

Soaring Oklahoma

Presented by



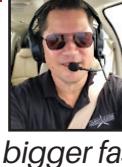
AEROSPACE & DEFENSE

The aerospace industry plays a vital role in protecting commerce and national security for the United States of America. For that reason, the industry is consistently seeking new talent to ensure constant innovation and sustainability. Air superiority has helped the U.S. to come out on top in times of war and our ability to commute freely and transport goods quickly, continues to play a vital role in our economic well-being. In Oklahoma, the opportunities available within the aerospace and defense industry are growing exponentially.

EXPLORING CAREERS WITHIN THE INDUSTRY

This chart was provided by the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development
(Resources: www.goarmy.com, www.airforce.com, www.bls.gov, www.indeed.com/salary)

Position	Average Salary	Educational Pathway
Acquisition Specialist	\$59,620	Bachelor's Degree
Aerodynamicist	\$107,830	Bachelor's Degree
Aerospace Engineer	\$107,830	Bachelor's Degree
Aerospace Ground Equipment	\$65,000	15 College Credits, 7.5 Weeks of Basic Training, 95 days of technical training
Aerospace Maintenance Specialist	\$62,000	7.5 weeks basic training & specialized instruction based on job function
Aerospace Propulsion Specialist	\$73,000	15 College Credits, 7.5 Weeks of Basic Training, 34-61 days of technical training
Air Traffic Control Equipment Repairer	\$62,000	10 weeks Basic Combat Training, 26 weeks on-the-job instruction
Air Traffic Controllers	\$122,950	Associate's degree and Long-term on-the-job training
Aircraft and Avionics Mechanics	\$58,370	FAA Aviation Maintenance Technician School
Aircraft Avionics Technician	\$58,390	FAA Aviation Maintenance Technician School
Aircraft Dispatcher	\$49,095	FAA Aircraft Dispatcher Certification
Aircraft Electrician	\$46,000	10 weeks Basic Combat Training, 19 weeks on-the job instruction
Aircraft Powertrain Repairer	\$50,000	10 weeks Basic Combat Training, 18 weeks on-the-job instruction
Aviation Consultant	\$73,000	Bachelor's Degree
Aviation Officer	\$66,000	Aviation School, Basic Combat Training, Specialized training
Aviation Operations Specialist	\$55,000	10 weeks Basic Combat Training, 8 Weeks AIT on-the-job
Aviation Planner	\$50,000	A&P License
Aviation Resource Management	\$62,000	15 College Credits, 7.5 Weeks of Basic Training, 26 days of technical training
Aviation Safety Inspector	\$85,000	FAA Certification - Aircraft Inspector Authorization
Commercial Pilot	\$102,520	Commercial Pilot's License/Airline Transport Pilot Certificate
Community Planners	\$68,220	Master's Degree
Contract Specialists	\$59,620	Bachelor's Degree
Electrical and Avionic Systems Repairs	\$54,000	10 Weeks Combat Training, 24 Weeks on-the-job instruction
Electrical Engineer	\$95,230	Bachelor's Degree
Electronics Technician	\$55,160	Post Secondary Non-degree Award in specialized training, voluntary certification
Industrial Engineer	\$83,470	Bachelor's Degree
Information Technician	\$51,470	Bachelor's Degree/Associate's Degree or Technical Training
Logistics & Supply Chain Management	\$74,260	Bachelor's Degree
Machinist	\$42,110	FAA Technical Training/Certificate
Mechanical Engineer	\$83,590	Bachelor's Degree
Military Pilot	\$81,000	Bachelor's degree, 9.5 weeks officer training school, Completion of Pilot Training
Software Engineer	\$100,690	Bachelor's Degree
Structural Engineer	\$82,220	Bachelor's Degree
Welding/Sheet Metal Technician	\$45,750	High School Diploma/Certification/Apprenticeship



Name: **Bret Wyatt**

Position Held: **Chief Instructor and Charter Pilot**

Education: **Masters Business Administration**

FLYING is the best part of my job! The view from above is amazing and modern airplanes are a joy to fly. My advice to anyone wanting to become a pilot, be patient as you achieve the various levels of experience. Many pilots get into too big a hurry to fly bigger faster planes. Always understand that the small slow planes give you the experiences you'll need to handle the heavy iron!



Name: **Rob Seeman**

Position: **Operations Manager, Covington Aircraft**

Education: **High School graduate, Power Plant Certification**

Hello My Name is Rob Seeman and I currently serve as Operations Manager for Covington Aircraft Engines. I joined Covington Aircraft in 1995 as a parts cleaner. As Operations Manager I oversee any work that is sent to our facility. I work directly with customers and D.O.M.'s to outline the work to be accomplished by our well-trained staff. As Operations Manager I also interact with Human Resources to staff our company, so if you apply at Covington there is a very real possibility that we will meet! Working for a company that promotes from within has allowed me to take on several different roles over the past many years such as, Line Inspector, Disassembly Mechanic, Assembly Mechanic, Mobile Repair Mechanic, Test Cell Operator, and finally to the Operations Team. Because of Covington Aircraft's capabilities I have had the privilege to work with both piston engines and gas turbine engines. Due to the variety of engines serviced and overhauled at Covington, I have also had opportunity to work on a variety of aircraft which include World War II Aircraft, Agriculture Aircraft, and General Aviation Aircraft. Having a career in aviation has allowed me to travel and meet many different people. I have served on the National Aerial Applicator Association Board as well as representing Covington at various organizational conventions and trade shows which are held all over the U.S. Because Covington Aircraft Engines is a name recognized worldwide I have also written technical publications regarding the engines we service and overhaul.



Name: **Lianna Monsey**

Position: **Billing Analyst, AAR Aircraft Services, OKC**

Education: **Bachelors, General Business**

I love my job! There are so many things I love. It is a lot of paperwork and organization, all of which I enjoy. I am not one to be in the spotlight and prefer to work behind the scenes, so to speak. This job is a perfect fit for that. What I really enjoy is the flexibility that AAR has to offer not only to me, but to my family. I have 3 children and there is always school events, doctor appointments, or sports going on. I can come in early or stay late if needed. Another thing I love is my coworkers! It would not be fun to come into work if it weren't for the friendships we have. I feel extremely blessed to have landed this job.

My degree is in General Business. I was planning on pursuing my Masters in Human Resources but that did not work out for me. I am using my degree as I work in the accounting/billing department. My advice would be to pay attention in school and dream BIG!! Pick a career that you are passionate about. Because you will be doing that every day. Accounting and billing departments can be found everywhere so master the skills and you could work in just about any industry you want to. I started as an entry level position but once you are in you can work your way up.



Name: Doug Haught
Position: Controller, Covington Aircraft

Education: Bachelor of Science in Accounting, Certified Public Accountant (CPA)

In my role as Controller, I am the senior accounting and finance professional and lead the finance functions and finance staff. To help keep our production operations flowing, our finance team completes the basic accounting functions such as paying bills, invoicing customers, and receiving payments from customers. I am hands-on involved in preparation and presentation of our company financial information to both internal and external users. For our nine different companies, I prepare and interpret reports detailing the financial results of our operations, our financial strength, and future projections such as budgets. In addition to this basic financial information, I assist fellow employees to measure activities in their operational areas and to interpret departmental results.

My favorite activity is being an active contributing member on the leadership team. For that team I strive to provide accurate, complete, and timely financial and operational information along with enlightening interpretation to enable our executive team to solve problems and make fact-based decisions which guide our company. My role often is much more than the basic accounting and finance reports and helps our company manage risks. I enjoy helping others do their jobs better, more efficiently, and faster! I think success in a financial role on the leadership team is centered around these traits:

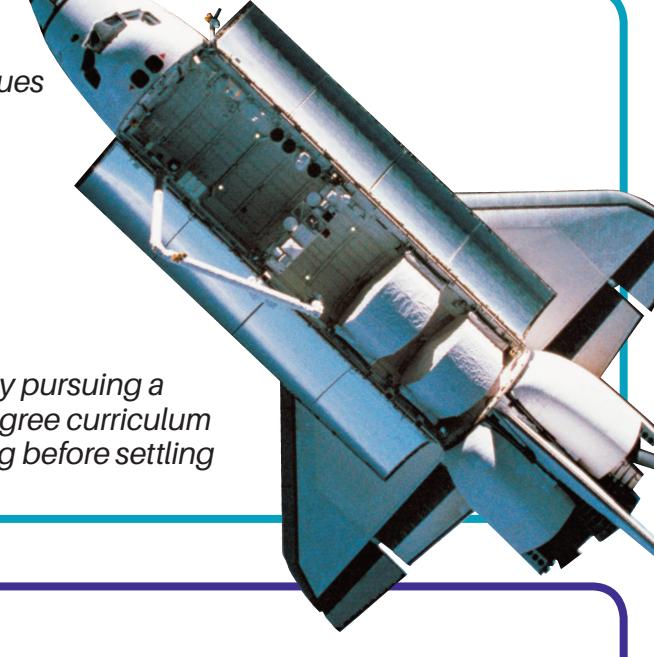
- Be a good listener & communicator – Learn and apply good verbal and written communications skills coupled with the ability to be an attentive active listener. The work day can be filled with dozens of communications and the ability to discern the meaning of what others are saying and to effectively express your thoughts in a concise manner are vital to be an effective communicator.
- Be a team player – Today's businesses are most effective when all players are jointly working towards a common understanding of shared goals. The ability to mold to the needs of the team and to value team success above individual achievements are critical for teams to function at a high level.
- Be a problem-solver – Turn obstacles and road blocks into opportunities for growth. Develop a positive outlook of the situations presented by looking for "how to make it happen" instead of focusing on "why it can't be done". Be technically strong – For the finance role do the hard work to excel in math skills but also gain well-rounded knowledge in other disciplines such as science, history, etc.
- Be a hard worker – Develop the habit of being positive and daily make a conscious decision to be excellent for that day. When this habit matures it turns into a "good work ethic" where productivity is maximized every day!



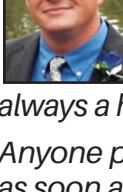
Name: Amy L. Abernathy
Position: Assistant Controller, AAR Aircraft Services, OKC
Education: Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting

The best part of my job is the people I get to work with every day, and the Core Values that my Company instills throughout the workplace. Those core values are:

- Quality first. Safety always.
- Find a way. Every day.
- Do it fast. Do it well.
- Be honest. Inspire trust.
- Work as one. Be inclusive.
- Ideas matter. Think new. Think ahead.
- Make money. Have fun.
- Own it.



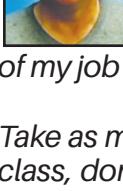
The accounting field has changed and expanded from when I went to school. Those currently pursuing a career in accounting should look for a program that offers a combined Bachelor's/Master's degree curriculum to save on time and money. If there is an opportunity to spend a few years in public accounting before settling into a specific industry, I would highly recommend that experience.



Name: Scott Hankins
Position: Director of Maintenance, AAR Aircraft Services, OKC
Education: Master of Science

I get to work with aircraft every day! There is never a boring day in the MRO (maintenance, repair and operations) industry. Constant change and new challenges each and every day keep it interesting and drive people to always bring their best. Education is always a huge piece of any career.

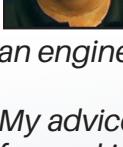
Anyone pursuing a career in the aviation maintenance industry needs to plan on obtaining the A&P (airframe and power plant certification) as soon as possible. This will make them a much more valuable employee for any company.



Name: Patti Wesselhoft
Position: Technology/Network Administrator, AAR Aircraft Services, OKC
Education: Bachelor's Degree

There's not really one best part. Being able to work with virtualization technology, designing & creating servers & storage, verifying we have good backups in case of disaster and troubleshooting computer issues when they arise are all important facets of my job and I like doing all of it.

Take as many STEM classes as you can when you're in high school and college. If you don't understand some aspect of a math or science class, don't be afraid to ask a teacher for help or tutoring. You can start with a 2-year degree if you're interested in getting to work sooner. I suggest either Programming or Information Security (cybersecurity) degrees. Also consider Oklahoma's technology career centers. There are many different jobs in Information Technology, including program development, virtualization, networking & desktop support. Also, find a mentor who can help you in your journey. Join an association or club where you can network with others in your field.



Name: Robert Metcalfe
Position: Manager of Engineering, AAR Aircraft Services, OKC
Education: High School graduate, United States Air force tech school training - Telecommunication Operator Specialist, 15 months Airframe and Power Plant course and additional on-the-job training.

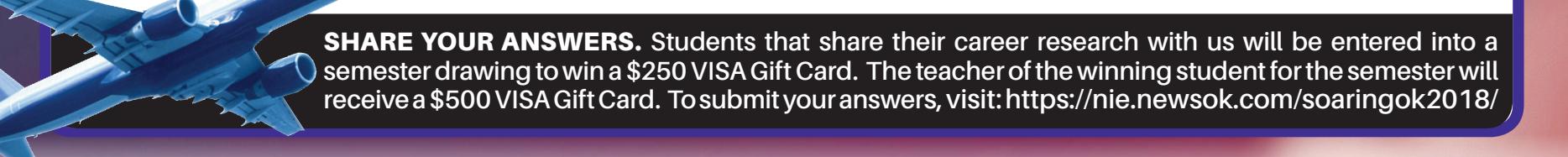
Engineering, provides new challenges each day, further this position provides a high level of responsibility with the authority that an engineer is granted by the company, the FAA and our customers.

My advice would be, and it relates to not just engineering but anything you do in life - Study hard and retain what you learn as you move forward in your career. Work hard, be punctual and have pride in what you do. A great work ethic is one of the most important things you can do for yourself and your career, strive to outperform the competition, always work harder than the other guy, if you can produce a greater value and a higher quality for your customers and/or direct supervisors than your competition, you will always be in demand and will have a fulfilling and lucrative career.

Choose a career that sounds interesting to you that you had never heard of before.

Now do your research! When exploring your chosen career, you will need to do the following:

- 1) Identify the education requirements for entering into your chosen career.
- 2) Identify at least 3 educational institutions within the state of Oklahoma that you could attend to retain the required education for your chosen position.
- 3) Find 3 different real-life job listings within the state of Oklahoma for your chosen career (you can use Monster.com, Indeed.com, USAjobs.com, etc. to locate job listings). Identify a list of required skill sets that are common among all three job listings.
- 4) Create a list of 5 questions that you have regarding what it would be like to work in the career you have chosen. Choose one of the 3 job listings that you have already identified and research that company's Human Resource contact information. Contact the Human Resource department for that company, identify yourself as a student doing research and seek answers to your 5 questions.
- 5) Summarize your findings. Write a 1 - 2 page summary of your findings including an introduction explaining why you chose the career that you did and a conclusion indicating whether or not you are interested in learning more about the career you have chosen to research or if you would prefer to look at other career opportunities.



SHARE YOUR ANSWERS. Students that share their career research with us will be entered into a semester drawing to win a \$250 VISA Gift Card. The teacher of the winning student for the semester will receive a \$500 VISA Gift Card. To submit your answers, visit: <https://nie.newsok.com/soaringok2018/>