



Josephine County Oregon Department of Airports

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Five-day Summer Aviation Program for Middle School Students at Grants Pass Airport

Larry Graves, Manager of the Josephine County Airports, has announced the 2017 Summer Air Academy at the Grants Pass Airport. The Experimental Aircraft Association, Civil Air Patrol, Rogue Valley Flyers, Chief Aircraft, Pacific Aviation NW, Rogue Community College, and Josephine County Airports are teaming up to offer a 5-day program that will introduce middle school students to the fundamentals of aeronautics, flying, and other aspects of the aviation industry. There is no fee for the program, which will be offered at the airport from 9:00 am to 4:00pm from July 17 through 21. While the instruction will include some classroom time, much of the curriculum will be “hands on” exercises and experiences with flight simulators and real aircraft. As there will be some math components, the curriculum will focus on students who will be entering the 8th or 9th grade and best equipped to benefit from the exercises.

As a “graduation gift” students who complete the program will be offered an opportunity for a flight in the private aircraft with one of our Grants Pass based pilots.

Parents of students who are arriving at their Middle School years are finding that dinner time conversations sometimes turn to jobs and possible directions after the school years. It is worth considering that the aviation industry is in the process of major turnover as many military veterans and baby boomers are winding down their civilian careers. Job opportunities in many areas of aviation are emerging. The Summer Air Academy will offer students a glimpse into some of these areas, such as the dynamics of flight, air traffic control, aircraft construction, service and maintenance to name a few.

If your student would like to participate enrollment, registration forms will be available at the schools or online. Enrollment will be limited to 25 students. There is likely to be some publicity and media coverage about the Summer Air Academy. Included on the enrollment form is a place for parents or guardians to authorize the publication of photographs that may include their child. The students will be provided a free lunch, thanks to the Rogue Community College organization. Registration will end May 31, 2017 and notifications will be issued by June 16, 2017.

This is an exciting opportunity for your students to experience aviation first hand at no cost, discovering and solving basic science, technology, engineering and math challenges through aviation.

Students will need to print and complete the registration form, parent/guardian sign it, then either scan and email the registration form directly to Megan Gibson (mgibson@rogucecc.edu) or mail it to her at the Table Rock Campus, Educational Partnerships Department 7800 Pacific Avenue White City, Oregon 97503. Registration forms are available on the RCC Website under the STEM Academy/Pathfinder Program page.