

Aero Club of Buffalo

Oldest Aero Club in America, Second Oldest Aero Club in the World

Aero Club of Buffalo Scholarship Program 2025

Dear Candidate:

We would like to congratulate you on your aviation pursuits and the decision to participate in the 2025 Aero Club of Buffalo (ACOB) Scholarship Award process. We will be awarding **two \$2500 Scholarships**.

#1 The Fran Bainbridge Flight Training Scholarship - \$2500 *Funds Generously donated by the Aero Club of Buffalo Members*

Fran Bainbridge was the “heart and soul” of the Aero Club of Buffalo. Fran joined the ACOB in 2003 and from then until 2017 served in various capacities with the club, during which she served as Vice President, President, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee and Executive Secretary. An avid flyer, Fran flew a Bellanca Champion 7AC, a Searay Amphibian and a gyrocopter. Fran, without question kept the ACOB not only running but viable. The ACOB will always be grateful for her efforts.

This scholarship will be awarded to a flight student pursuing a pilot license or higher certificate.

The candidate must have logged 15 hours of flight instruction and/or have soloed by the due date of the application. *All flight lessons must be taken within one of the WNY counties listed below**. The award will be paid directly to the candidate’s choice of flight school or instructor. Candidates for this scholarship must be between the ages of 17-25 and be a permanent resident or student within the WNY region as defined below*.

#2 The Aero Club of Buffalo Aeronautical/Aviation Educational Scholarship - \$2500 *Funds Generously donated by the Aero Club of Buffalo Members*

This scholarship is designed for candidates planning a career in the field of aviation, to include, but not limited to: A & P mechanic, aerospace engineer, airport manager, aviation educator, air traffic controller, commercial or airline pilot. This scholarship is offered to endorse and assist the candidate’s efforts in pursuing their education/career in aviation. Funds awarded may be used for the purpose of related books, materials, aircraft rent and instructor time or tuition expenses. * Candidates for this scholarship must be between the ages of 17-25 and be a permanent resident or student living within the WNY region as defined below.

***To be eligible for consideration**, candidates must reside in one of the following counties: Niagara, Erie, Genesee, Wyoming, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Monroe, Livingston, Allegany, Wayne, Ontario, Yates, Seneca, and Schuyler

Scholarship Award winners will be officially recognized at the Niagara Aerospace Museum’s Hall of Fame Dinner to be held May 9, 2025. If the winner(s) are unable to attend, they will be asked to submit a picture or attend via Zoom. Second and third place winners will receive dinner for two at a future ACOB meeting. Please note all candidates will receive a free one-year membership to the Aero Club of Buffalo.

SEND YOUR APPLICATION TO: Aero Club of Buffalo, pcrassidis@gmail.com

Application must be emailed no later than April 13, 2025