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UNIVERSITY of DUBUQUE AVIATION OCT 21, 2025	UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE AVIATION PROGRAMS **B.S. FLIGHT OPERATIONS (PROFESSIONAL AERONAUTICS)** STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA

Aviation Department Mission and Educational Goals

Mission

The mission of the Aviation Department is to provide students with the professional skills that allow for success in all segments of the Aviation Industry while enhancing their critical thinking and decision-making skills. The Aviation Department supports the University of Dubuque mission by:

- Establishing excellence in professional preparation
- Fostering a zeal for lifelong learning
- Focusing on the development of professional skills enhanced by technology
- Integrated with safety practices
- Characterized by fiscal prudence with quality equipment and facilities.

Flight Operation Program Mission and Learning Outcomes:

The Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Flight Operations prepares students for FAA certification (licensing) and ratings. The flight training program is available to majors and non-majors. The Flight Operations program includes courses ranging from private pilot through commercial pilot with instrument and multi-engine ratings for the airplane track. The helicopter track includes courses ranging from private pilot through commercial with instrument rating. Both tracks are supported by an appropriate ground school. Instructor certificates and ratings are available as electives for the airplane track and are highly recommended. Instructor certificates are required for the helicopter track.

All flight students are required to obtain a FAA Medical Certificate at least 30 days prior to enrollment. U.S. citizens must have a certified copy of their birth certificate or a passport

before beginning training. Non-U.S. citizens need to contact the Flight Center at least 4 weeks prior to the start of school for compliance with Transportation Security Administration (TSA) rules and procedures.
Flight students desiring to qualify for the Restricted-ATP should work closely with their academic advisors to ensure that they obtain the minimum credit hours required to meet the reduced aeronautical experience.

Mission

The mission of the program is to equip students with the professional skills necessary for success in key segments of the aviation industry as professional pilots while enhancing their critical thinking and decision-making skills.

Goals

The goals of the Aviation programs:

1. Students will acquire the knowledge, skills, and certifications necessary for immediate entry into the aviation industry, preparing them for Commercial Pilot certification with Instrument and Multi-Engine Land Ratings or Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) certification for fixed-wing aircraft, and Commercial Pilot certification with Instrument Rating for rotorcraft/helicopters.
2. Cultivate a passion for lifelong learning in students, encouraging them to continually update their knowledge and skills in the ever-evolving field of flight operations.
3. Foster professionalism and integrity in students, nurturing their ethical comprehension and personal character, and enabling them to incorporate advanced technology and safety practices into their aviation roles.

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate knowledge and impact of contemporary aviation industry issues over time, including technology, business and environmental sustainability.
2. Apply techniques, skills, and modern aviation tools to flight operations.
3. Operate as a crew member in an aircraft flight deck on a multi-disciplinary and diverse team.
4. Apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and aerodynamic principles to ensure safe and efficient flight operations.
5. Accurately analyze and interpret data to solve a variety of problems.
6. Effectively communicate, both verbally and in writing, with precision and clarity within the aviation and related industries.
7. Engage in and recognize the need for lifelong learning.
8. Apply excellent moral character and professional ethics in one's decision making to the field of Flight Operations.

Assessment Measures Employed

Program Educational Goal Assessment

The review process for the Program Educational Goals in the Flight Operations (FLI) Program is straightforward and collaborative. The goals are set with input from faculty, industry professionals, and alumni to ensure they meet current industry standards.

These goals are reviewed at least every five years, aligning with the accreditation cycle. During the review, data is collected from student transcripts, alumni surveys, and final papers from the Senior Seminar class (AVI 495). This data helps assess how well the program is meeting its goals.

The Head of Academics and the Assessment Manager compile and present this data to the Aviation Department. Together, they analyze the information to identify strengths and areas for improvement. Based on this analysis, they develop strategies to enhance the program.

Outcome Assessment

The Aviation Department uses an annual (Academic Year) process to look formally at an outcome or set of outcomes. Plans are developed in August, lead faculty for each outcome are assigned, interim reviews are conducted in January, draft reports are due in June, and final reports are due no later than October. The review is undertaken by one aviation faculty member who reviews the syllabi and the assignments that have been chosen to measure this outcome, once the initial review has been completed, the faculty member presents the findings to the entire aviation faculty for review, then the Aviation Department uses external and internal assessments to identify areas of weakness and where possible areas of interest. When shortcomings are determined, plans are developed, and resources are gathered to address these issues.

Furthermore, the department conducts assessments of both general and core outcomes on a triennial basis to ensure alignment with educational standards and continuous improvement. All collected data are systematically organized within "Watermark," an integrated digital solution that facilitates comprehensive assessment management.

Program Improvement Strategies:

The following University of Dubuque departments and committees participate in the assessment of outcomes, identified program recommendations are followed up with syllabus changes, course flow adjustments, quality, and program development to address shortcomings.

- The Curriculum Committee and Core Committee
- Assessment Committee

The program uses the following techniques to gather both direct and indirect feedback on student learning:

- Individual and group assignments
- Exam scores
- Presentations
- Student and faculty evaluation
- Graduate survey
- Senior seminar
- Internal reports covering enrollment

Enrollment/ Graduation Rates

The table below shows the two, four-, and 6-years graduation rate of a cohort of students from 2015 till 2024:

Year	New Students	Graduate in 2 years	Graduate in 4 years	Graduate in 6 Years
2015	42	19%	45%	57%
2016	62	11%	37%	50%
2017	85	16%	49%	54%
2018	97	26%	57%	54%
2019	106	14%	56%	68%
2020	104	22%	55%	59%
2021	76	12%	36%	N/A
2022	87	17%	N/A	
2023	97	N/A		
2024	119			

Retention Rates

Year	New Student	Continued to				
		2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year	5th Year	6th Year
2015	42	76%	64%	50%	10%	2%
2016	62	77%	65%	48%	13%	10%
2017	85	82%	67%	33%	19%	8%
2018	97	85%	75%	46%	18%	11%
2019	106	79%	75%	50%	25%	8%
2020	104	87%	75%	49%	32%	9%
2021	76	92%	80%	62%	36%	N/A
2022	87	93%	80%	62%	N/A	
2023	97	87%	79%	N/A		
2024	119	87%	N/A			

Degrees Granted by program[1]

Academic Year	Flight Operations	Aviation Management	Total
2015-16	12	6	18
2016-17	36	21	57
2017-18	22	27	49
2018-19	18	23	41
2019-20	22	12	34
2020-21	47	14	61
2021-22	39	12	51
2022-23	56	17	73
2023-24	48	11	59
2024-25	51	8	59

[1] Counts are unduplicated. If a student double majored within the department, they are counted only once.

Graduate Placement Data

The table below provides insights into the career paths that graduates in UD Aviation programs pursue within one year of completing their education:[2]

Title	2021	2022	2023	2024
Professional pilot/CFI	32%	68%	60%	65%
Graduate school	6%	0%	2%	0%
Aviation operations or customer service management/leadership	12%	10%	11%	20%
Military or law enforcement	4%	2%	6%	2%
Other Aviation international positions	46%	20%	21%	13%

The table below presents responses from the Alumni Survey [3]:

Title	2021	2024
Airline Pilot	37%	38%
Corporate Pilot	13%	11%
Professional Pilot/CFI	14%	14%
Higher Education/Faculty	3%	1%
Airline Operation or Management/Leadership	6%	5%
Airport/FBO operations or Management/Leadership	5%	4%
Aviation Operations or Customer Service Management/Leadership	3%	2%
Military or Law Enforcement	11%	9%
Retired	5%	9%
Other	15%	18%

2 The data presented is based on faculty connections and LinkedIn search and does not present all graduate students

3 Survey is launched each 2-3 years, also some Alumni might be in more than one position, and the survey presents 101 in 2021, and 117 in 2024 responses.