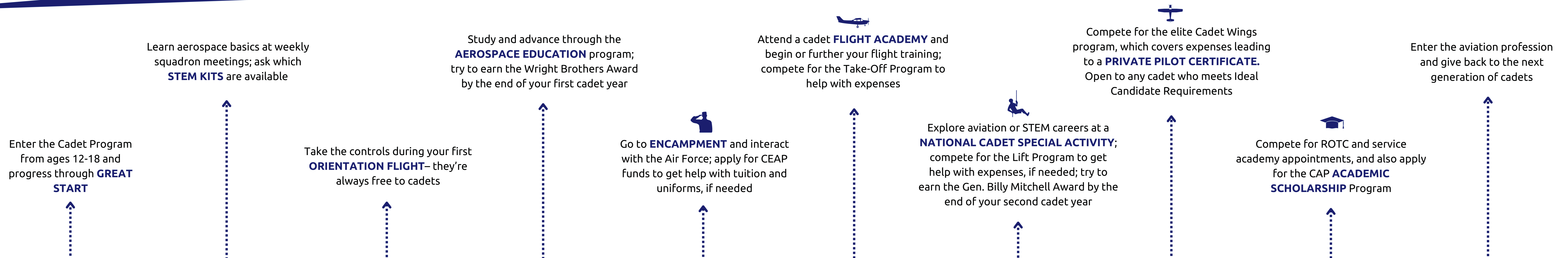


# CADET FLIGHT PLAN

## for AVIATION CAREERS



### EXAMPLE CADET PROGRESSION



### FIRST-YEAR CADET

Join CAP from ages 12-18, participate in a weekly squadron meeting, one weekend activity per month, and a one-week overnight activity each summer. Out-of-pocket expenses average \$300 to \$600 annually, but financial assistance is often available.

Read about the fundamentals of aerospace science – airfoils, engines, navigation, weather, etc. as you advance through a system of achievements designed to transform you into a dynamic American and aerospace leader.

Learn from a mentor and through hands-on activities. CAP's adult volunteers include many pilots and STEM experts. Make friends with other air-minded youth who'll provide peer support during your journey. Take the controls during an orientation flight in a single-engine aircraft or glider with each

flight focusing on a different theme that reinforces what you've studied in the textbooks. Cadets sometimes receive orientation flights in military aircraft or even hot-air balloons.

Attend a week-long, overnight encampment for an immersion into the full challenges and opportunities of cadet life. Interact with Air Force and aviation professionals as you explore a variety of aviation and STEM-related careers through tours and activities in the control tower, at the engine shop, or aboard a flight simulator.\* Develop leadership skills to prepare for success in adult life. Cadet Encampment Assistance Program (CEAP) funds can help get you there.

\*Activities vary based on the encampment host facility's resources

### SECOND-YEAR CADET

In the second year, you'll continue building your aerospace knowledge and developing your leadership skills. You also may begin formal flight training in a single-engine aircraft or glider aircraft during a week-long flight academy, a cadets-only environment where the instructors are specially prepared to lead young aviators past orientation into basic flight training. Selection for CAP flight academies is competitive, so you'll need to have been participating in your squadron and ranking up to earn a slot. The Take-Off Program can help with your expenses.

While the encampment introduced you to the aerospace field at large, National Cadet Special Activities (NCSAs) concentrate on a single career field. You can explore a career in military aviation, engineering, aircraft manufacturing, space operations, cyber defense, and other opportunities. Stay active in your squadron to give you the best opportunity at receiving a slot. The Lift Program can help with your expenses.

### THIRD-YEAR CADET

Leverage your cadet experience as you enter college, a technical field, or the workforce. CAP offers academic scholarships, and the Cadet Wings program can help with training that leads to a private pilot certificate.

If you're considering military service, the service academies and ROTC (especially Air Force Academy and Air Force ROTC) look favorably upon cadets who have worked hard in CAP and earned the Gen. Billy Mitchell Award. CAP cadets have a special avenue for an Air Force Academy appointment through our Air Force Preparatory School recommendation program. Finally, if you enlist in the Air Force and have earned the Gen. Billy Mitchell Award as a cadet, you'll be promoted to airman first class (E-3) after completing basic training.

### CADETINVE\$T FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



**CADET ENCAMPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CEAP)**  
Needs-based program helping cadets with tuition and uniform expenses; priority given to greatest need and first-year cadets.



**TAKE-OFF PROGRAM (TOP)**  
Needs-based program supporting cadets at week-long powered and glider flight academies.



**LIFT PROGRAM**  
Needs-based program supporting cadets at week-long career explorations (NCSAs).



**CADET WINGS PROGRAM**  
Merit-based program for cadets pursuing a private pilot certificate (PPC).



**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**  
Merit-based program supporting cadet education at colleges and career schools.