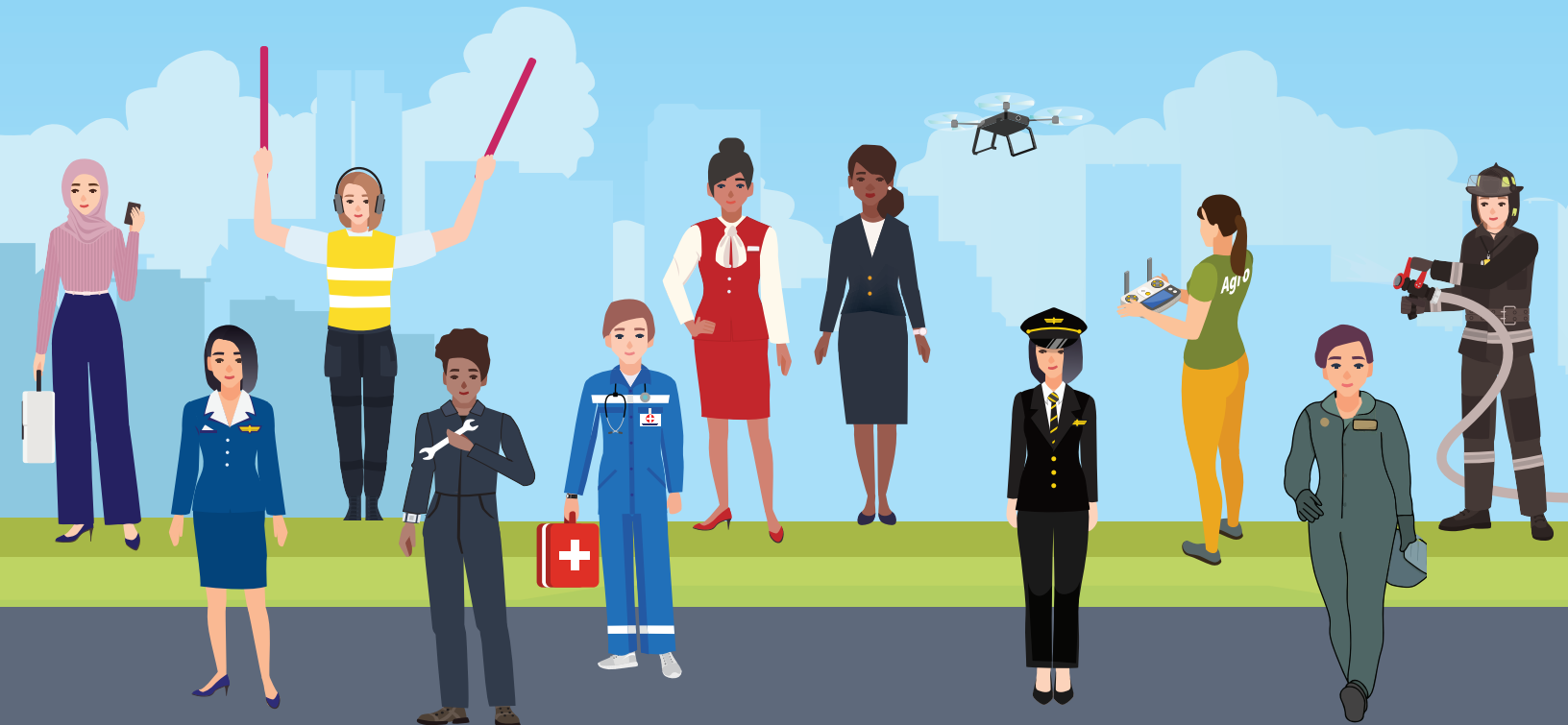




# The Sky is Unlimited

CAREERS IN AVIATION AND AEROSPACE



# SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS IN AVIATION AND AEROSPACE

## WAI CAREER GUIDE

The WAI Career Guide is a resource for aviation and aerospace enthusiasts, educators, parents, and WAI members and friends. Explore all the career possibilities in this industry that is full of innovation and technology connecting people and products every day.

Welcome to Women in Aviation International (WAI)! As a nonprofit organization with more than 16,000 members and 160+ chapters worldwide, WAI's mission is to encourage and advance girls and women in all aviation and aerospace career fields and interests.

We are dedicated to

- investing in our current and future workforce
- developing an inclusive and sustainable aviation and aerospace industry
- inspiring girls to pursue careers in aviation and aerospace.



[www.WAI.org](http://www.WAI.org)

## EXPLORE CAREERS

**Air Traffic Controller** – Air traffic control is a flight service that uses radar, weather conditions, and aerial movement to guide aircraft in controlled airspace. Controllers communicate with pilots for the most efficient and safe flight in all conditions. You must have strong communication, organizational, and concentration skills, as well as required training and examination.

**Aircraft Mechanic** – Aircraft mechanics repair, inspect, and perform maintenance on aircraft. You must have a high level of technical knowledge, great attention to detail, and dexterity in order to keep the aircraft safe. To become an aircraft mechanic, you must be at least 18 years old, complete the FAA-regulated training, and have practical experience.

**Airline Pilot** – An airline pilot operates a commercial aircraft and is responsible for the safety of the cabin crew, passengers, and cargo onboard. Airline pilots require situational awareness, teamwork skills, and communication skills. To become an airline pilot, you must be at least 21 years old and have completed specific flight training.

**Airport Manager** – Airport managers supervise the daily operation of airports while maintaining safety protocols throughout the airport. For this job, you must have communication and organizational skills, flexibility, and show leadership. The requirements to become an airport manager include related work experience and a bachelor's degree in aviation or a related field.

**Avionics Technician** – Avionics technicians inspect the electronic equipment on an aircraft. The electrical equipment includes radio systems, radar and navigation systems, and flight control systems. Some skills that are necessary are problem-solving, troubleshooting, and analysis. You must complete technical school education and receive certification for aircraft maintenance.

**Baggage Handler** – The responsibility of a baggage handler is to move luggage from the check-in area to the departure areas of an airport and put on the correct airplane. To become a baggage handler, you must have a high school diploma/GED, a driver's license, pass a medical test, and have the physical strength for the job.

**FBO Manager** – A fixed base operator (FBO) manager supervises where aircraft arrive and depart, as well as employees of the facility. The responsibilities include training and hiring employees as well as making schedules. You need organizational, communication, and customer service skills. The qualifications necessary are a bachelor's degree in aviation or a related field and aviation experience.

**Flight Attendant** – A flight attendant assists passengers on flights with safety and well-being and tends to passengers' needs and comfort. Some skills that are required of the job are customer service skills, verbal communication skills, and compassion. You must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma/GED, and complete the airline training program.

**Flight Instructor** – A flight instructor teaches student pilots how to operate an aircraft safely and efficiently as well as the aerodynamics of an aircraft and safety protocols. You need knowledge of aircraft operation and safety practices, as well as strong communication and people skills and have completed specific training.

**Military Pilot** – There are lots of opportunities, in addition to being a pilot, to serve your country through the military. You need to have clear communication skills, teamwork, leadership, and the mentality to be prepared for any situation that may arise. You must be 18 years of age and have completed the training provided by your branch of the military and speciality.

**Ramp Agent** – A ramp attendant handles baggage and cargo at an airport as well as operate ramp vehicles and equipment. Ramp agents require physical strength and knowledge of aircraft safety procedures, maintenance procedures, tools, and equipment. You must be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma/GED, a driver's license, and proper lifting techniques.

*There are many rewarding aviation and aerospace careers. While this is a partial list, you can read more descriptions of the careers listed in this guide at [www.WAI.org/aviation-careers](http://www.WAI.org/aviation-careers).*



# WITH A CAREER IN



## BUSINESS AVIATION



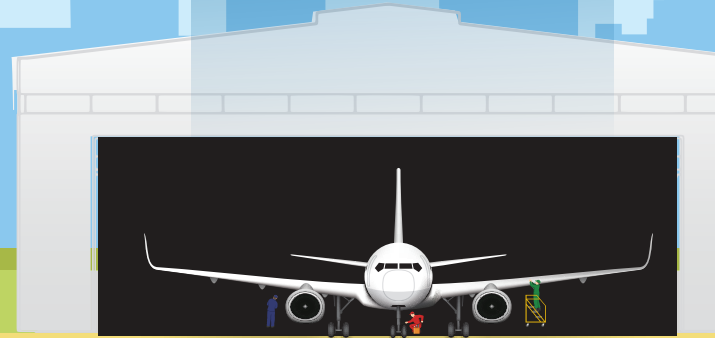
- Aircraft Sales and Finance
  - Aviation Law
  - Charter Services
- Corporate Aircraft Operations
  - Dispatcher
- Helicopter Operations
  - Hospitality
- Pilot: Commercial/  
Helicopter
- Scheduler



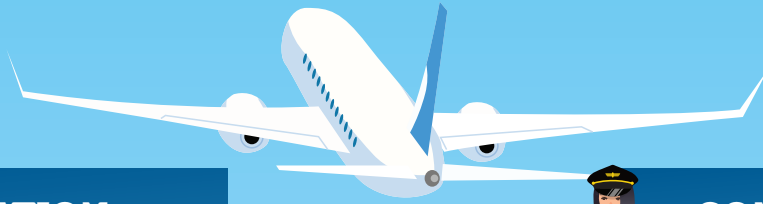
## HANGAR OPERATIONS



- Avionics Technician
  - Engineering
  - Inspector
- Maintenance
- Manufacturing and Design
- Operations Manager
  - Technician



# AVIATION OR AEROS



## AVIATION MANAGEMENT

- Aircraft Sales and Finance
- Airport Manager
- Aviation Law
  - Educator
  - Insurance
- Law Enforcement
- Media: Author/Journalist/Photographer/Videographer
- Medical Evac/Transportation
- Public Relations/Marketing

## COMMERCIAL AVIATION

- Airline Pilot
- Baggage Handler
- Flight Attendant
- Ground Support
- Safety Officer
- Security



# SPACE, THE SKY IS UN

## AIRPORT OPERATIONS

- Air Traffic Controller
- Fire and Rescue
  - Flight Briefer
- Flight Instructor
  - Manager
- Meteorologist
- Ramp Agent
- Wildlife Management



## AEROSPACE DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING

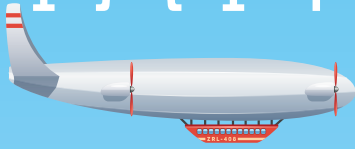
- Aircraft Sales and Finance
- Avionics Technician
  - Engineer
- Interior Designer
- Pilot: Test
- Public Relations/Marketing

## GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT

- Aerobatics
- Balloonist
- Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)
- Fixed Base Operator (FBO) Professional
- Flight Examiner
  - Instructor
- Pilot: Sport/Recreational/Private/Commercial



# LIMITED



## SUSTAINABILITY

- Climate Analyst
- Chemist/Fuel Specialist
- Electric/Hybrid Engineer

## SPACE

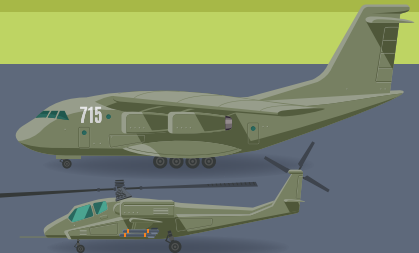
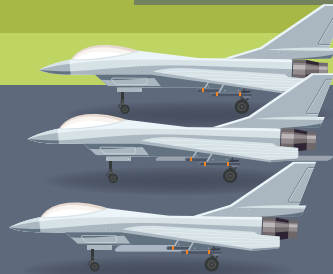
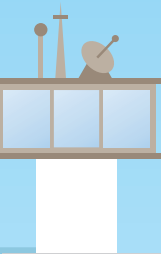
- Astronaut
- Astronomer
- Engineer
- Meteorologist
- Physicist
- Researcher
- Robotics
- Safety

## REMOTE OPERATIONS

- Photographer/Filmmaker
- Pilot: Drone/UAV
  - Robotics
- Surveyor/Inspector

## MILITARY

- Ground Support
- Maintenance
- Pilot: Drone/Fighter Aircraft/Helicopter/Test
  - Scheduler
  - Technician



# Scan here to find out more about these WAI events, programs, and resources.

## Become a WAI Junior member for free!

- Are you 18 years old or younger?
- Do you love aviation and STEM?
- Do you want to learn more about living your aviation passion?
- Are you interested in reading *Aviation for Girls* magazine?



## Download the free Aviation for Girls app.



## Join the Aviation for Girls crew.



## Apply for annual WAI scholarships.

WOMEN IN AVIATION INTERNATIONAL  
**SCHOLARSHIPS  
CHANGE LIVES**



## Find a Girls in Aviation Day event near you.

*Girls* IN AVIATION DAY  
A Women in Aviation International® Event

## Explore the all-new WAI Mentor Connect tool.



WAI **MENTOR  
CONNECT**

*Women in Aviation*  
INTERNATIONAL

[www.WAI.org](http://www.WAI.org)



## Engage with other WAI members in your community.

There are 160+ WAI chapters around the world.

