



# Reno Air Racing Association

## Flight Training Scholarship Program

The Reno Air Racing Association (RARA) is offering Flight Training Scholarships (FTS) beginning December 1, 2021. The procedures herein will cover:

- I. **Scholarship Description**
- II. **Applicant Eligibility**
- III. **Application Process**
- IV. **Flight School Selection**
- V. **Scholarship Management**
- VI. **PPL Completion**
- VII. **Remaining Funds Management**

### I. **Scholarship Description**

The RARA FTS program is designed to use the legendary excitement and pageantry of the annual National Championship Air Races in Reno, NV to inspire young men and women in the Reno, NV region to become pilots. Up to ten (10) scholarships will be awarded annually in the amount of up to \$10,000 each. Applicants for the RARA FTS will undergo a review process to confirm their eligibility and commitment to completing all requirements to earn a Private Pilot License (PPL). A Scholarship Coordinator will be assigned to oversee all applicants, recipients and their progress, and additional mentors will be available to help guide recipients to a successful completion. A Scholarship Committee made up of RARA Board of Directors members and/or appointees will maintain oversight of the program.

The scholarship funding will be approved in two phases. The first phase will fund the recipient to complete their first solo flight, then after an additional review the student will be awarded the funds to complete their PPL.

*FTS Solo:* Applicants will be evaluated on an initial application and interview process. Once awarded, recipients will have up to \$5,000 available to complete the first solo flight. The Scholarship Coordinator will monitor progress, communicating regularly with students and their families to provide guidance. The Scholarship Coordinator will approve and distribute all funds to the chosen flight training facility directly. The student will have six months from the start of flight training to complete both their first solo flight and the FAA Private Pilot written exam. Any remaining funds from the initial \$5000 will remain in the student's account to be applied to the next phase.

*FTS PPL:* After soloing, the student will be eligible to apply for the remainder of the scholarship funds. Once a recipient has completed their PPL, any remaining funds may be applied toward additional flight training upon approval.



## II. Applicant Eligibility

General: All applicants must be a US Citizen, be able to fluently read, write, speak, and understand the English language, and have reliable transportation.

Medical: All applicants must be able to pass a Class III Medical Examination per 14 CFR § 61.23

Age: Applicants for the RARA FTS will be required to be at least 16 years of age and not older than 22 years of age at the time of the application. All applicants under the age of 18 must have the written consent of a parent or legal guardian.

Education: Applicants must be enrolled in or recently graduated from an approved secondary educational program that fulfills all state requirements for a high school diploma. Proof of a grade point average of 2.75 or higher is required and must be maintained through the duration of the FTS process. GED recipients may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Aviation Related: Applicants who have received prior flight training will be able to count their instructor-approved time toward completion of their PPL. While not required to apply, applicants who have successfully passed their FAA written exam for their PPL will be given higher priority than those who have not. If approved, FTS funding may be used to reimburse for the written exam expenses retroactively after the FTS is awarded. Candidates must complete a successful Discovery Flight at their own expense of at least 30 minutes in a small general aviation aircraft with a certified flight instructor prior to being considered for the scholarship.

## III. Application Process

The RARA FTS application window will be announced at the annual National Championship Air Races each September and applications will be accepted between December 1<sup>st</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Submission

Applicants will be required to submit the application packet found in Attachment A. All applications must be sent via email to [scholarships@airrace.org](mailto:scholarships@airrace.org) prior to midnight, January 31<sup>st</sup> each year. Applications received via any other means or outside of this window will not be accepted or considered. In the case that applications are received incomplete or inaccurate, applicants will be notified electronically. Applicants will be told why their application was not acceptable and offered a chance to resubmit prior to the window closing if time allows.

### Application Interviews

Applicants who meet the requirements will be invited in for a “face to face” interview with the Scholarship Coordinator. The Scholarship Coordinator will notify the applicant electronically and provide a date, time, and location for the “face to face” interview. Virtual interviews via Zoom or other methods



may be utilized if face-to-face meetings are not practical at the discretion of the Scholarship Coordinator.

The Scholarship Coordinator will have concluded all interviews by the last day of February each year with recommendations to the RARA Board of Directors Scholarship Committee submitted by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### Final Application Review and Notification

The RARA Board of Directors Scholarship Committee will review each applicant with notes provided by the Scholarship Coordinator taken during the interview process. This review will happen between March 15<sup>th</sup> and the last day of the month.

A minimum of three Board of Directors Scholarship Committee members must participate in the final selection of recipients. A majority of Yes votes will be required for an applicant to be approved for a scholarship. In the event of a tie, the Scholarship Coordinator will cast the deciding vote.

Applicants will be notified of their status as accepted or denied of the scholarship by April 15<sup>th</sup> each year. All finalists will be required to complete a successful Discovery Flight at their own expense in a small General Aviation aircraft with a Certified Flight Instructor prior to being awarded a scholarship.

#### **IV. Flight School Selection / Funds Administration**

The decision on which flight school to use rests solely with the scholarship recipient. The Scholarship Coordinator may assist in finding a suitable school upon request by the FTS student. The selected training facility will be required to complete the application in Attachment B and abide by its provisions. The Scholarship Coordinator will approve all payments for the FTS student directly from RARA to the flight school. No funds will be apportioned to the student directly. Flight training organizations wishing to become preferred providers can complete and submit an application found at [www.airrace.org/scholarships](http://www.airrace.org/scholarships). RARA will keep a list of preferred providers and make this available to scholarship recipients for consideration.

#### **V. Scholarship Management**

The Scholarship Coordinator will keep accurate records on both candidates who have applied for and those who have been granted scholarship funds from the RARA FTS Scholarship Program. Each scholarship recipient will have a file that will include:

- Name
- Method of Contact (including cell phone and email)
- Parental Consent Form
- Start of Flight Training



- Hours Completed to Date
- Flight School Attended including the Flight Instructor
- Scholarship Funds used to date
- Monthly progress reports from the student's flight instructor

Each candidate will have their file kept electronically by name on the RARA Google Drive in the Scholarships folder. The Scholarship Coordinator will provide a monthly summary report to the Board of Directors Scholarship Committee using the form seen in Attachment C.

## **VI. PPL Completion**

Once a scholarship recipient has achieved soloing an aircraft and passed the FAA Private Pilot written examination, they become eligible to apply for the remaining funds to complete their PPL. Recipients are required to notify the Scholarship Coordinator within 7 days of completing the solo and written exam and schedule an interview. The candidate will be provided an FTS PPL application packet which must be completed and submitted at least three days prior to the interview. In the event any deficiencies are noted in the application packet the candidate will have 7 calendar days to resubmit and reschedule their FTS PPL Interview.

Once the interview is completed, the Scholarship Coordinator will review the results with the RARA Board of Directors Scholarship Committee and make a recommendation to either approve or deny the application. The results of this decision will be given to the applicant within 7 days of the interview. If denied, the applicant will be given the reasons for the denial, and at the discretion of the Board of Directors Scholarship Committee and the Scholarship Coordinator may be given an opportunity to remediate the issues that resulted in the denial.

If approved, the recipient will continue flight training within 30 days. The Scholarship Coordinator will continue to monitor, record, and manage the finances of the FTS PPL process until completed.

## **VII. Remaining Funds Management**

Any funds remaining in the recipient's account once the PPL is completed may be used for additional flight ratings or endorsements. The Scholarship Coordinator will work with the recipient to source and manage the remaining funds until depleted.



**ATTACHMENT A**  
FTS Solo Application Packet

**Reno Air Racing Association**

**Solo Flight Training Scholarship Application**

*Submission of this application form does not guarantee receipt of – or amount of – funding.*

**APPLICANT PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please Type or Print Clearly)**

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_ F \_\_\_  
Home/Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION**

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICANT DATA**

**\*Record of High School Education (Applicants must forward original Student Scholastic Record (SSR))**

Name and address of high school: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Current GPA Weighted: \_\_\_\_\_ Unweighted: \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Class: 20\_\_\_\_  
Activities (include job, church, sports, clubs, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Honors or Awards (include any leadership positions if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Community Service / Volunteer Hours (Verified Total): \_\_\_\_\_ Total Flight Hours to date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Solo Flight Training Scholarship

After completion of your solo flight, a Private Pilot License (PPL) Scholarship can be applied for. Instructions will be provided through [scholarships@airrace.org](mailto:scholarships@airrace.org). Solo Scholarships are awarded at 100% of training cost. The award amount for this scholarship is a maximum of \$5000, and recipients will have 6 months from the date of their first scholarship-funded training flight to complete the first solo and FAA written exam. It is likely the activity can be completed in less time, and at a cost below the award limits.

After Scholarship is awarded, the applicant has 30 days to complete their first flight. Notification will be made to [scholarships@airrace.org](mailto:scholarships@airrace.org) of any substantial change to recipients' status in training. Upon completion of a solo flight the JCR Scholarship shall be notified, and the Solo Completion form submitted.

### **Applicant Personal Statement**

Please prepare a short essay describing yourself and your goals. The following items must also be included:

- Academic areas of interest
- Aviation and/or Aerospace-related area(s) of interest
- Personal goals related to aviation
- Career aspirations
- Essay must be typed. No longer than 1 page, double spaced, 12 Point, Times New Roman Font.

*Please type your statement and attach it to this application.*

### **Other Requested Information & Documents**

Please include the following with your application:

1. Recent class photo or passport photo (in color)
2. Student Scholastic Record (Transcript dated within 30 days of application). Transcript must show volunteer hours. If transcript does not provide, please provide independent verification.
3. Letter of recommendation from an instructor or employer (Dated within 30 days of application).

***All requested information within this application must be provided/completed to be considered for a Reno Air Racing Association flight training scholarship.***

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent / Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Applications, including all required attachments, must be submitted as a single PDF file. PDF files can be created by scanning all pages into the document feeder on a scanner, or by using a free online PDF tool such as "Soda PDF Online" to merge the individual documents into a single file.

**Applications may be submitted via email to: [Scholarships@airrace.org](mailto:Scholarships@airrace.org)**



## **ATTACHMENT B**

Training Facility Application

# **RENO AIR RACING ASSOCIATION FLIGHT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

## **Provider Request for Qualifications**

The Reno Air Racing Association (RARA) is pleased to offer Flight Training Scholarships (FTS) to deserving students in the Reno, NV local area. The students retain ultimate decision-making authority when selecting and working with a flight training provider, and RARA requires this form to be completed from all potential providers. This RFQ will be used to guide the relationship between RARA and the flight provider. Flight training providers submitting on this RFQ and submitting appropriate documentation will be placed on a preferred provider list.

### **Requested Documentation:**

#### **1. Private Pilot Training Curriculum**

- a. Provider will submit the curriculum for all levels of certification proposed (i.e. glider, light sport, recreation, private pilot, instrument, commercial, etc.). If the provider uses a commercial / educational off-the-shelf syllabus, the provider may submit the name of the syllabus publisher.
- b. Provider may supplement the curriculum with an approved FAA Industry Training Syllabus (FITS).

#### **2. Aircraft Documentation and Maintenance**

- a. Provider will submit a list/chart of aircraft used in flight training and a statement attesting to the availability of airworthiness, registration, flight manual, an up-to-date weight and balance documentation and all equipment requirements (e.g., "All aircraft listed above meet FAA regulations").
- b. Provider is requested to supplement the aircraft list/chart with the following: age, total time, total engine time, time between overhaul, major avionics, and anticipated major modifications.
- c. Provider may supplement aircraft documentation with a detailed Aircraft Standardization Manual for each aircraft operated by RARA scholarship students. The availability of standardization manuals should be noted.
- d. Provider may supplement aircraft documentation with calculators and other tools to assist students with standard operational procedures, such as weight and balance specific to an aircraft or crosswind tools. The availability of calculators and tools should be noted.
- e. Provider agrees to submit changes to the aircraft list within seven (7) days when any major changes are made.

#### **3. Flight Instructors**

- a. Provider will submit a list/chart of all flight and ground instructors with the following information: ratings, hours of instruction given at date of submission, safety certification, and any additional and pertinent information.
- b. Provider will submit a statement on the average length of tenure of all instructors employed by provider in the last 12 months or will provide two (2) reliable references if not employed by a flight school.
- c. Provider will provide a list of fees for flight instruction and an explanation of how the fees are calculated.
- d. Provider will submit changes to the flight instructor list within seven (7) days in the event of major changes.



**1. Averages**

- a. Provider will provide a statement estimating the average times required for students to achieve ratings. The provider may provide may calculate the average times based on any reasonable variable the provider chooses (i.e., 25 students achieved certification with an average of 62 hours. 15 students achieved certification in less than 50 hours by averaging 3 lessons per week.)
- b. Provider will provide an estimate of total number of students in the program and estimated availability of aircraft and instructors.

**2. Billing**

- a. Provider agrees to use common and customary billing practices.
- b. Provider will not bill for any time that is not eligible to be logged as either ground or flight training instruction (i.e., all time invoiced as aircraft rental or instruction will be reflected in the student's logbook verbatim.)
- c. All invoices must be emailed to [scholarships@airrace.org](mailto:scholarships@airrace.org) for payment. Electronic payments are not supported at this time; please allow up to 30 days for receipt of payment.
- d. The Reno Air Racing Association is a 501(c)(3) organization and is therefore tax exempt. A copy of the exemption certificate will be provided.
- e. Cancellation fees are not payable by the scholarship, any fees accrued due to cancellations will be the responsibility of the student or student's family.
- f. Flying Club initiation fees and monthly dues are not expected to be covered by the scholarship funds but may be utilized if training is performed under the organization of the club and upon prior agreement by (1) RARA scholarship staff, (2) scholarship recipient, and (3) the flight provider.
- g. Supplemental insurance programs are eligible for reimbursement.

**3. Miscellaneous**

- a. Provider agrees to contact the RARA program within 24 hours in the event of an accident or incident involving a scholarship recipient or an aircraft commonly flown by scholarship students.
- b. Provider agrees to contact the RARA program in the event a scholarship student is not making satisfactory progress, is not communicating with the provider, or has encountered other circumstances that cause a delay in training.

All questions or comments regarding this application or other concerns regarding this program may be sent to [scholarships@airrace.org](mailto:scholarships@airrace.org).

Manager/Instructor Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

RARA Scholarship Coordinator Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_





**ATTACHMENT C**

Monthly Scholarship Report

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	Last Name	First Name	Scholarship Award	Amount Expended	Scholarship Balance	Start Date	Status / HRS FLN	Issues/ Concerns
1								
2					0.00			
3					0.00			
4					0.00			
5					0.00			
6					0.00			
7					0.00			
8					0.00			
9					0.00			
10					0.00			
11					0.00			
12					0.00			
13					0.00			
14					0.00			
15					0.00			
16					0.00			
17	Totals of Scholarship Fnds				0.00			
18								
19								