

Continuing the Legacy

Since 2005, the State of Oklahoma has created various programs and incentives designed to enhance the competitiveness of aviation and aerospace companies doing business in Oklahoma. Those incentives have helped guarantee that the state's rich aviation legacy will continue full throttle well into the 21st century. Below are brief summaries of some of those incentives:

- **Aviation Sales Tax Exemption**
Exempts all Oklahoma aerospace companies from collecting the sales taxes on the sales of aircraft engine repairs, modification and replacement parts, aircraft frame repairs and modification, aircraft interior modification, and paint and sales of services employed in such repairs, modifications and painting.
- **Aerospace Industry Engineer Workforce Tax Credits**
Provides engineers who are hired by Oklahoma aerospace companies with a state income tax credit of up to \$5,000 per year for five years. The hiring company also may be eligible to receive various tax credits.
- **Center for Aerospace & Defense Supplier Quality**
Works with small to medium-sized Oklahoma companies to help them with contracting opportunities with the Department of Defense and prime contractors such as Boeing, Northrop Grumman and Pratt & Whitney, as well as commercial aviation enterprises. CADSQ provides those services at no charge.



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The Importance of General Aviation Airports to the State of Oklahoma

Airports Mean ACCESS!

- Today, business comes calling in an aircraft, not a bus!
- No other mode of transportation can get you to your destination faster than general aviation; commercial aviation is a distant second. Business travelers want to fly directly to their ultimate destinations, not to a commercial airport and then drive for several hours.
- There are nearly 20,000 airports and heliports in the U.S., only 540 of which are served by commercial airlines. General aviation passengers have access to more than 5,300 public-use community airports.
- Oklahoma boasts 137 public-use general aviation airports, 46 of which are regional business airports*.
*Although they are not general aviation airports because they have scheduled airline service, Oklahoma City's Will Rogers World Airport, Tulsa International Airport and Lawton-Ft. Sill Regional Airport are also considered regional business airports. Including the three commercial service airports, Oklahoma has a total of 49 regional business airports.
- General aviation transports more than 166 million passengers annually, making it the nation's largest "airline."

Airports Mean BUSINESS!

- When major businesses were asked to rank the top reasons why they choose to locate where they do, convenient access to a commercial service airport and access to a general aviation airport with a jet-capable runway were among the top location factors identified.
- Forty-three (43) of Oklahoma's regional business airports have jet capable runways (5,000 feet or longer).
- About 93 percent of Oklahoma's population lives within 25 miles of an airport with a jet-capable runway.

Airports Mean DEVELOPMENT!

- General aviation airports attract new businesses and jobs. They allow local businesses to reach out to new markets, work with suppliers from neighboring states, or deliver time-critical parts and materials to their customers in need. Local area businesses gain competitive advantages when they use the nearby airport, while the surrounding community gains jobs.
- For every dollar spent on airport improvements, \$6.70 is generated in off-airport economic gains for the surrounding community.
- According to a recent survey by the Alliance for Aviation Across America, general aviation contributes more than \$150 billion annually to the U.S. economy, including \$1.2 billion in Oklahoma, and employs 1.3 million people nationwide.

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Oklahoma's Aerospace Industry



*Lifting
Oklahoma
Up!*

Stepping Up to Grow the Aerospace Industry



Perhaps the most exciting aspect about Oklahoma's aerospace industry is the opportunity for expansion. Not since World War II when thousands of bombers were produced in Oklahoma City and Tulsa has the state's aerospace industry experienced such unparalleled growth.

Scores of new companies directly or indirectly involved with the aerospace industry have sprung up across Oklahoma's

landscape over the last two decades, helping solidify the state's reputation as an aerospace destination where innovation and hard work are at the core of its success. Much of that success can be attributed to a skilled workforce second to none, including engineers who keep the industry at the cutting edge and the

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thousands of airframe and power plant mechanics, sheet metal workers, machinists, electrical technicians and other workers who graduate every year from the state's world-renowned and highly respected higher education system and career technology centers.

The industry's success can also be attributed to state and elected officials who understand just how indispensable aerospace is to the state and its future prosperity.

Oklahoma is proud of its aviation history and the impact the industry has had on not only the state but also the nation. Ever since its humble begin-

Did you know...

- ➔ The aerospace industry is responsible for 144,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs in Oklahoma, which represents approximately one out of every 11 Oklahomans.
- ➔ The average salary of an Oklahoman working in the state's aerospace industry is nearly \$60,000, compared to the state average of more than \$37,000.
- ➔ Oklahoma is one of seven hubs or centers in the world for the maintenance, repair and overhaul of aircraft.
- ➔ Oklahoma's aerospace industry generates a \$12.5 billion economic output annually, which represents 10 percent of the state's total output.
- ➔ Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City is the largest military aircraft repair facility in the world and is also the state's largest single-site employer with approximately 28,000 jobs and an annual economic impact of more than \$3 billion.
- ➔ The American Airlines Maintenance and Engineering Center in Tulsa is the world's largest commercial aircraft repair facility, employing 7,000 people.
- ➔ The FAA's Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center in Oklahoma City serves as the central nerve center for the nation's air transportation system, employing more than 7,000 Oklahomans.



nings in the early 1900s when aviation pioneers such as Wiley Post and Clyde Cessna were first making their mark on the aviation world, Oklahoma and its people have been recognized world over for their entrepreneurial spirit and "can-do" attitude.

Without question, the aerospace industry is one of the four pillars of Oklahoma's economy, which also includes energy, agriculture and the bio-sciences. It yields a \$12.5 billion economic output (10 percent of the state's total output) and a payroll of \$5 billion annually.

The main aerospace clusters are located in Tulsa and Oklahoma City where a majority of the more than 800 aerospace-related companies operate, including major companies such as American Airlines, FlightSafety International, Lufthansa Technik, L-3 Communications, BizJet, NORDAM and Spirit AeroSystems in Tulsa and Boeing, Northrop Grumman, AAR and ARINC in Oklahoma City as well as Tinker Air Force Base. In fact, Oklahoma has one of the highest concentrations of companies and skilled workers engaged in the maintenance, repair and overhaul, and modification of aircraft in the world.

No one does it better. Indeed, Oklahoma is one of the seven centers in the world for the maintenance, repair and overhaul of aircraft. Other states may build aircraft but Oklahoma keeps them flying and flying longer!