

## EAA Air Academy Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

### **Where is the Air Academy?**

The EAA Air Academy is located on the grounds of the EAA AirVenture Museum, 3000 Poberezny Road, Oshkosh, WI 54902. The mailing address is PO Box 3086, Oshkosh, WI 54903-3086, and the shipping address is 3130 Knapp Street Road, Oshkosh, WI 54902. [EAA Air Academy Lodge.](#)

### **How do I apply for the EAA Air Academy?**

There are two ways to apply, either using the printed application form or on the securemail online form. You do not need to do both. Both ways require contact information for the participant and a parent or guardian, answers for the four questions about your reason for wanting to come to the Air Academy, and a camp deposit. Some applicants are signed up by their local EAA chapter or another group. Please make sure your application is sent in either by you or the EAA Chapter.

### **How can I get financial assistance to come to the Air Academy?**

About half of the participants are sent by their local EAA chapter. This chapter may pay part or all of the expenses of camp and/or the travel cost. Each chapter determines how much they can pay. So call your local airport to get the contact information for the local EAA chapter, or go to the Chapters link at [www.eaa.org](http://www.eaa.org) to locate a chapter in your area. Use Young Eagle credits for up to half the cost of the camp. These credits are sent to pilots who have flown at least 10 Young Eagles in the previous year. If you know some of these pilots, you may ask them. These are often used by EAA chapters to sponsor students. You send these credits to the Air Academy as part of your payment.

Apply for scholarship assistance from EAA. The link is on the applications page. This should be sent in with your camp application, if possible. EAA scholarships are usually partial, although we sometimes have a donor who will cover more. [EAA Air Academy Scholarships](#)

Check with your school guidance counselor, scout troop, or CAP group to see if they have funds to help pay your costs.

### **What happens after I apply?**

After you have been accepted, you will receive a package containing your acceptance letter and additional forms to complete. These forms need to be returned to the Air Academy no later than 35 days before the camp begins.

One of these forms is a physical exam form, which needs to be signed by a doctor, dated within 24 months of the start date of camp. All participants must fill in the first three pages of the form. For the fourth page, you may substitute a photocopy of a sports or school or other physical form, as long as it is dated in the 24 months before the camp.

If the camp is full, you may be placed on a waiting list for any possible openings.

### **How big is the camp?**

Each camp has a maximum of 48 participants per session. The Air Academy staff usually has about 12 instructors/counselors/pilots, plus another 8-10 staff. The Advanced Air Academy adds an additional 9-12 adult workshop instructors during those two sessions.

### **Do I have to find a hotel in Oshkosh and transportation?**

There is no need to use a hotel. All participants use the EAA Air Academy Lodge. On

special occasions we use the University of Oshkosh Dorms/Conference Center for additional rooms (usually during AirVenture). All transportation in and around EAA and the Air Academy campus is provided by EAA vehicles.

### **What is the Lodge?**

The Air Academy is a resident camp, so you stay at the Lodge the entire time of your camp. The Lodge building was built in 1998 specifically for the Air Academy participants. You will share your bunkroom with up to three other participants. Bedding is supplied, so you don't need to bring your own or a sleeping bag. [EAA Air Academy Lodge.](#)

### **How do I get to the Air Academy?**

Participants come from all over the US, Canada, and sometimes other countries. Many are driven here by their families. Others come by air. If they arrive in a private plane, they may land at Wittman Field, and call the Lodge from either the Orion or Basler FBO, and our staff will pick you up.

If you fly in on a commercial airline, we ask that you fly into Appleton, WI (ATW). We offer free pick-up and delivery to Appleton. If you must fly into Green Bay, WI (GRB), we will pick you up and return you there for a \$50 fee, which covers both trips. You will let us know your arrival method and time on the travel form in your acceptance package. [Lodge Map](#)

### **My parents are driving me, and want to stay in the area while I'm at camp.**

Oshkosh, Fond du Lac (20 minutes south), and Appleton (20 minutes north) all have multiple hotels and motels for them to stay at. This can be difficult during AirVenture or the week before it, but not usually a problem the rest of the time.

[Oshkosh Convention and Visitor's Bureau](#) [Wisconsin Department of Tourism](#)

### **Which camp do I attend?**

The camps are divided by age, not experience. You sign up for the correct camp session for the age you will be at the time of the camp. If you are within four weeks of the age for the next camp level, you may apply for that camp.

### **Tell me about the food.**

The Air Academy takes great pride in providing an outstanding food service to our participants. The Air Academy Lodge has a commercial kitchen and Certified Food Service Staff/Cooks who prepare home-style meals during your stay. You eat family-style in the dining area of the Great Room.

### **I have a special diet/food allergies/am a vegetarian.**

You will let us know about these on the green ACA medical form, so our cooks will be prepared in advance for your special food needs.

### **Can I bring my own snacks?**

You don't need to bring any snacks, as our cooks provide plenty of healthy snacks and drinks.

### **What about soda/pop?**

We do not provide soda as a beverage option. Juice, milk, or lemonade, etc. are available at meals.

**I am on medications-how do you handle that?**

Your parents/guardians will list these, your dosage and times, on the green medical form. You will bring them in the original medicine bottle in a small plastic bag. At check-in, we will put it with the other medications in the office, and one of the staff will dispense it at the correct times. Diabetic and other medication will be refrigerated, if needed. Emergency inhalers or EpiPens can be carried with you, but we need to know you have them. Your parent/guardian also needs to sign the emergency treatment section on the health form, so our staff can take you to a nearby hospital if you become ill or injured.

**Can I come if I have special needs?**

Please discuss this with our Director of Museum and Resident Education or the camp director to see if we are able to meet your special needs.

**What about my cellphone/iPod/GameBoy/electronics?**

You will be required to turn these in at the office when you arrive. You may use them during your free time, but not carry them with you.

**Is there a curfew?**

Yes, we do have a curfew. The daily schedule is packed full of great programs and activities. Participants stay very active and we need to make sure everyone gets enough rest to enjoy their Air Academy experience.

**What do I need to bring?**

You will get a list in your acceptance package. Some of the items on the list are: a towel and washcloth, soap, shampoo, casual clothes, a light jacket, closed toe shoes for in the shop and outside activities, etc. You do not need to bring a sleeping bag or pillow.

**How much money do I need to bring?**

Most campers like to visit the Museum Gift Shop during their stay, so \$20-50 is usually sufficient. Also, if you are traveling, you may need some money at airports for meals, etc. Those who are here during AirVenture usually bring a little more because of all the vendors on the AV grounds. Some bring prepaid cash cards or travelers' checks. There is not a cash machine in the museum or lodge. We can hold your money in the office safe if you wish.

**What are the bathrooms/showers like?**

There are separate men and women's bathrooms on the upper level of the Lodge. There are individual showers with a curtained dressing area for each.

**When do I need to arrive? When do I leave?**

You should plan to arrive on the first day of the camp, preferably between noon and 4 PM. You leave in the morning of the last day. So if the camp were listed as June 15-19, you would arrive on the 15<sup>th</sup>, and depart on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Is there a closing program that my parents need to attend?**

No, that would not be practical, since so many campers are here from long distances. On the last night of camp, there is a program, but it is just for the campers and staff.

**I am arriving/departing during AirVenture. How do I get through security?**

Those who will be arriving or departing during AirVenture will receive a special map which will allow them to drive to the Lodge.

**Will I get to fly a plane?**

Weather permitting, yes, you will go up in a plane and be able to take the controls if you wish under the guidance of one of our pilots. You will not be able to take off or land the plane. You will also have the chance to receive a ride in a Bell 47 Helicopter (weather permitting).

**I'd like to work as a counselor or intern at the Air Academy.**

Information on internships is available at

<http://www.youneagles.org/programs/scholarships/>

For other inquiries, please call 888-322-3229.