What is the Aviation Academy magnet program?

Denbigh High School's Aviation Academy is a nationally recognized STEM site with a focus on piloting, aircraft maintenance, engineering and aviation security/safety. We provide a quality education that maximizes the potential of every student by providing them with the knowledge, skillsets, experiences and values needed in the 21st Century workplace.

How does the Aviation Academy prepare students for careers?

Graduates of the Aviation Academy prepare for a broad spectrum of opportunities beyond high school. The combination of academic rigor and modern technology prepares graduates for the challenges of college and technical careers. The Aviation Academy unlocks students’ strong problem-solving skills and practiced work ethic.

Graduates may pursue careers such as:

- Aerospace engineer
- Aircraft mechanic
- General/operations manager
- Systems engineer
- Electrical engineer
- Service technician
- Air-traffic controller
- Software engineer
- Aircraft engineer
- Pilot/flight engineer
- Electrician
- Drone operator

What is distinctive about the magnet program?

- A small community of learning with a safe, collegiate atmosphere where expectations are high and young adults excel
- Aviation classes that begin in the ninth grade with four pathways: Aviation Technology, Flight Operations, Aerospace Engineering and Aviation Security and Safety
- An FAA Pilot Ground School course that will prepare students for flying lessons and private pilot licensure
- Eight flight simulators used in the pilot classes
- A fully functioning wind tunnel capable of showing students the dynamics of flight with visual and data representation
- Recognized as a national model school from the Society of Manufacturing Engineers Education Foundation and listed as a Top School in Virginia Living magazine.
- Students have access to a classroom set of drones, a virtual reality lab and a 3D printing/scanning lab
Who is eligible?
All rising ninth grade students who are prepared to commit to a rigorous academic and technological program are eligible. Siblings of current Aviation Academy ninth through eleventh grade magnet students will receive priority admission for the following school year. Students will take a minimum of one Advanced Placement (AP) course and at least two honors classes. Students are selected for the program through a lottery.

Who should apply?
Any hands-on learner who loves technology and deserves a high-paying salary should apply for the program.

How do I apply for the magnet program?
All students who wish to attend magnet programs must submit a Magnet School Application by the December deadline. Applications are available on the Newport News Public Schools website at www.nnschools.org/magnet. Online applications are preferred; however, if you are unable to access the online application, please contact the NNPS Magnet office at 757-283-7850 ext. #10314 for a paper copy.

Once selected from the lottery, students and parents will set up an interview with Aviation Academy personnel.

Transportation is provided to all magnet program students who reside in Newport News.

How can I find additional information?
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