

AEROSPACE INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP COMPACT

- 1. Purpose.** This COMPACT establishes a mutual understanding between the West Virginia Department of Education, the West Virginia Department of Education's Division of Technical Education and Governor's Economic Initiatives, Marshall University, Yeager Airport, and the West Virginia Department of Commerce.
- 2. Project Scope.** Whereas, all parties recognize the importance of education, as well as the valuable economic opportunities that exist in the aerospace industry for the state of West Virginia, and understand the critical role Career Technical Education (CTE) aerospace AND aviation technology programs play in creating a pipeline of highly skilled, industry-certified workers to meet the industry's needs.

Whereas, West Virginia's emerging aerospace sector provides an array of economic, financial, and workforce advantages for our state, this COMPACT creates a shared role, among all parties in preparing the young men and women across the state for current and future career opportunities in the thriving aerospace industry.

Whereas, the partnership between the West Virginia Department of Education's Division of Technical Education and Governor's Economic Initiatives, Marshall University, Yeager Airport, and the West Virginia Department of Commerce will grow the world class aerospace labor force and create opportunities for students to gain the technical skills and expertise needed to work in the thriving sector, therefore fueling the aerospace industry's workforce demand for highly trained employees.

This COMPACT is intended to establish expectations for cooperation among COMPACT parties as per agreements below:

A. The West Virginia Department of Education will:

- Support aerospace education and technical training opportunities for West Virginia students.

B. The West Virginia Department of Education's Division of Technical Education and Governor's Economic Initiatives will:

- Work to expand existing aerospace and aviation technology CTE programs to meet the industry's workforce needs.
- Work to establish new CTE aerospace and aviation training programs where students can obtain certifications and licensures relevant to the industry.
- Assist in connecting CTE aerospace and aviation technology programs with education and industry partners.

C. Marshall University will:

- Collaborate with partners named in this document to create articulated aerospace and aviation career pathways, from entry-level skillsets to advanced credentials and licensures, thus expanding education and training opportunities for West Virginia students interested in pursuing a career in the industry. Furthermore, Marshall will work to collaborate with Tri-State Airport, Fairmont State University, Mountwest Community and Technical College, Pierpont Community and Technical College, and other entities within the state to promote aviation programs and the expansion of the aerospace industry within West Virginia and the Tri-State area.

D. Yeager Airport will:

- Promote this partnership by supporting the emerging job opportunities the aerospace and aviation sector can provide to fuel economic growth in the state.

E. The West Virginia Department of Commerce will:

- Promote this partnership by supporting the growing aerospace and aviation industry and the economic and workforce opportunities the sector can provide for West Virginia.

4. Termination. Any of the parties hereto may terminate this COMPACT upon a 30 day notice to the other parties.

5. Participation. This COMPACT in no way obligates the West Virginia Government to any financial or contractual obligations.

6. Effective Date. This COMPACT will become effective on the date signed by representatives of the West Virginia Department of Education, Marshall University, Yeager Airport, and the West Virginia Department of Commerce, and will be reviewed two years after the effective date and, if deemed necessary by the Compact partners, be re-signed.

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