
- completed three years of English

**APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM WITH HOME-BASED INSTRUCTION**

- minimum score of 45 on the **GED** Writing Skills Test
- minimum score of 45 on the **GED** Mathematics Test

**APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM WITH A GED**

- minimum score of 45 on the Writing Skills Test
- minimum score of 45 on the Mathematics Test

**APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM WITH 15 OR MORE COLLEGE CREDITS**

- Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher

**INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS**

- meet BBCC entrance requirements
- Place in ENG116 or higher (Placement Test schedule available from the Registrar's office)

**A REVIEW PANEL WILL CONSIDER APPEALS FROM APPLICANTS WHO DO NOT MEET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS.**

# BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BBCC)

## COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM

### APPLICATION CHECKLIST

**There are seven steps to the application process for admission into the Flight program. They are:**

1. Complete a (white) Big Bend Community College application for admission form. A \$30 matriculation fee must be included with the application form. Forms are available in this packet, at the Admissions/Registration Office, 1st floor, Bldg. 1400, online or by calling (509) 793-2061.
2. Include the (golden) Commercial Pilot Program application and questionnaire paperwork with signatures.
3. Send *official transcripts* from former high schools and colleges that you attended. Transcripts received directly from students must be in envelopes that were sealed by the originating school. Veterans must make application to receive credit for previous military experience. Most schools require your signature and a fee for official transcripts. Check the school's website or call them to find out their procedure.
4. A **photocopy** of your valid FAA Class I or Class II medical/student pilot certificate without the notation "not valid where English is required". (Class III medicals will not be accepted)  
**Note:** to find an Aviation Medical Examiner please visit <http://www.faa.gov/pilots/amelocator/>
5. A **photocopy** of your birth certificate & photo ID; or current passport; or naturalization certificate and photo ID.  
**Note:** Just submit a photocopy with your application. **You will need on the first day the original documents that prove citizenship.** See the enclosed ID requirements document for additional information.
6. Submit the above documents to:  
Registrar  
Big Bend Community College  
7662 Chanute Street NE, Building 1400  
Moses Lake, Washington 98837  
Ref: AVF registration
7. A \$200 flight deposit will be required before official acceptance into the Commercial Pilot program is complete.

A student who does not register for classes within one year after being admitted must repeat the admissions procedures.

# **BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BBCC)**

## **COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM**

### **Process of Registration**

**After you have applied and been admitted into the program, follow these steps to be registered for the fall quarter.**

#### **Take the placement exams**

Math and English placement exams are administered nearly every Friday beginning at 8:00am in the Math Lab, Bldg. 1200. The cost is \$5.00 each and must be paid in advance at the Cashier's Office, Bldg. 1400, First Floor. You will need to have your receipt of payment, picture identification, and your social security number or student id number if you've already been admitted. A placement exam time schedule will be mailed with your admission letter and may also be found in the quarterly class schedule.

#### **Get financial aid information**

Financial aid forms are available from the Financial Aid Office, Bldg. 1400, First Floor or call them at (509) 793-2033. Scholarship information is also available from the Financial Aid Office staff.

#### **Advising**

Your admission letter will contain the name of the BBCC staff member assigned as your advisor. Before each quarter you shall meet with your adviser to ensure you are keeping on track with your education plan.

#### **Pay tuition and fees**

Your tuition payment will be due before the quarter begins. The class schedule will indicate the tuition payment due date. Tuition must be paid in full by the due date or you will be dropped from your classes and will have to begin the registration process again. (Financial aid awards can take up to thirty days after the first day school begins which may require some advance planning.) Tuition may be paid by cash, check or credit card (VISA & MasterCard). If paying by credit card you may pay online at [www.bigbend.edu](http://www.bigbend.edu). Click on [Student Info Kiosk](#) and then select "Pay by Credit Card".

#### **Attend New Student Orientation & Register for Classes**

New student orientation sessions are offered throughout the summer. The dates will be included with your admission letter. All new students should plan to attend. Representatives for all types of campus services and activities offer valuable information. (Students will be able to register that day following the orientation which provides the opportunity for early registration.) Class schedules are published about six weeks before the quarter ends. Schedules are available online at <http://academics.bigbend.edu/schedules/Pages/default.aspx>

#### **Buy your books**

You may buy your books at the campus bookstore or online at [www.bbccbookstore.com](http://www.bbccbookstore.com). The Bookstore may have used books for sale which can save you money. Estimated cost of books per quarter for the flight program for the school year can be viewed at <http://www.bigbendaviation.com/textbooks.xls>.

# BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BBCC)

## COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM

### APPROXIMATE COSTS PER QUARTER BASED ON AVERAGE FLIGHT TIMES (NOT MINIMUM) AND COMPLETION OF THE AA&S TRANSFER DEGREE

This sheet will give you an idea of the cost to attend the Big Bend Community College Flight Program. It is designed to show the average cost of the program (not minimum) and assumes that you will be completing the AA&S transfer degree. The cost also assumes that you will live in the college dormitory and will cook your own meals. A cafeteria is available at extra cost. **Out of state students should add approximately \$136 per quarter and international students should add \$2000 per quarter for tuition expenses.** Because it would be possible to start the program and then be unable to finish due to lack of funds, it is suggested that you fill in the "source of funds" column for at least seven quarters. Plan on at least one summer quarter.

<b>Fall Qtr-1st year</b>		Source of Funds	<b>Second Year</b>		Source of Funds
Tuition	1448.00	_____	Tuition	1400.00	_____
<u>Textbooks</u>	400.00	_____	<u>Textbooks</u>	375.00	_____
Insurance	95.00	_____	Insurance	95.00	_____
Lab Fees a/c rentals	4400.00	_____	Lab Fees a/c rental	4500.00	_____
Room & Meals	1600.00	_____	Room & Meals	1600.00	_____
<u>Headset &amp; Supplies</u>	425.00	_____	FAA Instr. Written	150.00	_____
FAA Private Written	150.00	_____	<b>Total</b>	<b>8120.00</b>	_____
<b>Total</b>	<b>8518.00</b>		<b>Second Year</b>		Source of Funds
<b>Winter Qtr – 1st year</b>		Source of Funds	Tuition	1400.00	_____
Tuition	1448.00	_____	<u>Textbooks</u>	350.00	_____
<u>Textbooks</u>	275.00	_____	Insurance	0.00	_____
Insurance	0.00	_____	Lab Fees a/c Rentals	4400.00	_____
Lab Fees & a/c rentals	4000.00	_____	Room & Meals	1600.00	_____
Room & Meals	1600.00	_____	FAA Com. Written	150.00	_____
<b>Total</b>	<b>7323.00</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>7900.00</b>	_____
<b>Spring Qtr – 1st year</b>		Source of Funds	<b>Second Year</b>		Source of Funds
Tuition	1362.00	_____	Tuition	1400.00	_____
<u>Textbooks</u>	250.00	_____	<u>Textbooks</u>	325.00	_____
Insurance	0.00	_____	Insurance	0.00	_____
Lab Fess & a/c rental	4400.00	_____	Lab Fees a/c rentals	4400.00	_____
Room & Meals	1600.00	_____	Room & Meals	1600.00	_____
<b>Total</b>	<b>7612.00</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>7725.00</b>	_____
<b>Summer Qtr – 1st year (optional)</b>		Source of Funds	<b>Second Year</b>		Source of Funds
Tuition	912.00	_____	Tuition	912.00	_____
<u>Textbooks</u>	120.00	_____	<u>Textbooks</u>	125.00	_____
Insurance	0.00	_____	Insurance	0.00	_____
Lab Fees & a/c rental	5000.00	_____	Lab Fees a/c rentals	5000.00	_____
Room & Meals	1100.00	_____	Room & Meals	1100.00	_____
<b>Total</b>	<b>7132.00</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>7137.00</b>	_____
<b>TOTAL 1ST YEAR ESTIMATE</b>			<b>TOTAL 2ND YEAR ESTIMATE</b>		
<b>\$30,585.00</b>			<b>\$30,882.00</b>		

Total Program Cost Estimate **\$61,467**

This document was updated 9-22-2011 and is intended to help you plan for the 2012-2014 school years. **All information is approximate, and is subject to change without notice.** It represents high average, realistic costs and not FAA minimum flight times. While summers are optional, most students find it necessary to attend at least one. Students who attend both summers usually complete the Commercial/ Instrument certificate and add the Flight Instructor certificate, or an additional rating such as Multi-engine or Seaplane.

**Additional Time and Ratings (Based on approximate Minimum times and examiners fees)**

Multi Engine (Piper Seminole) **\$3927**    CFI (15 hrs. B19 Beech & Citabria, 5 hrs. Bonanza) **\$4135**    Seaplane-Cessna 180 (10 hours) **\$2740**


Additional information and current rates and fees can be viewed at <http://www.bigbendaviation.com/fees.html> .

# BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BBCC) COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION



Need More Information on BBCC AVIATION Programs?

For additional information, you can write, call or send e-mail, but make sure to include your name, address and when you would be interested in starting the flight program.

You can write to: 

BBCC Aviation Department  
Building 3000  
7662 Chanute St. NE  
Moses Lake, WA 98837-3299

Or

Call the BBCC Aviation Office, (509)793-2241 (toll free 1.877.745.1212 ext 2241) or  
Send an e-mail message to [aviation@bigbend.edu](mailto:aviation@bigbend.edu)

## **TOURS OF OUR FACILITIES**

We encourage and recommend that you visit our facilities. Just give Connie (509-793-2241) a call and she will be happy to set up a date and time with one of our instructors for a VIP tour. The instructor will be happy to explain how our program works, our Training Course Outline, Degree Options, and show you our Aircraft. If the weather allows, you may ride along with an Instructor and student on an actual lesson. Flights usually last about an hour and 15 minutes. In addition to the tour option, we attend many air shows throughout the Northwest. Email us and we will send you our air show schedule. We also attend many high school career fairs, so watch your school calendars, chances are we will be there. Ask your school counselor for Big Bend Aviation Program information. Come check us out!

Commonly used phone numbers:

BBCC Phone Number (switchboard) 509-793-2222

Extension numbers are listed below:\*

Admissions 2061

Bookstore 2036

Business Office 2024

Counseling 2035

Financial Aid 2033

New Student Orientation 2035

Veteran's Counselor 2032

\*Note: All extension numbers may be dialed directly by using Area Code (509) and prefix 793-

# BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BBCC)

## COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM

### DIRECTIONS TO OUR FACILITIES

Please visit <http://www.bigbendaviation.com/directions.html> for maps and additional directions to our facilities.

Coming from Seattle on I-90,

1. Take the WA-17 exit- EXIT 179 Marked MOSES LAKE/OTHELLO. 0.3 miles
2. Turn LEFT onto WA-17 N. Continue to follow WA-17 N. 7.3 miles
3. Turn RIGHT onto Randolph Road. 0.4 miles
4. Turn left on College Parkway. 0.4 miles
5. Turn LEFT after baseball fields then immediate RIGHT <0.1 miles
6. End at Building 3000, 7662 Chanute St Ne, Moses Lake, WA 98837-3293

Coming from Spokane on I-90,

1. Take the WA-17 exit- EXIT 179 Marked MOSES LAKE/OTHELLO. 0.3 miles
2. Turn RIGHT onto WA-17 N. Continue to follow WA-17 N. 7.3 miles
3. Turn RIGHT onto Randolph Road. 0.4 miles
4. Turn left on College Parkway. 0.4 miles
5. Turn LEFT after baseball fields then immediate RIGHT <0.1 miles
6. End at Building 3000, 7662 Chanute St Ne, Moses Lake, WA 98837-3293

<http://www.bigbendaviation.com/205BigBendmap.jpg>



**BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BBCC)**  
**COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM**  
**U.S. CITIZENS AND NATIONALS ID REQUIREMENTS**

All US Citizens and nationals must present evidence of U.S. citizenship by one of the following before you actually fly. For most students this amounts to: their birth certificate and driver license; Passport; or Naturalization Certificate and driver license. Note: check the TSA website closely, they are very specific on types of documents acceptable (raised seals and etc.)

**Evidence of U.S. citizenship must be shown by one of the following:**

- Valid, unexpired U.S. passport.
- Original birth certificate of the United States, American Samoa, or Swains Island and government-issued picture ID.
- Original certification of birth abroad with raised seal (Form FS-545 or DS-1350) and government-issued picture ID.
- Original certificate of U.S. citizenship with raised seal (Form N-560 or N-561), or a Certificate of Repatriation (Form N-581), and government-issued picture ID.
- Original U.S. Naturalization Certificate with raised seal (Form N-550 or N-570) and a government-issued picture ID.

Please include a photocopy of your proof of US Citizenship with your application packet. When you show up on the first day of classes you will be required to present your original documents for review.

*Note: **You will not be able to fly until** your original documents have been reviewed and an endorsement is given in your logbook from the Chief Flight Instructor or someone assigned by the Chief Flight Instructor. Therefore you will also need to bring these to the first day of school.*

If you are not a U.S. Citizen please visit our website to review information on how to apply to the Commercial Pilot Program as an International Student by visiting [www.bigbendaviation/international.html](http://www.bigbendaviation/international.html) .

# BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BBCC)

## COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM

### Documentation Requirements for Aliens

TSA defines an alien as any person who is not a citizen or national of the United States. This definition includes resident aliens (green-card holders) and visa holders in the United States. These requirements also apply to aliens receiving training outside the United States for a U.S. airman certificate. **Aliens — Flight school and alien registration**

- Flight school has registered with TSA for training aliens. (Note: Big Bend Community College is a TSA registered school)
- Alien has registered with TSA to receive flight training.

### Aliens — Flight school recordkeeping requirements

Flight schools and instructors that provide flight training to aliens must keep certain records for five years, including:

- The photograph of the candidate (same photograph sent to TSA).
- A copy of the approval sent by the TSA confirming the candidate's eligibility for flight training. (Both the candidate and the flight training provider will receive an e-mail with the subject "Permission to Initiate Training/Fingerprint Receipt" when all of the required information has been received and verified by TSA.)
- Candidate's full name, gender, and date of birth.
- Candidate's ID number created by the TSA.
- Copy of candidate's valid, unexpired passport and visa.
- Copy of all previous passports and visas held by the candidate and all the information necessary to obtain a passport and visa.
- Candidate's country of birth, current country or countries of citizenship, and each previous country of citizenship, if any.
- Candidate's requested dates, type, and location of training.
- Candidate's current U.S. pilot certificate and certificate number (if any).
- Candidate's current address and phone number and each address for the previous five years.
- Copy of receipt confirming that the \$130 was paid (printable from TSA Web site after candidate makes payment).
- For DoD endorsees, a copy of the required written statement and picture ID.

Visit AOPA's Web site ( [http://www.aopa.org/tsa\\_rule/#aliens](http://www.aopa.org/tsa_rule/#aliens) ) for a step-by-step registration process for aliens.

## → Four-Year Degree Opportunities for BBCC Aviation Students →

BBCC flight students have always tended to pursue a four-year degree. This is because the major airlines give preference to those with a Baccalaureate degree. During the two years that BBCC students are learning to fly, they usually complete the Associate of Arts and Science (AA&S) transfer degree. This gives them the opportunity to transfer to any four-year institution and complete a degree of their choice. While the airlines prefer a Baccalaureate degree, they usually don't care in what subject you major.

The following is a list of five options BBCC Aviation students have to complete their Baccalaureate degree. Essential to most of these options is the completion of the Associate of Arts and Science (DTA) transfer degree. This is a powerful academic transfer tool and is basically the general education requirements of most all four-year degrees. It is almost always the best choice for flight students to obtain a transfer degree, while completing the Commercial Pilot Flight training. It is also recommended that BBCC Aviation students complete the optional Associates in Applied Science degree with a Commercial Pilot specialization.

### Option #1 Stay at Big Bend and Complete a Bachelor of Science Degree in Professional Pilot or Aviation Management

Central Washington University is teaching the required upper division courses necessary for their Professional Pilot degree **here on our campus**. They use the Big Bend Community College classrooms and teach two or more courses each term. The degree begins during your first two years as you take specific courses while completing your BBCC transfer degree. Then during the third and fourth year you take the upper division courses required from CWU to obtain the degree. This also gives you more time to obtain additional pilot training (CFI, multi, seaplane, etc.) with Big Bend. If you are selected as a Junior Flight Instructor at BBCC this option appears almost tailor-made for you. Students who complete this option will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Professional Pilot from CWU while staying in Moses Lake. However, if you choose the Flight Officer specialization, at least one year is required on the Ellensburg campus because the required simulators are located there.

### Option #2 Transferring to Central Washington University's branch campus in Moses Lake

CWU also offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration on the BBCC campus. This option offers the student a non-aviation degree in business while staying in Moses Lake. The flight student takes prerequisites while completing the BBCC transfer degree. Then the CWU upper division courses are taken here on our campus. This also give the student more time to obtain additional pilot training (CFI, multi, seaplane, etc.) with Big Bend. If chosen to be a Junior Flight Instructor this is another great option. Most classes are offered in the evenings and weekends. If you later get a job flying in the Seattle area, CWU has five campuses in the Puget Sound area where this degree may be completed. This degree could also be completed at the Ellensburg campus.

For more information on the CWU programs offered on the Moses Lake campus, call Kim Ostrowski at 509-793-2355

### **Option #3 Transferring to Central Washington University's Professional Pilot Program at their Ellensburg campus.**

Central Washington University (CWU) located in Ellensburg, Washington, offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Professional Pilot. These same degrees as described in option #1 are offered at their Ellensburg campus also. Students select one of four aviation oriented technical specializations. They combine their flight training received from Big Bend with the upper division courses in Professional Pilot at CWU and have a strong career preparation, recognized throughout the industry. The Flight Officer Specialization requires at least one year on the Ellensburg campus because the required simulators are located there. For more information go to the following aviation site: [www.bigbendaviation.com/cwu](http://www.bigbendaviation.com/cwu)

### **Option #4 Transferring to any four-year institution.**

As always, BBCC flight students may transfer to any College or University and continue their education. Usually you will enter with "Junior" status. Occasionally, a program of choice will have "pre-requisites," meaning that certain courses must be completed before you will be allowed to enter that field of study. Once you know which college you will attend, notify your advisor both at that college and the flight program, so that the required classes will be completed as part of your AA&S degree. This option will usually not be in aviation and will give you greater flexibility so that you have more than one area of expertise to use in your professional career.

### **Option #5 Go right to work and complete your degree on-line.**

Some students choose to go immediately into the workforce at the end of the two year program. If they want to complete the Baccalaureate they might choose to work on that degree on-line. This gives some flexibility to progress at your own pace and work on the courses when time is available. This isn't the best method for everyone, and requires that an individual is self motivated to complete the required courses. However, some enjoy this type of education and find that it allows them the ability to build flight time, especially at a career level job while completing their education.

The Big Bend Community College commercial pilot program will give you the options to help you decide whatever method is best suited to your education needs. You are not locked into any one program track and usually do not have to commit to a particular education method until you have completed the two years at Big Bend. Options to go many directions are a valuable resource that should not be overlooked. And, our option to compete a Bachelor of Science degree, in Professional Pilot from Central Washington University is especially an appealing way to prepare yourself for the aviation career of your choice.

For more information on the shared program with BBCC and CWU, contact Mr. Bryan McKune at 509-793-2419 or email him at [bryanm@bigbend.edu](mailto:bryanm@bigbend.edu) .

# FREQUENTLY ASKED AVIATION QUESTIONS

## → Do pilots have to have 20/20 vision?

No. For any class of medical your vision can be less than 20/20 as long as it is correctable to 20/20 with glasses or contacts. Check with a FAA medical doctor to determine your eligibility. While airlines and the military prefer 20/20 vision or better, some airlines hire pilots with up to 20/100, correctable to 20/20. Other aviation jobs allow for poorer vision, corrected to 20/20.

## → As soon as I get my commercial license, can I fly for the major airlines?

Legally you can be hired as a first officer. However, the airlines usually require experience before they hire. A commercial license is a step towards working for the major airlines as a flight crewmember. A commercial license allows you to fly in only certain flight operations for compensation. To fly as a captain for the major airlines, a person needs an airline transport pilot rating and be appropriately rated for the aircraft type (i.e.: B-737, A320, etc.). However, the person must first have a commercial license and an instrument rating before you can get an ATP rating, so the commercial license is a necessary step. The time between getting the commercial license and being qualified to fly for a major airline varies greatly, but is usually around three to five years.

## → Do most airlines hire only military pilots?

No. Although currently most major airline pilots are ex-military, the trends are changing and more civilian pilots are being hired. Fewer pilots are available from the military so airlines are hiring more from a selection of civilian pilots. In 1998, more than 60% of the pilots hired were non-military. Today, the ratio is about 30% military and 70% civilian.

## → Does being a pilot require a lot of math skills and science background?

Some aspects of aviation require an understanding of basic math and science principles. High school algebra, geometry and basic physics will give you the educational background necessary to understand basic flight principles. Without this background more studying and one-on-one instruction may be required. However, most math-related activities in aviation are assisted with graphs and charts, and can be worked with a calculator.

## → How long will it take me to get my license?

Big Bend is a structured two-year program with the summer quarters optional. The first year prepares the student for their private license, which is usually earned in May or June; students must have their private license no later than the end of the first summer in order to return to the program. The second year prepares students for their commercial license and their instrument rating. When they receive these, usually in the Spring or Summer of the second year, they officially graduate from the program. As previously stated, summers are optional but often needed to complete the program. Additional ratings such as seaplane, multi-engine or instructor may be sought after the commercial program is completed; an additional rating usually takes a quarter to complete.

## → Is flying dangerous?

Although risks are involved in aviation and accidents can occur, there are procedures and precautions to minimize the danger. Safety is emphasized from the start at Big Bend and the students are constantly tested with hypothetical or simulated situations. Another key factor to safety is judgment. Instructors cannot teach every situation that might occur in flight; they provide basic procedures and important considerations. Students then need to use their judgment for the situation and apply what has been taught.

→ **Is flying easy?**

There are many aspects to flying; it requires more than just the physical skill of flying an airplane. Flying also requires mental concentration and alertness, combined with the ability to think ahead, anticipate and analyze while at the same time executing routine cockpit procedures. The ability to visualize the physical relationships involved in aircraft maneuvers is also an important attribute for pilots. A pilot cannot make an airplane do maneuvers that she/he does not understand. Flying is not necessarily hard, but it does require many skills and attributes. Some of these can be taught, but other skills the student needs to already have. The most important quality needed is motivation. Without motivation, the physical and mental attributes seldom reach the required levels.

As the requirements of aviation and the complexity of aircraft have increased over the years, so have the requirements placed on the pilot. A willingness to keep up with the requirements and stay informed is crucial to this career. As a young pilot moves through the ranks of private to commercial and beyond, he/she will need to stay current in the changes of aviation and the aircraft flown. Because of this, the learning process is never ending.

An important part of an aviation career is the ability to perform while being tested and re-tested. Many people find it difficult to continually be examined and evaluated. This causes many people to drop out of the career somewhere along the way. Some of the students who earn their licenses from Big Bend may go on to other fields and never use the skills they have acquired. Others may decide flying for the airlines is not their goal and pursue some other facet of aviation such as cargo, instructing, corporate, aerial photography or agricultural spraying.

→ **How will my career choice affect my lifestyle?**

As the world of aviation has grown over the past decades so have the requirements to be a pilot. The days of the stereotype silk scarf and leather jacketed barnstorming pilots are over and aviation is now considered a profession. A modern pilot needs to display an image of competency and professionalism that comes from years of training and experience.

A display of responsibility is also crucial. Drug use is unacceptable and drug testing has been introduced into the aviation industry. Alcohol use must be kept at a minimum; the rule for general aviation is eight hours between consumption and flying. However, most airlines require twenty-four hours. Smoking tobacco may be allowed, although most companies prefer to hire a non-smoker. Physical health in general is important for both passing the medical exam and to handle the stress and long hours often associated with a career in aviation.

Physical appearance is also important. Short hair is required for men, a neat style for women, weight should be in proportion to height, clothing needs to be in good taste, and a general clean appearance is important to maintain the image of a commercial pilot. This conformity does create limitations in ones lifestyle, but the benefits of the career far outweigh the costs.

There are many benefits to being a commercial pilot, however over the last ten years they have decreased in some areas. An airline captain flying for a major airline might make a six-digit income and work only ten to fourteen days a month, while a pilot working for a smaller or newer airline may earn only a modest five figure salary for the same amount of work. In reference to the work schedule, a captain may only work two weeks out of the month, but most of those nights are spent away from home and family. Also, often an additional day or two is necessary to travel to and from the home base where the flight originates.

A commercial pilot can have a very comfortable life and an excellent job, however it does set limitations and require sacrifices.

## **FINANCIAL AID      FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

The following questions and answers are intended for students who are looking to attend college for the first time. If you are new to the process and need additional assistance, please feel free to contact the financial aid office at the school you are most interested in attending for additional assistance.

**1. Who is eligible for financial aid?** If you are a U.S. citizen or a permanent non-resident of the United States, you are eligible for some form of financial assistance.

**2. What is financial aid?** Scholarships and grants (free monies) student loans, and student employment programs are available to help students pay for their college education. Most financial aid is based on financial “need”, the inability to cover the full cost of attending college. Financial aid funding for “need-based” aid comes from the federal and state governments, as well as from the school. Academic or talent scholarships are generally awarded by the college or university directly. If you are offered financial aid from more than one program, you are not obligated to accept the entire award. You may opt to decline loans, for instance and accept only the grants and scholarships.

### **3. How do I apply for financial aid?**

a. Apply for admission to the college(s) that you are interested in attending. This application is usually completed in the fall of your senior year in high school for the next academic year. If you are already out of high school and looking to start college, contact the admission office of the school you are interested in attending for application deadlines..

b. Secure a Personal Identification Number (PIN) from [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov). This will be your electronic signature when you complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students whose parents are required to provide their information on the FAFSA should also apply for their own PIN.

c. Complete the FAFSA at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). This application is available, beginning January 1, 2011 for the 2011-2012 academic year. The FAFSA will ask you to provide information about your 2010 family’s income, taxes and current assets, household size and number of family members attending college.

d. Some schools may also require an additional financial aid application for their own financial aid programs. Check with your school, as this requirement may change from year to year. See <http://www.wfaa.org/docs/students/FinancialAidDeadlines1112.pdf> elsewhere on this website for FAFSA deadlines for Washington colleges and universities.

**4. My parents are divorced. Which parent’s information should be on the my FAFSA?** Information should be given for the parent you lived with the most in the last 12 months. If you didn’t live with either parent or lived with each an equal amount of time, information should be provided by the parent who provided you the greater amount of your support during the last 12 months. Please note that if this parent has remarried, your step-parent’s information must be provided as well.

**5. I’ve already moved out of my parent’s home and support myself. Do they still need to provide their information on the FAFSA?** Generally, yes. If you are under the age of 24 (as of December 31,2010), are unmarried, not supporting dependent children of your own, and not a veteran or active duty military, you are considered dependent for financial aid purpose and parents must provide their information n your FAFSA. If you or your parent(s) are in a situation which makes it impossible for your parents to provide their information, contact the school’s financial aid office for assistance.

**6. Do I need to have filed my tax returns to complete the FAFSA?** While it is good to file your FAFSA with the actual income and tax information from your IRS form, it is better to apply on time and update your FAFSA after you complete your taxes instead of filing late with accurate information. If your tax filing status on the FAFSA is “will file”, the school will know that your information is just an estimate.

**7. The FAFSA generated an EFC number. What is this?** The EFC is the *Expected Family contribution*, which is the dollar amount that the federal government calculates your family can contribute toward your college

costs next year, based on the family income and assets, size of your household, and number of family members in college (not counting parents).

**8. This FAFSA generated EFC was based on last year's income. What should I do if my financial situation has worsened or I have an unusual situation?** Contact the financial aid office at the schools you wish to attend. Financial aid administrators can opt to calculate a new EFC, based on supplemental information they may ask you to provide about your situation.

**9. How is this EFC used?** This EFC number is subtracted from the cost of attendance at the school you attend to determine your eligibility for need-based financial aid. Therefore, your eligibility for aid will be different from school to school, based on the differing cost at each school. In a nutshell:

**Need/eligibility = Cost of attendance - EFC.**

**10. What is Cost of Attendance?** Cost of attendance includes the cost of tuition and fees, living expenses, books and school supplies, and personal and transportation expenses). Most of these expenses will be relatively consistent from school to school, except tuition costs, which can vary widely. This means your eligibility for need-based assistance may be more at the higher cost private or out-of-state schools, and potentially less at your local community college. Last year, in Washington state, the average cost of attendance at:

- Public 2 year community colleges was about \$16,000
- Public 4 year college or university was about \$20,000
- Private 4 year college or university was about \$38,000
- For profit proprietary or vocational colleges varies according to program. You must contact the school directly to find out the cost of the program you are interested in pursuing.

**11. How much financial aid can I receive?** This amount varies, based on the cost of attendance at each school, the programs available and the amount of funds available at each school and when you apply. For instance, if your EFC is \$1500, your financial aid eligibility at the lower cost community colleges would be about \$14,500 (\$16,000 cost of attendance minus \$1500 EFC = \$14,500), while you could receive an aid offer of \$36,500 at a private university (\$38,000 cost of attendance minus \$1500 EFC = \$36,500) . However, the actual dollar amount of your award could be impacted by the amount of funding available at a particular school, and the lateness of your application at one school versus another. For maximum consideration of aid, apply early.

**12. What happens after I have been accepted for admission at my school(s) and completed the FAFSA?** You will receive an offer of financial aid from each of the schools for which you have completed their application process. Remember that some schools will require you to provide additional paperwork to complete their application process. Once this has been completed, you will need to:

- a. Make a decision on the school you will attend if you applied to more than one,
- b. Accept your financial aid award, and
- c. Complete the necessary paper work or on-line steps to complete the processing of your financial aid award.
- d. If you've applied to more than one school, be sure to notify the schools you will not be attending.

**13. When will I receive the offer for financial aid?** This will vary greatly from school to school. However, if you applied by the school's application deadline for Fall term, you can expect to receive an offer of financial aid beginning in February from the private colleges and universities, with aid offer from the four year public universities following shortly, and community colleges shortly thereafter. Contact the school if your enrollment will begin during a term other than Fall.

**14. Do I need to reapply for financial aid each year?** Yes, you must complete a new FAFSA each January for the next academic year. Your eligibility for aid could change if your FAFSA information changes from your previous year's information.