



Ray Aviation Flight Scholarship Application  
EAA Chapter 640  
Wausau WI  
[rayscholars@eaa640.com](mailto:rayscholars@eaa640.com)  
eaa640.com

Congratulations on taking the first step toward applying for our flight training scholarship!

Earning a pilot's certificate is both an exciting opportunity and a serious commitment. It demands dedication, focused study, persistence, and an eagerness to learn. While the journey is challenging, it is also incredibly rewarding. We are excited for you!

**This application must be completed and submitted to EAA Chapter 640 by March 31, 2025.**

Two Private Pilot Flight Training Scholarship opportunities with a maximum scholarship award of \$12,000 each are currently available for students ages 16 to 19. Successful flight training depends on each student's abilities and commitment. While some may complete their certificate within the scholarship's funding limits, others may need to cover additional costs.

If awarded, EAA International will provide funds incrementally to EAA Chapter 640, which will administer them on behalf of the student pilot. Continued funding depends on timely progress reports and meeting training milestones (see attached reference materials).

Scholars must commit to a minimum two volunteer hours per month with EAA Chapter 640. Private Pilot applicants must obtain a third-class medical certificate and a Student Pilot Certificate before training begins. We strongly encourage applicants to do this before or while applying so there are no surprises. Those looking to go further into aviation (Commercial/CFI, etc) should get a second-class medical right away.

A local EAA member will assist scholarship recipients in meeting these requirements if needed. Additional information may be requested as part of the selection process.

For more details on the Ray Scholarship, visit [EAA Ray Scholarship](#). To learn more about EAA Chapter 640, visit [eaa640.com](http://eaa640.com)

We're excited that you're applying with EAA 640!

For questions, contact:

Jessica Schaefer, Secretary OR Pete Kanikula, President  
Email: [rayscholars@eaa640.com](mailto:rayscholars@eaa640.com)



**Submittal Instructions:**

Applications should be submitted via email to rayscholars@eaa640.com or directly and only to Chapter Secretary Jessica Schaefer no later than March 31, 2025. No exceptions will be made. Please do not hand or email entries to other chapter members. Entries will have personally identifying information removed before being given to the scholarship committee.

**Application Requirements:**

- Applicants must be at least 16 years old before May 1, 2025, and no older than 19 on September 15, 2025.
- Applicants should review the expectations and criteria below before submission.

**Criteria:**

- Applicants must demonstrate not only an interest but a passion for aviation and eagerness to obtain a Private Pilot certificate and demonstrate that determination and commitment to follow the program to completion.
- Have or obtain a valid FAA Medical
- Have or obtain a FAA Student Pilot Certificate (strongly encouraged prior to application, required after acceptance)
- Partake in a minimum of two hours of chapter volunteer service per month
- Submit regular progress reports during monthly check-ins (in person at gatherings strongly encouraged)
- Reach designated flight training milestones, as outlined by EAA's training timeline:
  - Start Training within 2 months of EAA International approval
  - Solo within 3 months of the award
  - Pass Written Knowledge Test within 6 months of starting \*strongly encouraged sooner
  - Pass Practical Flight Test for appropriate license within 12 months of award

I, \_\_\_\_\_, understand and agree to the above criteria. I and my parent/guardian further understand that failure to complete each milestone above within the time indicated will result in payment or repayment due up to the full value of the award to EAA Chapter 640 and/or continued training payments / flight hours and training costs out of pocket.

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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You may use a separate sheet to type your response as long as all responses are covered.

Applicant Information:

SCHOLAR/APPLICANT INFORMATION

First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT / LEGAL GUARDIAN INFORMATION

First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly tell us about yourself? Why do you want to fly?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are your career goals, aspirations, or dreams for your future in aviation? Do you understand the mission of EAA - how do you see yourself in that mission?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This scholarship provides up to \$12,000 in flight training expenses, how will you fund further training or flight expenses?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Education:

- Grade Level and School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_
- Academic Achievements or activities (in and outside of school) that you are proud of:

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Aviation Involvement and Experience:

- Are you an EAA Young Eagle? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_
- Are you a current EAA 640 Member? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (don't answer no - join! Contact Terri Conrad to join and then start participating and meeting members right away!)
- Describe any activities you have participated in with EAA Chapter 640, Learn Build Fly, or other aviation organizations:

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- Any previous flight or ground school training: YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_
  - If YES, please describe this training and the locations:

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- How many hours per week would you expect to have available for flight training and ground school if awarded this scholarship?
  - During the active school year: \_\_\_\_\_ hours/week
  - During school break periods: \_\_\_\_\_ hours/week
  - If not in school/non-traditional school: \_\_\_\_\_ hours/week

See the essay requirement on the next page. You may also submit up to 2 letters of recommendation. Only one letter may come from within EAA 640 or Learn Build Fly. No letters of recommendation may come from current EAA 640 board members or Ray Scholarship committee members.

Essay Requirement: Addressing the following topics and expanding on items you listed above. Convince us that you are the ideal candidate!

1. What situations led to your interest in aviation?
2. Describe any previous aviation-related experiences and exposures, such as Young Eagles, airplane rides, family or friends in aviation, volunteer participation, model building/flying.
3. To what degree would you like to be involved in aviation in your future, and what path would you plan to take to achieve this goal?
4. Why are you seeking this scholarship, and what makes it important to you?
5. What qualities do you possess that would make you an ideal candidate to successfully complete this program?
6. How have you demonstrated a commitment to volunteerism, particularly in aviation-related activities?
7. What steps have you already taken to prepare for flight training, and how will you ensure that training remains your top priority?
8. How comfortable are you with seeking guidance and support from adult mentors and volunteers to aid your progress in aviation training?

Submission Instructions: Submit this completed application and essay via email to

[rayscholars@eaa640.com](mailto:rayscholars@eaa640.com)

no later than March 31, 2025, for consideration by EAA Chapter 640. (No Exceptions).