



MIT Students Flight Scholarship Program

2020

This year, the MIT Flying Club (MITFC) will be awarding two \$500 scholarships in cooperation with the Tech Flight Corporation. These scholarships are intended to assist college students from the Boston area who are excited about aviation to pursue primary flight training in the Cessna 150 owned and operated by Tech Flight Corporation.

Key dates:

- Scholarship Applications Open March 5th
- Application Closes March 31st
- Decisions Released April 20th

Applications will be collected by MITFC Exec and then provided an Alumni Board for review. Eligibility rules are outlined below.

This scholarship has been privately funded through donations to the club and will hopefully kick off a self-sustaining program supported by the club and surrounding community. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation to the club, please reach out to MITFC Treasurer John Ped at pedj@mit.edu.

MITFC Contribution:

MITFC will contribute \$500 for each of the two scholarships to underwrite aircraft rental from Tech Flight Corporation. Founded by MIT alumni, Tech Flight Corporation's mission is to provide highly accessible and "at cost" flight training from Beverly Airport (KBVY). Tech Flight Corporation, promoted by Ted Acworth and other MIT alumni, is not under the management of MIT nor the MIT Flying Club.

Student Contribution:

All MIT Students Flight Scholarship Program recipients will be expected to contribute the balance to the purchase of a 10-hour time block (currently \$850 total for 10 hours) in the Tech Flight Corporation Cessna 150. Funds may not be used in any other way. The recipient will also need to pay for other expenses toward their training.

Scholarship funds will be given directly to Tech Flight Corporation along with the student's name. Students will be expected to pay for their own transportation, study material, and instruction costs, though the club will be able to help make those connections if necessary. A private pilot's license is a substantial financial undertaking, and the best candidates will recognize that this scholarship will help support their own major financial and time commitments.

Process:

Applicants shall submit a single pdf document to flying-exec@mit.edu including each of the following documents, which together constitute the application for the scholarship program.

- **Document #1:**
 - Page 1: The applicant's contact information (name, address, phone, email) as well as birth date and MIT/academic affiliation.
 - Page 2: A short personal autobiography, describing the applicant, his/her background, and her motivation for learning to fly in the Tech Flight C150.
 - Page 3: A flight training plan, outlining how and when the flight hours will be used. Please specify any training (ground or flight) that has already been completed. Strong candidates will have an understanding of the whole picture of flight training and clearly indicate flying as a priority during the semester or summer. Flight hours will remain available for use for one calendar year.
- **Document #2:** A letter of recommendation from an adult who knows the applicant and her/his character.
- **Document #3:** If the applicant is under 18 years old, a signed letter from the applicant's parent(s) or legal guardian indicating they grant permission for the applicant to apply for the scholarship and participate in flight training if they are awarded a scholarship.

Eligibility:

- To be eligible to apply for a flight training scholarship, the applicant must be between the ages of 15 and 25 years old at the time of application.
- Applicants should be enrolled at a college or university in the greater Boston-area, at either the undergraduate or graduate level. The scholarship is not restricted to MIT students.
- Both first-time applicants and prior scholarship recipients are eligible to apply.
- Recipients of scholarships from this program will be expected to participate and interact with the local aviation community via MITFC.
- Scholarships expire one year after the grant date. Each recipient will be required to provide a written training plan to the executive board of the MITFC, indicating who the recipient intends to fly with, how they will be getting to BVY, and a schedule they plan to follow. Recipients may alter their plan as needed at the discretion and with the approval of the flying club board, but an initial plan is required of each recipient. The intent of this requirement is to ensure scarce scholarship funds will be most effectively used. Note that if the written training plan is not on file from a recipient within three months of the scholarship grant, the grant will be rescinded and no longer available to the recipient.

Financial need is not an eligibility requirement to apply for the scholarships granted through this program, although it may be considered alongside various other criteria considered by the board when making selections. Other commonly considered criteria include, but are not limited to: demonstrated commitment by the applicant to the aviation community and/or their own flight training; investments of time, funds or other investments made by the applicant in furtherance of their goals; the applicant's goals and plan for reaching those goals; the academic program followed by the applicant; and the applicant's passion for and commitment to aviation.

To speak with someone directly about the scholarship program, please contact the MITFC Treasurer and scholarship coordinator for Spring 2020, John Ped, by emailing pedj@mit.edu. He will be glad to help answer questions about the process that are not answered here.

In the interest of furthering aviation training opportunities, a few additional scholarship websites you may wish to review include:

- <http://www.eaa.org/support/scholarshiPS.asp>
- <http://fliahttrainina.aopa.org/ftscholarship>
- <http://www.lerovwhomerjr.org/scholarships>