



# the CADET FLIGHT PLAN



## FIRST CADET YEAR

1. Join CAP
2. Squadron Meetings
3. O-Flight
4. Rank-Up
5. Encampment  
**CEAP** can help you financially

## SECOND\* CADET YEAR

6. National Flight Academy  
**TOP Cadets** can help you financially
7. Nat'l Cadet Special Activities  
**Cadet Lift** can help you financially

## THIRD\* CADET YEAR & BEYOND

8. Private Pilot License  
**Cadet Wings** can help you financially
9. College **ROTC, Service Academies, or Scholarships** can help you financially
10. Professional Pilot

## CADET INVEST FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CADETS

Cadet Encampment Assistance Program (CEAP)  
College Scholarships  
Endowed Flight Scholarships

Take-Off Program "TOP Cadets"  
Cadet Lift  
Cadet Wings



Check out CAPP 60-43, Cadet Wings Student Guide for more program details.

[GoCivilAirPatrol.com/CadetInvest](http://GoCivilAirPatrol.com/CadetInvest)

## WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE MYSELF AN IDEAL CANDIDATE?

When CAP reviews applications for Cadet Wings, we have an ideal candidate in mind. What can you do now to become competitive? Rank up! Participate actively as a cadet and earn promotions. Have a good academic record. You don't have to be an A student to qualify for Cadet Wings, but we invest only in cadets who are successful in school. Of course, you knew we'd say all of that, so what else can you do?

1. Complete the free Sporty's Learn to Fly Course available to CAP cadets, thanks to our friends at the EAA Young Eagles program.
2. Complete the free EAA virtual flight academy, also available courtesy of EAA Young Eagles.
3. Pass the FAA written exam, the Airman Knowledge Test. Again, our partners at EAA Young Eagles may be able to reimburse your FAA examination costs.

4. Complete CAP's Aircraft Ground Handling course via eServices.
  5. Obtain your FAA Medical Certificate, 3rd Class.
- If you have attained a Solo rating in powered or glider aircraft, that'll make you even more competitive.

\* Minimum age requirements apply. "Second year" and "third year" headings are for illustration purposes only.

## The military's stunning fighter pilot shortage: One in four billets is empty

Stephen Losey April 11, 2018

The military's fighter pilot shortfall is reaching alarming proportions.

The Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps are each short about a 25 percent of the fighter pilots they need in crucial areas, according to a Government Accountability Office report.

Over the last two years, the Air Force has particularly sounded alarm bells over its pilot shortfalls. The service has stood up a team led by a one-star general to find ways to stem the bleeding of its pilot ranks. Efforts include dramatically increasing retention bonuses, cutting out paperwork and other non-flying duties that keep pilots out of the cockpit, and taking many other steps intended to keep pilots in the service.

Last November, Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson said the service was short 2,000 of all its pilots, or about 10 percent, and sounded a dire prediction of what it would lead to. "With 2,000 pilots short, it'll break the force," Wilson said.

Sean Worrell / USAF



## Airlines are 'desperate' for new pilots

Rachel Premack Sept. 5, 2018

Vesselin Slaveykov, a JetBlue Airways pilot, finished pilot school just seven years ago. But he says the opportunities available to even newer pilots today are way beyond what he experienced at the beginning of his career.

Some regional airlines, where most pilots get their start, are trying to lure new folks to the career with \$50,000 sign-on bonuses and tuition reimbursement for mandatory pilot training, which can take years and costs about \$75,000.

That's an about-face from only a few years ago for those small carriers. GoJet Airlines, which flies to cities like Durango, Colorado, and Traverse City, Michigan, had a first-year pay of \$20,504 in 2014. Now, new pilots with GoJet earn \$61,512, including benefits and a sign-on bonus.

It's thanks to a critical shortage of pilots that has come to a peak this year. The shortage has been caused by a recent increase in the flying hours required for commercial pilots, the aging pilot workforce, fewer new pilots coming out of the military, and a general decline of interest in the career.

Spencer Platt / Getty Images



## Texas Cadet is First Graduate of Cadet Wings Program

CAP.NEWS Jan. 24, 2019

Cadet Emma Herrington today became the first CAP cadet to earn her private pilot's certificate through the new Cadet Wings program funded by the U.S. Air Force.

"I had no idea my first flight with CAP would lead to many more. O-flights are the most important part of a cadet's journey through CAP, and most importantly, they are free."

Admission into Cadet Wings is ultra-competitive and based on merit. Herrington explains, "It gives aviation-crazy cadets who have drive and discipline the chance to get their license. It's the answer for those who cannot afford flight training but are desperate to fly."

"The best thing about Cadet Wings is that you're trained to fly CAP aircraft and all expenses are covered. Without the help of Cadet Wings, I would have been unable to afford my flight training," she said.

Civil Air Patrol



**Cadet Wings is the answer for those who cannot afford flight training but are desperate to fly.**