

DSU Commercial Aviation FAQ

Q: When can the student expect to begin flying?

A: The Private Pilot flying and ground school courses are offered during the fall and spring semesters. Students should be prepared to begin flight training within the first few weeks of the semester.

Q: What do students need to begin flying at DSU?

A: To be eligible for flight training, students must obtain a second-class medical certificate from a licensed Aviation Medical Examiner (AME). Additionally, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requires proof of U.S. citizenship, which can be provided with a valid, unexpired U.S. passport or an original U.S. birth certificate accompanied by a valid driver's license. The Commercial Aviation Department will return original documents after making copies.

For a list of AMEs, visit <https://flightphysical.com/list-by-state>.

Q: How can we pay for flight training costs?

A: Students must establish a Flight Account through Student Business Services (SBS) on campus. This account is dedicated solely to flight costs, including aircraft rentals and instructor fees. The DSU Flight Coordinator is notified once funds are deposited, allowing flight training to begin. Please note that airport personnel do not have access to Flight Accounts. If necessary, students can withdraw unused funds through a formal process.

Q: Are flight costs separate from tuition?

A: Yes, all flight costs are separate from tuition. Cost projections for the entire Bachelor of Commercial Aviation degree are published in the corresponding Undergraduate Catalog.

Q: How much money should we deposit into the Flight Account?

A: Beginning students should plan to spend approximately \$1,000 per week on flight training. A minimum balance of \$350 must be maintained in the account. Weekly costs may vary due to weather or scheduling constraints.

Q: How many days per week will students fly?

A: Students can typically schedule lessons up to five days per week. Once registered for classes, instructors review their schedules to identify two-hour blocks of availability for flight lessons. A typical instructional flight lasts approximately 1 hour and 12 minutes (1.2 hours), with pre-flight and post-flight activities bringing the total to around two hours. Some lessons involve ground instruction rather than flights. Students are only charged for aircraft usage when the plane is flown.