



RAY AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP



HOW TO BOOST YOUR CHAPTER'S APPLICATION SCORE

The Ray Aviation Scholarship is a scholarship program that is funded by the Ray Foundation, managed by EAA, and administered through the EAA chapter network. Through the generous support of the Ray Foundation, EAA will provide up to \$11,000 to deserving youths for their flight training expenses, totaling \$1.8 million in annual scholarship funding.

The goal is to exceed an 80% flight training success rate for program participants, with the hope that those who successfully complete their training will become lifelong participants in EAA and general aviation.

Due to the critical nature of the local chapter to the success of the program, chapters interested in participating in the program must be prequalified by EAA through an application process. In addition, with just shy of \$1.8 million available for scholarships, at \$11,000 per scholarship and with over 900 chapters, chapter selection is incredibly important.

EAA scores chapters on a number of different factors to help determine the most deserving chapters that will earn the opportunity to nominate a Ray Scholar in their area.

FIVE SCORING AREAS AND WHY THEY MATTER

- **Scholarship Program** – Does the chapter already run a successful scholarship program? If so, this proves that the chapter has experience vetting and selecting quality candidates.
- **Scholar Recipient in Mind** – Does the chapter have a scholar in mind? This can act as a tiebreaker, should two chapters have equally impressive applications.
- **Chapter Activities** – Offering a wide variety of chapter activities helps ensure that a scholar receives a well-rounded EAA experience. This can help keep the scholar engaged long after they pass their checkride, such as mentoring future scholars or flying Young Eagles.
- **Chapter Recognition** – EAA's Chapter Recognition program helps recognize high performing chapters. The more engaged a chapter is, the more likely they are to offer high quality mentorship and support for scholars, thus ensuring successful completion.
- **Chapter Application Short Answers** – The short answer portion of the chapter application allows chapters to dive into the details on how they will select and mentor a scholar, ensure successful completion of flight training, and support their case for earning a scholarship.

TIPS FOR IMPROVING YOUR APPLICATION SCORE

To learn more about the Ray Aviation Scholarship program, please visit EAA.org/RayScholars.

1. Do not rush through the application. Spend time on each section, especially the short answer portion.
2. Start a small scholarship program (\$1,000 annually).
3. Start a ground school program for chapter members and Young Eagles.
4. Attend a chapter leadership training session.
5. Acquire a chapter flight simulator.