



S T E M F L I G H T S

2025

Annual Report

PROGRAM & CURRICULUM

- **300** new students applied for a STEM Flight in 2025
- **17,800** students served with flights and classroom aviation programs
- **94 percent** of students reported they had never previously considered a STEM, aviation, or aerospace career before participating
- Students described the experience as **life changing, inspiring, and instrumental** in shaping future career decisions
- Girls In Aviation Day, Aerospace Day, and other regional events for students



FLIGHT OPS AND SAFETY

- **300+ STEM Flight Missions** flown and/or scheduled to fly in 2025
- **65 new Pilot Mentor Applications**
- Quarterly Pilot Mentor webinars for safety, engagement, and new programs overview
- Created new Pilot Portal for enhanced volunteer experience
- Monthly safety briefings to all current Pilot Mentors
- Created new flight management system for easier access to data
- Pilots reported strong fulfillment, willingness to fly again, and high likelihood of recommending STEM Flights to other pilots



SUSTAINABILITY & GROWTH

- Secured the organization's first federal grant award from **NASA** to reach more students in classrooms and airports
- Presented at the **National Science Teaching Association**, expanding educator engagement and visibility
- National and regional press coverage of flight experiences
- Created non-flying volunteer opportunities and internships to reach more kids throughout the country
- Partnered with **Eastern Michigan University** to host Aerospace Day and deliver flights and ground experiences to Detroit area students



2025 HIGHLIGHTS



Outlook 2026

In 2025, STEM Flights continued to scale its national impact, reaching thousands of students through a growing combination of flight experiences and classroom based aviation and aerospace learning. With the support of dedicated volunteer Pilot Mentors and generous donors, STEM Flights expanded far beyond individual flights, delivering downloadable STEM curriculum, educator engagement, and student centered resources that extended learning before and after the flight experience. These efforts allowed STEM Flights to introduce aviation and aerospace careers to students who had never previously considered STEM pathways and to inspire curiosity, confidence, and long term interest in the field.

Building on this momentum, STEM Flights focused in 2025 on strengthening program quality, pilot engagement, and national reach. The organization served nearly 18,000 students through flight experiences and classroom resources, enhanced pilot training and safety practices, and expanded systems to better track missions and outcomes. Student surveys continued to play a critical role in measuring impact, capturing meaningful shifts in confidence and career interest, and informing future program improvements. As STEM Flights looks ahead, the organization is well positioned to deepen educator partnerships, grow the volunteer pilot network, and further strengthen follow up resources that help students turn inspiration into action.

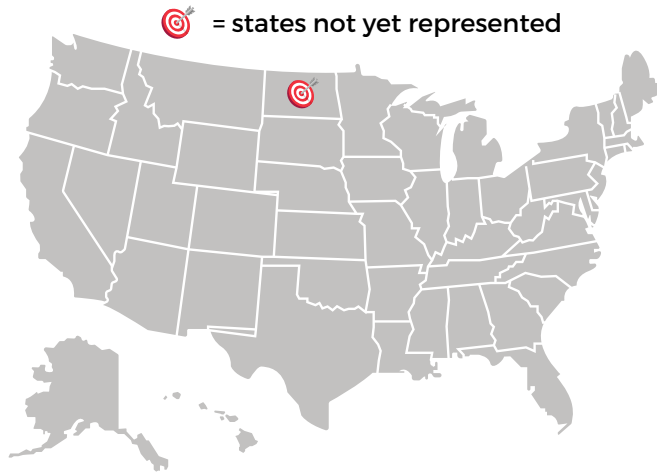


With Gratitude,

Dave, Carley, Austin

2025 METRICS

STEM Flights presence in 49 states

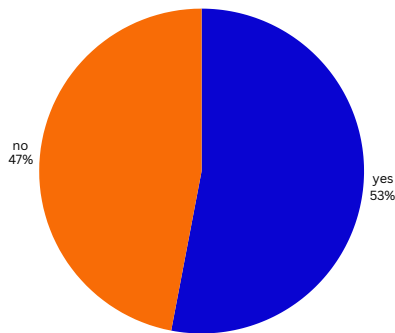


2025 By the Numbers*

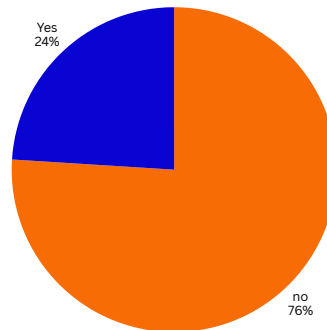
300 STEM Flights flown
300 Student Applicants
60 Pilot Mentor Applicants
17,500 students served
with Lesson Plans

2025 Student Survey Feedback

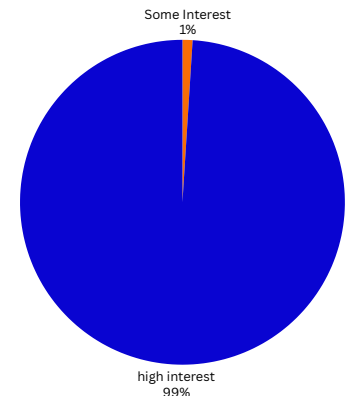
Have you participated in any STEM-related or Aviation extracurricular activities before?



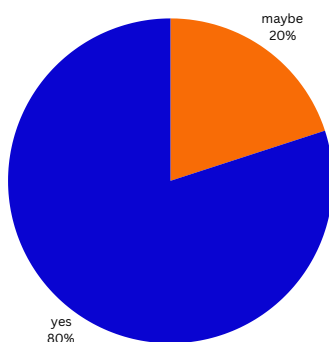
Do you have a family member or close mentor in a STEM, aviation, or aerospace career?



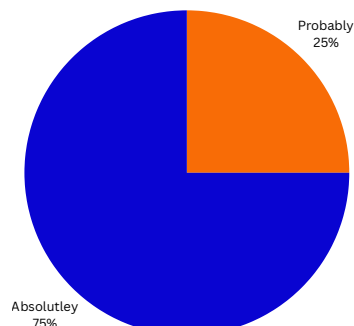
I am interested in learning more about aviation and aerospace careers.



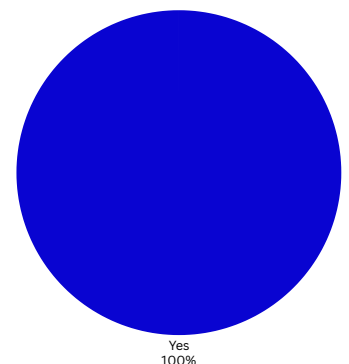
Do you hope to pursue a STEM or aviation career in the future?



This STEM Flight experience increased my interest in aviation or aerospace careers.



After my STEM Flight experience, my interest in STEM and aviation increased.



2025 Testimonials

"STEM Flights inspired me to pursue my private pilot license and explore aviation as a real future career. I signed up because I wanted to see if flying was something I would truly enjoy, and the experience was perfect for that. It was so much fun and sparked my interest even more. I completed my private pilot license in August, and now I hope to fly for a commercial airline someday. My dad flies for Southwest, and becoming an airline pilot like him would be a huge goal for me. STEM Flights is an incredible program for anyone interested in flying or aviation related careers. It gives real insight into what aviation is like and helped me realize this is something I truly want to pursue." - **STEM Flights Student**

"My Flight was everything for me. When the pilot let me handle the controls, it gave me a feeling of actually being the captain. I was the captain. It helped stoke that drive I have inside me to make it and become a commercial pilot. I know I can do it, I saw the plan for my future on my stem flight. Since taking my stem flight. I have researched the universities in my state that offers aviation majors so my mom and I can go visit. I will be starting my private pilots license training next summer." - **STEM Flights Student**

"I have not graduated high school yet, but I plan on taking courses for a career in aviation/aerospace/STEM at a university next year! STEM Flights has impacted my life in ways I never would have guessed when I first applied. After an incredible flight, my mentor has answered all my questions about different routes of getting into the aviation field. I also applied to become an Ambassador and since then started a club at my high school to talk about STEM Flights. I've encouraged other students to take a STEM Flight and have connected with multiple pilots who come to my high school to speak about their experience. As I am applying to college and deciding my major, I take into consideration what I've learned throughout my STEM Flights experience and I'm excited about the future!" - **STEM Flights Student**

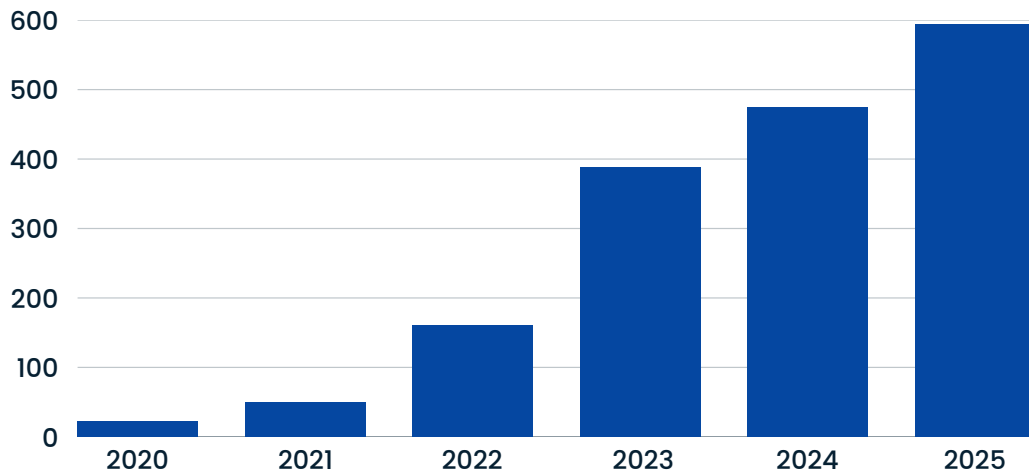
"I had an awesome experience on my STEM flight! It felt so cool to be able to fly on my own and get to learn all of the basics of flying. My mentor Fred was awesome and super helpful as well as knowledgeable. This was really a good first step in my aviation career." **STEM Flights Student**

"The experience helped me learn that I have a talent in flying. It helped me to think of how I can incorporate it into my interests in a way that benefits my future career." -**STEM Flights Student**

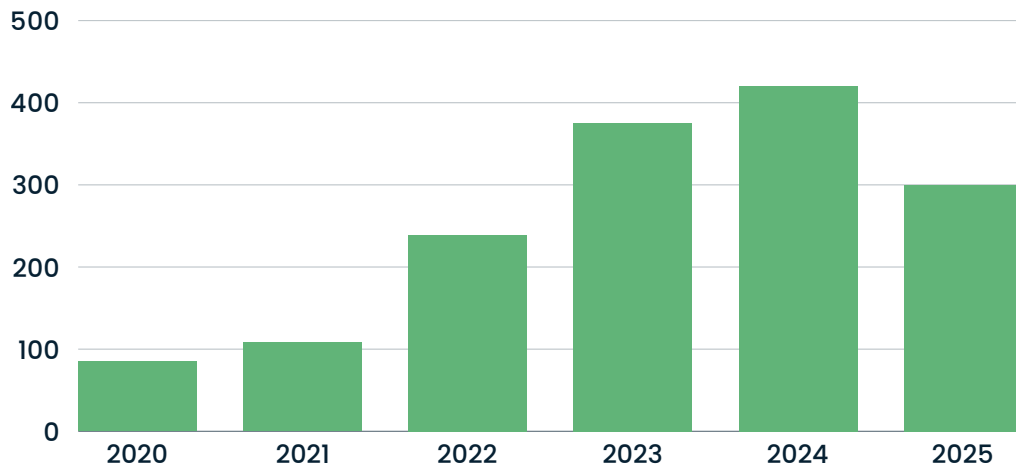
"For pilots, the reward is unforgettable. Watching a student's world open up and seeing their excitement as they realize what they are capable of is incredibly meaningful. Giving young people the opportunity to explore aviation and excel in life is one of the most fulfilling experiences a pilot can have." - **STEM Flights Pilot Mentor**

STEM Flights Growth

Total Number of Volunteer Pilot Mentors



Total Number of Student Applicants



Total Missions Flown

