



# NFA FAQs

## What is National Flight Academy's Mission?

National Flight Academy (NFA) is an interactive, fully immersive learning experience that focuses on inspiring youth to take a greater interest in STEM.

To learn more about NFA, please visit our website, [nationalflightacademy.com](http://nationalflightacademy.com).

## What makes up the curriculum or educational program?

NFA's curriculum includes aerodynamics, survival skills, navigation, aviation physiology and meteorology. However, National Flight Academy is more than just academics. A fully immersive gaming environment is used for students to participate in exciting missions. Each mission is aligned to Florida and National educational standards. An additional area of focus is 21st Century Core Competencies to emphasize essential skills such as collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking. Participants, called AMBITION eXperimental Pilots (AXPs) are challenged on a wide range of topics from basic three-dimensional physics and motion to more advanced concepts of aeronautical engineering and propulsion systems. These missions all play into enhancing the students' education, ultimately enriching their understanding of STEM principles.

## Which age groups are eligible to attend?

Students must be 10-17 years old and must be entering 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade the Summer they attend. They must meet BOTH age and grade requirements to attend. Students who have graduated from 12th grade in the U.S. (or its equivalent) or who are 18 years old by the time of attendance are not eligible to participate.

## How long is an NFA Deployment?

Our Summer Deployment program lasts 6 days and 5 nights, with students living aboard for the duration of their experience. During the school year, our Deployment program runs 5 days and 4 nights, Monday through Friday, perfect for schools and homeschool groups!

## What about the security and well-being of my child?

National Flight Academy provides round-the-clock security, both physical and electronic, whenever programs are in session. Access to the facility, including the sleeping and classroom areas, is carefully controlled using proximity card readers. AXPs receive room keys, like those in hotels, which allow them to enter their designated staterooms.

## Who will supervise my child?

Each group of AXPs has a staff member called a "Flight Lead" (camp counselor) who is present at all times. After hours, there are overnight staff resident advisors and security personnel, who stay on-site. Security cameras monitor common areas and all hallways.

## Who will provide medical care for my child?

Our facility has a fully qualified nursing team led by a registered nurse (RN), as well as a Sickbay with four beds. They handle the storage and administration of any necessary medications. The safety and medical care protocols follow the standards set by the American Camp Association.

## Are people with disabilities able to attend?

Yes, the facility is fully designed in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

### Where is the facility located?

National Flight Academy's in-residence program is offered on our virtual aircraft carrier, AMBITION, located adjacent to the National Naval Aviation Museum aboard Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida.

**NFA's address: 1 Fetterman Way, Pensacola FL, 32504**

NAS Pensacola is open to the public 7 days a week, from 9:00 AM CST through 3:00 PM CST through the West Gate ONLY on the south end of Blue Angel Parkway. The Department of War (DoW) and the NAVY require visitors 18 years and older to provide a REAL ID or a valid U.S. passport to enter U.S. military bases. All visitors are required to follow current NAS Pensacola base security guidelines.

### If I am a foreign national, may I access NAS Pensacola and drop off my child at NFA or visit the museum?

Non-U.S. citizens must be escorted by a U.S. citizen who is driving the same vehicle.

Non-U.S. citizen visitors who have not been processed through the Foreign Visit System Confirmation Module (FVSCM) must be in possession of and present one of the below documents:

- Permanent resident card
- Alien registration receipt card (Form 1-551)
- Foreign passport that contains a temporary 1-551 stamp
- A temporary 1-551 printed notification on a Machine-Readable Immigrant Visa (MRIV)

If the foreign visitor is not in possession of one of those documents, and/or does not have a U.S. citizen escort they will not be able to access NAS Pensacola nor visit the museum. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Please visit, <https://www.facebook.com/NASPCOLA/> for more information.

### Are National Flight Academy Programs accredited through the American Camp Association (ACA)?

Yes, the programs are accredited through the American Camp Association. ACA requirements ensure a safe and effective operation. Their review comprehensively covers all aspects of program operations including severe weather plans, health services, staff vetting, staff training, food service, and facility infrastructure. More information can be found at [www.acacamps.org](http://www.acacamps.org).

### Is there a place for parents to interact?

Yes! Parents may communicate with their students by sending an email to [AXP@nationalflightacademy.com](mailto:AXP@nationalflightacademy.com) with your student's full name in the subject line.

### Will my student have access to their cell phone?

At NFA, we "disconnect to connect" meaning students will not be allowed to use personal electronic devices (PEDs), including cellphones, during the program. When they check in, students will be asked to turn in their PEDs, which will be returned to them the evening before the program ends. For more details, please refer to our full PED Policy in the Parent Handbook that was sent to your email.

### What can families do while their child is at NFA?

Families can explore the beautiful city of Pensacola, known as the "City of Five Flags." The Gulf Coast's scenic beauty and variety of activities is ideal for family vacations.

### THINGS TO DO WHILE VISITING PENSACOLA:

Great Restaurants – see local favorites below!  
~McGuire's Irish Pub, Fish House, Five Sisters & Flounders

Blue Wahoos baseball and museums (we're partial to the world famous [National Naval Aviation Museum](#))

Pristine beaches for relaxation and fun

Catch a Blue Angels practice show!

For more information on hotels, things to do, and restaurants, go to [www.visitpensacola.com](http://www.visitpensacola.com)