



1. WHEN DOES MACC'S ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS)-AVIATION COMMERCIAL PILOT PROGRAM BEGIN?

Pending all final necessary approvals, the first cohort will begin August 2025. Students can begin taking general education courses at any time.

2. WHERE IS THE PROGRAM LOCATED?

All aviation ground and flight courses will be located in Columbia, Missouri. The aviation ground classes will be held in a newly remodeled space at the Columbia Regional Airport (11300 South Airport Drive, Columbia, Missouri, 65201). The flight courses will be held next door to the MACC aviation space at the Columbia Jet Center (11200 South Airport Drive, Columbia, Missouri, 65201).

3. HOW LONG DOES THE PROGRAM TAKE TO COMPLETE?

The program is designed to be completed in two years (six semesters), including summer sessions. An optional seventh add-on semester may **potentially** be offered, allowing students to earn the Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) Rating. This rating enables students to accumulate flight hours and earn income towards pursuing other FAA ratings.

4. WHAT DEGREE AND CERTIFICATIONS WILL A STUDENT EARN AT THE END OF THE TRAINING?

Upon completing the six-semester program, students should have three Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) ratings – Private Pilot, Instrument, and Commercial Pilot – along with the AAS degree. Please note that students are **not** guaranteed to obtain those FAA ratings within the six-semester time period. Completing MACC's AAS degree does **not** guarantee success for passing the FAA written examinations and the FAA Check Rides.

5. HOW DO I GET INTO THE PROGRAM?

The Aviation Commercial Pilot program is a selective admission program. The application packet will be available at <https://www.macc.edu/aviation/> by mid-January 2025. Applicants should know by April 30 if they have been accepted into the program.

6. IS AN FAA MEDICAL EXAM REQUIRED?

Applicants must submit a First Class FAA Medical Certificate **prior** to acceptance into the program. The exam must be conducted by an FAA-approved Aviation Medical Examiner (AME) and costs approximately \$100-\$200 depending on the selected examiner. A list of approved AMEs can be found at the following link: <https://www.faa.gov/pilots/amelocator>. Click on "Search for an Aviation Medical Examiner (AME)" in the first paragraph. Select "AME" from the "Designee Types" dropdown list and follow the remaining steps as applicable. **The medical exam must be no older than one year at the August start date.**

7. WHAT IS THE COST OF THE PROGRAM?

The program is a large investment; students should be prepared to make a strong commitment in order to earn a substantial return on that investment. Program costs are still being finalized, but students should expect to spend approximately \$80,000-\$85,000 to complete the six-semester program. The seventh add-on semester will average \$7,000.

8. IS FINANCIAL AID, A+ SCHOLARSHIPS, OR VETERANS BENEFITS POSSIBLE FOR FUNDING?

Pending approval, this program will be eligible for financial aid. A+ scholarship recipients can apply funds to tuition. However, the scholarship does not cover lab and flight training fees. Students who need additional assistance to may explore alternative options, such as Federal student loans (FAFSA required) or a private student loan. Additional scholarships may be available. VA benefits are not currently available, as becoming a VA-approved flight program is a lengthy and complex process. It is MACC's goal to be VA-approved in the future.