# Aircraft Structures Technician

SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION

## Overview

The Aircraft Structures Technician program is designed to provide you with the essential knowledge and practical skills needed to forge a successful career as an aircraft maintenance engineer (AME) "S."

You will learn the roles and responsibilities of an AME "S," including the manufacturing and repairing of both aircraft and their components and acquire proficiency in a wide range of repairs needed for general aviation, corporate, charter, and transport category aircraft and helicopters.

In this program, you will learn:

- the fundamentals of aircraft structures, ensuring a solid understanding of the basics
- about the wide range of materials used in aviation, from theory to application
- to craft and mend traditional aluminum sheet metal structures, advancing into composite material manufacturing and adopting the latest technologies in aircraft structure repair
- repair and maintenance techniques specific to aircraft structures, preparing you for hands-on work in the field.

Once you graduate, you're ready to work in the aviation industry and work towards becoming an "S" licensed AME. This program is aligned with the current demands of the aviation industry, ensuring your skills are up to date.

Situated at the Art Smith Aero Centre for Training and Technology at the Calgary International Airport, the program offers a unique learning environment. Benefit from modern computer labs equipped for web-based learning. All required equipment and resources are provided.

This program is a blend of theoretical knowledge and hands-on training within two semesters of study.

Upon completion, you will be fully equipped to take on the challenges of being an aircraft structures technician. This program is a stepping stone to a fulfilling career in aviation.

### Traits, skills and aptitudes

Aircraft structures engineers tend to be objective, innovative and methodical.

You need:

- good writing and speaking skills
- confidence
- mechanical aptitude
- good eyesight and hearing
- hand-eye and muscle coordination
- fitness and agility for reaching and climbing
- comfort with heights
- organization and time-management skills
- attention to detail
- teamwork skills
- decision-making skills, often under pressure
- spatial and form awareness.

### Practicum, Co-op and Work Integrated Learning

You'll have the opportunity to engage with potential employers in a variety of settings, allowing you to experience the aviation industry and work with experienced technicians to gain a better understanding of what your career post-graduation will look like.

During this experience, you will need to meet the safety requirements of the company you will be job shadowing and may need to

purchase additional personal protective equipment (PPE) to participate.

### Accreditations, designations and certifications

This program is accredited by Transport Canada, subject to periodic audits.

To receive ten months of credit towards the Aircraft Maintenance Engineer "S" license, you must attend at least 95% of your classes and labs and achieve minimum overall marks of 70%.

### Credentials

Upon successfully completing this program, you'll recieve a SAIT Aircraft Structures Technician certificate.

## Admission requirements

### Applicants educated in Canada

Applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency and completion of the following courses or equivalents:

- at least 50% in Math 20-1 or 20-2, and
- at least 50% in English Language Arts 30-1 or 30-2.

SAIT accepts high school course equivalents for admission for applicants educated outside Alberta.

### Applicants educated outside of Canada

All applicants who were educated outside of Canada must demonstrate English language proficiency and provide proof they meet the program admission requirements with an international document assessment. Find accepted educational documents and assessment options.

SAIT may also accept courses completed at certain international post-secondary institutions.

## Costs

### 2026/27 tuition and fees

The following estimated costs are effective as of July 1, 2026.

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees is based on the suggested schedule of study. Following a modified schedule will impact the fees you pay per semester and may alter final costs.

### Domestic Students

| Year | Number of semesters | Tuition fees | Additional fees | Total per year |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | $10,798.50 | $1,764.50 | $12,563 |
| | | | **Total cost:** | **$12,563** |

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees for domestic students is based on the recommended course load per year.

### International Students

The program total is based on the estimated amount you will pay if you enter this program during the 2026/27 academic year. The program total amount listed on your letter of admission may appear higher. This amount is your maximum tuition guarantee for the program. SAIT will not exceed this maximum, regardless of changes in tuition and fees between academic years.

| Year | Number of semesters | Tuition fees | Additional fees | Total per year |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year | Number of semesters | Tuition fees | Additional fees | Total per year |
| 1 | 2 | $28,911 | $1,764.50 | $30,675.50 |
| | | | **Total cost:** | **$30,675.50** |

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees for international students is based on the recommended course load per year.

## Books and Supplies

Books and supplies are approximately $1,000 - $1,500 per full-time year.

This is a bring-your-own-device program with a standard computer hardware and software requirement. See the specific requirements on our computers and laptops page.

Find your booklist on the SAIT Bookstore's website. The booklist will be available closer to the program start date.

Can't find your program or course? The bookstore didn't receive a textbook list. Contact your program directly to determine if they're still refining course details or if you're in luck; no textbook purchase is required this term.

## Required equipment/tools

A tool list and timeline for purchasing the items will be provided at orientation.

## Required personal protective equipment (PPE)

Students will require coveralls, safety glasses and a respirator.

The industry-approved PPE you'll need will be discussed during orientation, where you can purchase these items using debit or credit.