The aviation science faculty has experience in many aspects of aviation. The department employs airline pilots to teach air carrier related courses. The faculty also actively pursues research. Two major research projects are currently underway: aviation safety action programs in maintenance and safety culture in the technical operations of air traffic.

Reduced Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) Minimums:
+ Saint Louis University has been granted approval to provide a transcript endorsement certifying graduates for a 250-hour or 500-hour reduction towards the ATP Certificate for the Bachelor of Science in aeronautics degree with a major in flight science or aviation management. For students to qualify for this reduction, they must complete 30 credits of approved coursework to be eligible for the 250-hour reduction, or complete 60 credits of approved coursework to be eligible for the 500-hour reduction. To learn more about the FAA approved curriculum, visit aviation.slu.edu.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the general admission and matriculation requirements of the University, applicants to any flight science programs must be able to pass a Federal Aviation Administration class II medical examination. This physical examination is an absolute prerequisite for flight training and should be taken prior to the student’s arrival on campus. For specific information regarding the examination, visit the FAA online at faa.gov/pilots/amelocator. Early application for admission to the flight science program is strongly encouraged as capacity may be limited.

International students will be evaluated for their listening comprehension and spoken ability in addition to meeting regular English requirements. Prior to commencing flight instruction, special training will be required for those students found deficient in this evaluation.

All applications are thoroughly reviewed with the highest degree of individual care and consideration to all credentials that are submitted. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be graduating or have graduated from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

For information about scholarships available for flight science, visit parks.slu.edu/academics/scholarships-financial-aid.

WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAM?

+ SLU is the only Jesuit University in the United States to offer aviation science degrees, and our students are offered a much more well-rounded curriculum to educate the "whole person."
+ Our flight training is conducted out of St. Louis Downtown Airport which is located between Lambert-St. Louis International Airport and Scott Air Force Base, providing our aviation students with a complex and dynamic environment to learn to fly in.
+ The aviation science department has been granted a Letter of Authorization from the FAA making graduates eligible for a maximum reduction of 500 hours towards the 1,500 hour requirement for the Airline Transport Pilot Certificate.

Benefits of the flight science program also include several internship and career opportunities. The aviation science department provides valuable internship opportunities with Delta Air Lines, Southwest Airlines, Trans States Airlines, JetBlue and other carriers. Other corporate internships are also available. These internships are highly competitive.

The flight science degree prepares graduates to enter the aviation industry as a professional pilot in the airline, corporate and military sectors. After earning their flight instructor certificates, graduates who do not enter a military career track typically seek a flight instructor position to develop their experience for one–three years at which time they are qualified for a position with a regional airline or corporate flight department.

Restricted ATP Rule:
Students who graduate from Saint Louis University, under the Institutional Authority Program, are eligible for a transcript endorsement leading to a restricted ATP certificate with either 1,000 or 1,250 hours of flight experience depending on the number of approved credit hours completed. Students who graduate from unapproved institutions require 1,500 hours of flight experience prior to ATP certification. This also allows students to qualify for the ATP certification at the age of 21 instead of having to wait until they are 23.

Additional Benefit of the Program:
Students completing the flight science degree are eligible to participate in one of the "pipeline" or "pathway" programs that Parks College participates in with the following airlines:

+ Airline Pathway Program (AP3) – ExpressJet Airlines
+ Pilot Pipeline Program – Envoy Air, Inc.
+ Aviation Career Pipeline Interview Program – Republic Airways Holdings
+ Aviators Program - A Professional Pilot Career Pipeline – Trans States Airlines