EAA Young Eagles Workshops Program Frequently Asked Questions

About the Program

Q: What is the EAA Young Eagles Workshops program?

A: The EAA Young Eagles Workshops program provides an opportunity for EAA chapters to offer youth who are of school age (approximately 11 to 17) an opportunity to learn about aviation in a social setting at the local airport. EAA Young Eagles Workshops can be a one-day or multiple day experience geared to introduce kids to the basic elements of airplanes and aviation.

Through various classroom style learning and hands-on activities, EAA Young Eagles Workshops provide emotional, creative, social, and educational growth to kids with EAA chapter aviation related role model counselors. Workshops focus on specialized aviation content and materials to offer kids to embrace aviation as a potential recreational or career path as they mature.

Q: Who is eligible to participate in the EAA Young Eagles Workshops program?

A: Any EAA chapter or squadron in good standing with EAA is eligible to participate. The chapter will have an area suitable to host EAA Young Eagles Workshops, including comfortable, adequate space for classroom-style learning, such as a clean hangar with restrooms. EAA youth activities are not permitted at member homes. The chapter will be committed to staffing the program according to EAA Youth Protection Policy program requirements. The chapter will have a commitment to ensuring a great experience for the kids.

Q: May a chapter use the EAA Young Eagles Workshops in a school or at other organizations?

A: The EAA Young Eagles Workshops program is an EAA program developed for EAA chapters and squadrons to offer aviation related education to area youths. EAA chapters will administer the program using EAA chapter members and guest presenters. It is preferred to host workshops at the local airport, however other locations are permitted including schools. Always disclose the program location on the EAA Chapter Event Insurance Request form to ensure approval.

Q: Does the workshops program include hands-on activities?

A: Yes, hands-on activity instructions are included, along with specific materials. Chapters will provide additional materials needed to fully engage in the hands-on activities. Chapters are welcome to develop their own activities to enhance the workshop to their own interest.

Q: How do we find kids to participate in the workshops?

A: An EAA Young Eagles Workshops program can be a great follow-up activity after a Young Eagles rally. Chapters may invite youth participating in a Young Eagles event or other chapter youth activity to an upcoming workshop. EAA also provides template posters for participating chapters to market their events at chapter events or around the local area.

Q: Is there a cost to chapters to participate in the program?

A: A nominal fee is charged to chapters to have access to the turnkey materials provided by EAA. The turnkey downloadable content and materials kits are boxed in ten-packs, so a chapter will purchase as many kits needed to fulfill the number of planned participants.

Q: Can chapter charge a fee for the workshops?

A: Yes, chapters may charge a fee to participants. Whether it be to cover program expenses, or to offer the program as a fundraising opportunity, chapters may charge a fee. Chapters may not hire employees to work at or manage EAA chapter programs.

Planning and Preparation

Q: What do chapters need to consider prior to hosting an EAA Young Eagles Workshops program?

A: The level of detail and preparation needed to prepare for a workshop program is dependent on the duration of the event and the number of participants. EAA has developed a Workshops Program Guide to assist chapters in program management. Helpful information is included in the guide such as project management, project timelines, engaging with volunteers, applying for EAA event insurance, program logistics, attracting participants, program financial considerations, and post-event action.

Q: How long is an EAA Young Eagles Workshops program?

A: The EAA Young Eagles Workshops program can be tailored by a chapter to fit into nearly any amount of time available. Program learning modules can be selected and used to fit the time period allocated by the chapter for the program whether it be a half-day program, full-day, or multiple days.

Q: How do we create an agenda or program schedule?

A: EAA has sample program schedules available in the turnkey materials provided. Chapters have the flexibility to utilize as many learning modules and hands-on activities as their program time and interest allows.

Q: Who are the speakers for the classroom-learning portion of the workshops?

A: Recruit chapter members or others experienced in aviation disciplines to present modules and facilitate hands-on activities. It's usually helpful to recruit and prepare additional members to help support any breakout groups.

In addition to chapter members who may be local pilots or aircraft builders, invite others from your local community. Consider speakers who would be good role models: the commercial pilot, military pilot, emergency medical pilot, news or law enforcement helicopter pilot, business owner, or an Angel Flight pilot. Invite them to speak and if possible, show their aircraft. Consider also non pilot aviation speakers such as mechanics, avionics technicians, air traffic controllers, airport engineering consultants, or the airport manager. This not only broadens the student experience, it offers added visibility for your chapter.

Q: Where may a chapter host a workshop?

A: It is preferred to host a workshop at a local municipal airport, as an airport event can help youth and parents become more comfortable visiting a small airport and the chapter, ultimately fostering a welcoming environment. Chapters may host a workshop away from the airport, however continued engagement with the chapter may be lost after the event is over.

Q: Is my EAA chapter hangar suitable to host a workshop?

A: The program is designed for both classroom style learning and light hands-on building activities. A classroom style space can simply consist of an area having tables and chairs located in front of a suitably sized screen for the participants to easily view the PowerPoint learning modules. Be aware that excess sunlight and glare as may result from an open hangar door can be detrimental to viewing. Test all viewing and presentation equipment prior to the event. The hands-on activities are typically able to be accomplished in the same space as the classroom set-up given that tables are in place for each student. A second space can be designed for the hands-on activities if desired. Depending on what activities your chapter engages in will ultimately determine the final workshop space and layout. Clean restrooms are a must to host workshops and it is best to have at least two restrooms available. Regardless if the workshop is a one-day event or multiple-day event, consider where students may break for a snack or lunch. Determine if a kitchenette or simply refrigeration will be needed for box lunches, to store food

items, including drinks, or if food preparation is needed. Chapter hangars can be a suitable space to host a workshop given the correct amenities.

Q: Can our chapter register to host a workshop, even though our chapter does not have a confirmed event date at this time?

A: An event date is required to complete the registration process. A chapter may simply estimate or forecast the date of the event, and contact EAA if the date changes. EAA is committed to assisting chapters to successfully host a workshop event.

Insurance and Waivers

Q: Should chapters apply for EAA chapter event insurance when hosting a workshop?

A: Yes, chapters should request EAA Chapter Event Liability Insurance for all chapter events and programs.

Q: Should chapters use a participation waiver for a workshop and where may a chapter find a proper waiver?

A: Chapters are expected to comply with any EAA and local safety and health requirements and guidelines. Waivers don't eliminate risk but set expectations and offer your chapter and EAA some protection in the case of a challenge. For events extending over multiple days, asking for medical conditions is especially advised. Waivers may be incorporated into your registration or application form.

Chapters should use waivers provided in the turnkey materials provided by EAA. Waivers should be completed in full, and returned to EAA by mail, using the self-addressed stamped envelopes included with the workshop materials.