

TOP 10 AEROSPACE MARKET

WIDE-OPEN SKIES. A CENTRAL LOCATION.

The Greater Oklahoma City Region's aerospace and defense industry is supported by federal, state and city leaders. The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber went through great feats to support Tinker AFB, such as donating land and providing a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility, lobbying for funds, and providing infrastructure support to ensure its growth. Several state and regional forums, industry events, and job fairs are held to support the aerospace industry.

Incentives that cater to aerospace. The nation's second lowest cost of doing business. A ready-made workforce waiting in the wings. Strong partnership between state and local government. Add it all up and it equals one of the top 10 aerospace markets in America — a growing, thriving, sky's-the-limit location.

For more information, call 405-297-8900
or visit www.greateroklahomacity.com/aerospace.

TINKER AFB & FAA'S MMAC are Oklahoma City's top two employers with more than 32,000 employees combined. Each is unique in its missions and structure. Through these two federal installations, virtually every related aviation and aerospace skillset has been developed in OKC, including software engineers, chemists, logistics specialists, airframe & powerplant mechanics, air traffic controllers, pilots, and more.

The community has ensured that educational and training efforts are focused on these and many more skills needed for the industry. This creates an opportunity for any company considering the Oklahoma City region to establish a solid foothold.

PARTNERSHIPS often occur between and among federal institutions and educational institutions and the private sector.

- Tinker AFB has formal educational partnerships with five educational institutions: OU, OSU, UCO, OC and Rose State.
- The Aerospace Engineering Bridge Course was provided to petroleum engineers when the oil & gas industry experienced a slowdown.
- Software Engineering Mentor Program - Tinker AFB software engineering staff are embedded on OU's campus.
- Southwest Airlines partners with OU to offer the Destination 225° program for the collegiate aviator.



DEVELOPING AEROSPACE TALENT IN OKLAHOMA CITY



SOARING GROWTH. SOARING NUMBERS.

BLUE SKIES AHEAD.

Oklahoma's systems of education offer a variety of options and flexible choices for students to engage in an aerospace career at any point in time, including K-12, CareerTech, post-secondary and graduate programs. Moreover, these educational institutions collaborate with each other, local businesses, state aerospace agencies, Tinker Air Force Base (AFB) and the FAA's Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center (MMAC) to develop talent that continues to drive industry innovation and growth in the Greater OKC region.

GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY
A BETTER LIVING. A BETTER LIFE.



K-12

Several K-12 programs emphasize STEM and aviation and aerospace-related education.

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF AEROSPACE AND AERONAUTICS (ODAA)

In FY23, the ODAA awarded 56 organizations more than \$450,000 for programs made available to K-12 students and teachers. These programs included STEM camps, competitions and other activities to build awareness of aerospace careers and prepare students for further industry-related education.

ODAA also received \$500,000 from the FAA for a statewide aviation workforce development program. Some programs included teacher trainings, aviation high schools of excellence, and a drone education symposium.

HIGH SCHOOL SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Oklahoma Aviation Academy High School provides STEAM curriculum with an emphasis on aerospace and aviation.

Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM) is a two-year, public, residential high school for juniors and seniors with exceptional ability in science and math.

Oklahoma is ranked No. 1 in the nation for the number of public schools that have adopted the 4-year, Aircraft Owners Pilots Association (AOPA), "You Can Fly" curriculum. The program is offered free to schools committed to providing high-quality aviation STEM pathways for students.

CAREERTECH

Oklahoma's Department of Career and Technology Education (CareerTech) partners with and complements K-12, colleges, and universities. It offers programs and services throughout nearly 400 public school districts across 57 campus sites – a model for programs around the US and the world.

This system also provides flexibility for companies in the Oklahoma City region to educate and train its current and future employees using curriculum designed for a company's needs.

STEM ACADEMIES & PROGRAMS (HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY):

- Engineering & Pre-Engineering Academy
- Computer Science Academy
- Sophomore Aviation Exploratory Program

AEROSPACE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS (HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & ADULTS):

- Composite Fabrication & Repair
- CNC Machining
- A&P Mechanic
- Avionics
- Industrial Automation & Robotics Technology
- Precision Machining
- Programming & Software Development

EXAMPLES OF CUSTOMIZED PROGRAMS FOR SELECT EMPLOYERS:

- CareerTech's Tinker Tech campus is located on Tinker AFB and works solely with current Tinker AFB employees.
- Composites Manufacturing (customized for Kratos Aerospace)

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY

FAA CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

The FAA has established Centers of Excellence (COE) to help develop the nation's technology base while educating the next generation of aviation professionals. The University of Oklahoma (OU) and Oklahoma State University (OSU) are core partners for the COE addressing Technical Training and Human Performance along with other universities and over 40 industry partners. Since 2016, the COE has awarded over 70 grants.

2-YEAR COLLEGES

- Rose State College has been training current and future Tinker AFB employees for 50+ years. It is also the Oklahoma Center of Workforce Excellence for Aerospace and Cybersecurity

4-YEAR COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

- **RUSO** – Regional University System of Oklahoma (6 universities) supports the aerospace and defense industry. 92% of graduates are employed in Oklahoma after graduation.
 - **SWOSU + NASA** – Partnering since the 1960s. Graduates have worked on the Gemini and Apollo programs.
 - **SEOSU** – Offers bachelor degrees in aviation-professional pilot and aviation management.
 - **UCO** – Graduates in electrical & computer engineering are hired by Tinker AFB and defense industry companies.
- **OC** – 100% of electrical & computer engineering graduates are employed within 6 months of graduation.
- **OCU** – Created a Master of Legal Studies with an aviation focus.

4-YEAR RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES:

- OU & OSU both have a presence in downtown OKC's Innovation District, the epicenter for cross-industry collaboration in key sectors including aerospace.
- Both offer Bachelor, Master and Doctorate degrees in many engineering specialties including aerospace and mechanical.
- **University of Oklahoma (OU)**
 - Oklahoma Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institution provides solutions that address the aerospace, defense, and global security challenges.
 - Executive MBA in Aerospace and Defense – develops managerial and leadership skills of the aerospace and defense workforce.
 - School of Aviation- offers degrees for professional pilot, aviation management and air traffic control.
- **Oklahoma State University (OSU)**
 - Oklahoma Aerospace Institute for Research and Education – supports partnerships between the university and industry, DoD facilities, and other government agencies.
 - Unmanned Systems Research Institute – incubates ideas and research technologies within autonomous systems.
 - Offers multiple degrees in aviation, including aerospace security, aviation management, professional pilot, and technical service management.