Cadets to Pilots

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**Cadet Wings** is the new diamond of the Cadet Program. As a part of the Youth Aviation Initiative, Cadet Wings seeks to give cadets the financial assistance needed for a Private Pilot Certificate.

Cadet Wings has specific requirements that take some time to achieve. A typical path for a cadet is an involved process and there are other programs to lead to the prerequisites.

**Cadet Take Off Program (TOP)** is the tool to waive an activity fee and provide travel to attend a National Flight Academy (NFA). NFAs are typically held over the summer for a 10-day activity. Cadets are focused exclusively on formal flight training. The aim of the powered flight academies is for a first solo. The 2018 activity fee was $800.
The first solo is one of the requirements to apply for the Cadet Wings Program. The Cadet TOP applications open before and separately from the NCSA/NFA applications. Cadet must apply for Cadet TOP before applying and/or being accepted to the activity. NCSA/NFA applications will open separately at a later date. Cadets must apply there too.

Don’t delay. Applications for Cadet TOP close on December 31st.

For cadets who meet or anticipate meeting these requirements soon, please apply for Cadet Wings this application cycle.

1. Student Pilot Certificate
2. Have soloed in an Airplane Single-Engine Land, Glider, or Balloon
3. Medical Certificate for Airplanes only
4. Passing score FAA Airman Knowledge Test for Private Pilot

Cadets accepted into Cadet Wings will have the remainder of the costs for a Private Pilot Certificate paid for. Several options to include CAP resources, a local commercial FBO, and others exist.
Where to apply?

E-Services -> Menu -> Cadet Programs -> Applications -> CAP CadetInvest

There are many options in the same CadetInvest module. Please check the appropriate box of Cadet Wings or Cadet TOP. The other opportunities have their details listed on the Cadet Programs website.
Full details of the Cadet Wings Student Guide available at:

Take a look at all the cadets nationwide flying or have already completed their Private Pilot training.

FAA Airman Knowledge Test Help
For cadets looking for assistance with the FAA Airman Knowledge Test, CAP has a partnership with the EAA. The Sporty’s Learn to Fly Course is available for free for eligible cadets. The EAA will also reimburse the cost for the completion of the Knowledge Test. Eligible cadets have not reached 18.5 years of age and have done one orientation flight.

CAWG Cadet Flight Academy
The CAWG Cadet Flight Academy in both Norcal and SoCal are not a part of CadetInvest. The flight training conducted at these locations cannot be paid for with Cadet TOP. If interested in the Norcal and SoCal flight training, please ask your unit commander for details.

For any CAP cadets also in AFJROTC, these are the opportunities available for CAP. There are some chances for overlap during activities but applications for CAP and AFJROTC are firmly separate.

Other sources of funding for flying
Many other funding sources for flight training available from other organizations. This is just CAP’s method available to cadets across the country.