“I see our partnership as a win-win. Students get a great start on their careers and the airline gets access to a talented pipeline of pilots.”
- Mike McCasky, ’83, B.S. Professional Pilot, Managing Director of Flight Training for United Airlines.

MSU Denver Aviation and Aerospace Science Program Details

- 50% Professional Flight Officer
- 30% Aerospace Management/Operations
- 15% Aerospace Sciences
- 5% Air Traffic Control

500+ students enrolled annually

Aeronautics and Aerospace Systems (AASL) Laboratories
- World Indoor Airport (general aviation)
- Advanced Avionics Systems
- Commercial/Corporate Jet (CCJ)
- Advanced Aviation and Aerospace Flight Training (AAAFT)
- Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)
- Air Traffic Control Lab (ATC)
- Satellite Engineering (SatEng)
- Balloon Satellite Lab (BSat)
- Systems Tool Kit Lab (STK)
- Discovery

Aviation and Aerospace Science at MSU Denver

MSU Denver’s Aviation and Aerospace Science Department is one of the largest and most advanced aviation and aerospace systems management programs in the country. Our students graduate with the intellectual and practical skills needed to compete and succeed in their chosen professions.

In addition, Colorado boasts the nation’s largest entrepreneurial aerospace economy with more than 400 employers classified as aerospace companies or suppliers to the industry. MSU Denver aviation and aerospace students and graduates enjoy internships, cooperative education opportunities and careers with many aviation and aerospace companies throughout the United States.

Groundbreaking Career Pathway
United Airlines selected MSU Denver as its inaugural collegiate partner to establish a career path leading to potential employment with United Airlines.

Students in the program will be in line for a position at United after meeting several requirements, including employment at a United Express partner, academic performance records, FAA Pilot Certificates, flight hours and more. And as part of the program, students will receive robust mentoring and coaching opportunities and a bachelor’s degree in aviation and aerospace science from MSU Denver.

MSU Denver has established five pathway partnership programs between the Aviation and Aerospace Science Department and regional and major U.S. airlines: United Airlines, Envoy Airlines, Republic Airlines, SkyWest Airlines, Express Jet Airlines, and Mesa Airlines.

Students can begin applying for all programs in August 2018.
Real-World Partnerships

• York Space Systems, a manufacturer of next-generation small satellites, is an industry partner offering internships and conducting satellite mission operations within the Aviation and Aerospace Science Department.

• EyasSat is a satellite development company and industry partner offering on campus internships and provider of Satellite Simulators used in student laboratory training.

• Students can obtain credit for attending the Jeppesen FAA dispatcher certification course in either a traditional classroom setting or through online classes.

• A dual-degree program allows students to earn an associate’s degree in aviation technology with a flight concentration from Colorado Northwestern Community College and a bachelor’s degree in aviation and aerospace science from MSU Denver.

• Lockheed Martin Space Systems created the Lockheed Martin Additive Manufacturing Laboratory and an endowed directorship with a $1 million grant in 2017.

• Numerous internships offered within the aviation and aerospace industry in Colorado and across the U.S.

Flying High

MSU Denver aviation and aerospace students have been recognized with some of the most prestigious awards around the globe.

“While the aerospace industry needs to expand its pipeline of qualified STEM students, we want to broaden our workforce to include women and men from a vast array of backgrounds and life experiences. MSU Denver provides us with the most diverse student population within Colorado.”

Vicky Lea, Director Aviation and Aerospace Industry | Metro Denver Economic Development Corp.

MSU Denver Alumni in Aviation and Aerospace Science

MSU Denver aviation and aerospace science programs have graduated more than 2,500 people who have gone on to take this critically important sector to new heights. Among them:

• Rita Cuddihy (’76) is a senior vice president/COO at Marriott International. She also served as a vice president for US Airways and president and CEO of US Airways Shuttle.

• Mike McCasky (’83) is managing director of flight training for United Airlines.

• Brian Elson (’03) is vice president of government relations at Rolls-Royce North America Inc. and former director of legislative affairs for the Aerospace Industries Association.

• Leslie Brown (’07) was the first woman accepted into the U.S. Coast Guard Flight School as part of the Blue 21 Flight Initiative and now is a MH-65C Dolphin helicopter pilot at USCG Air Station Miami.

The MSU Denver Aviation and Aerospace Science Program

Majors

Aviation and Aerospace Science B.S.
• Aerospace Operations concentration
• Professional Flight Office concentration
• Air Traffic Collegiate Training Initiative concentration

Aviation and Aerospace Management B.S.

Aerospace Individualized Degree Programs B.S.
• Aerospace Physics concentration
• Aerospace Systems Technology concentration

Minors

• Aviation Technology
• Aviation Management
• Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps

Certificates

• Airport Management
• Space Commercialization
• Unmanned Aerial Systems
• Airport Security Coordinator

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