



"I strongly suggest enrolling in the program for someone who is interested in a career in aerospace but without any manufacturing or aerospace experience."

— Solomon B., Student Edmonds, Snohomish County

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Aerospace Loan Program (ALP) provides low-interest loans to Washington students who have been accepted into the Everett-based Washington Aerospace Training and Research (WATR) Center Program but have demonstrated inability to pay the full cost of attending the program. Students can receive up to \$7,200 for training to enhance their existing job skills or earn certificates in various aerospace production fields.

The WATR Center was created to help meet the high demand for skilled aerospace workers in Washington. After completion of the program, ALP recipients have up to three years to repay their loans.

Washington's aerospace industry is a major contributor to the state's economy. More than 700 aerospace-related businesses operate in the state, employing about 96,000 skilled workers (WA Economic Revenue and Forecast Council, 2012).



PROGRAM PURPOSE

The purpose of the Aerospace Loan Program is to assist in meeting the immediate employment needs of Washington state's aerospace companies by providing skilled workers.

Courses are offered at Edmonds and Renton Community Colleges, focusing on aerospace manufacturing, assembly mechanics, electronics, and quality assurance. ALP addresses a growing need for skilled workers in this key state industry.



BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

The Aerospace Loan Program helps students pay for tuition and fees charged for aerospace training. ALP gives students the opportunity to get training in the high-demand aerospace industry in less than two quarters.



BENEFITS TO THE STATE

The Aerospace Loan Program supports Washington's ability to meet the aerospace industry's demand for skilled workers. Meeting this demand is vital for Washington to maintain its position as a world leader in the aerospace industry.

2011-12 Loan Application Determinations	2012-13 Loan Application Determinations
Total number of program applicants: 113*	Total number of program applicants: 275**
Applicants awarded: 50*** (44%)	Applicants awarded: 184 (67%)
No award - funds exhausted: 30 students	No award - funds exhausted: 0 students
Ineligible applicants: 13 (11%)	Ineligible applicants: 45 (17%)
Applications withdrawn: 20	Declined award/Didn't enroll: 40 students (15%)
<small>*Thirty-three applicants who submitted incomplete applications are not included in this total. **Ninety-five applicants who submitted incomplete applications are not included in this total. ***47 of the 50 awarded applicants completed their aerospace certificate program.</small>	

PROGRAM RESULTS

In fiscal year 2011-12, the first year of ALP, the program received \$250,000 in state General Fund money. This amount funded 50 students with \$4,800 per recipient. The first cohort of loan recipients began aerospace job training in January 2012.

For fiscal year 2012-13, the ALP program received a \$1,250,000 appropriation. The program awarded 224 students and funded 184 students (40 students declined their awards or did not enroll) expending \$815,800 on student awards.

Each training module is \$2,400, and students can borrow enough to cover three modules.

An annual legislative report is provided to the Legislature each year in December providing program outcomes and demographics.

2012-13 ALP Applications

Received:	275
Awarded:	224
<i>Funded Applicants in 2012-13:</i>	184

2011-12 Employment Status at Time of Application

Employed	48%
Unemployed	52%

2011-12 Applicant Demographics

Males	85%
Females	15%
Ages 18-25	49%
Ages 26-35	32%
Ages 36-45	11%
Age 46 and over	8%
Has Dependents	24%
No Dependents	76%

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Washington's student financial aid programs are known collectively as Opportunity Pathways. The Washington Student Achievement Council administers these programs, helping tens of thousands of students earn college certificates and degrees annually.