

BS Aviation Science & Management CPR Index (AY 23-24)

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Comprehensive Program Review

AY 2023 – 2024

Institution: Middle Georgia State University

Academic Program: B.S. Aviation Science and Management

College or School: Aviation

Department: Aviation Science and Management

CIP Code: 49.0104

Date of Last Internal Review: 4/30/2019

Faculty Completing Report: Ed Weathersbee

Current Date: 4/2/2024

5 Year Enrollment by Campus and Graduation Trends (data available in Deans and Chairs Dashboard)

Enrollment

Campus	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	5 YR Growth	Fall 2019 compared to Fall 2023 only
Macon	28	33	56	41	51	12.74%	82.14%
Cochran	172	123	137	164	237	6.67%	37.79%
Warner Robins	8	6	5	5	4	-12.74%	-50%
Dublin		3	3	3	3	24.57%	200%
Eastman	196	171	186	180	167	-3.5%	-14.8%
Online	177	309	306	337	348	14.48%	96.61%
Off Campus	8	2		6	13	10.2%	62.5%
Unreported	157	204	201	238	270	11.45%	71.97%
Total	746	851	594	974	1093	7.94%	46.51%

Graduates

- For data consistency, the fiscal year is in which the degree was awarded. For examples, academic year 2019 includes degrees conferred in Summer 2018, Fall 2018, and Spring 2019. (data available in Deans and Chairs Dashboard)

AY 2019	AY 2020	AY 2021	AY 2022	AY 2023	5 YR Growth	AY2019 compared to AY2023 only
62	67	75	114	99	9.81%	59.68%

Include a narrative that discusses:

- Program purpose and mission
- Align of program mission with department, school, and institutional mission
- Program age, tracks, concentrations, etc.
- Accreditation information/status
- Method(s) of delivery
- Changes since last review
- Benchmarks of progress
- Plans for action
- Shifting trends and market forces that may impact program demand

Specific Questions to address include the following:

- How does the program align with the USG System Wide/Strategic Plan Context (within mission fit)?
- How does the program align with your institutional mission and function?
- How does the program align with your institution’s strategic plan and academic program portfolio?
- To what extent does the program align with local, regional, and/or state talent demand or workforce strategies?

The Department of Aviation Science and Management offers training necessary to complete the Bachelor of Science in Aviation Science and Management with a track in Flight and Management. Completion of the Bachelor of Science in Aviation Science and Management requires the successful completion of 120 semester hours of credit as prescribed in the related curriculum.

The B.S. in Aviation Science and Management mission is to educate students for careers as managers and professional pilots by providing highly advanced training in a learning environment that prepares students for the demands of the aviation industry. This aligns with the School of Aviation’s mission to educate and prepare students for technical and management careers in the aviation, aerospace, and related industries, who understand the industry and organizations they are part of, and the communities they serve. The School of Aviation’s mission complements Middle Georgia State University’s mission specifically by preparing lifelong learners and highly qualified aviation professionals whose scholarship and careers enhance the region by supporting aviation, aerospace, and related industries.

The courses are offered both in a traditional classroom and online. There is a good mix of both. For the most part, the online courses are taught by part-time faculty, freeing up the full-time faculty to teach the traditional, and much needed, face to face classes.

This was a new degree in 2018, with remnants of an older BSBA degree. As the program stabilized, and because of the increased demand for pilots, the program has seen sustained growth since then. As the program has matured, the faculty realized the need for the deletion of certain prerequisites to the courses. This has freed up the ability to advise students on classes that they really did not need prerequisites for. The benchmark for enrollment has been met and exceeded.

There has been a significant increase in enrollment over the past 5 years, and the number of graduates will continue to grow as those students finish the degree. The plan for this Department is to continue to increase the number of face to face full time faculty so that it can sustain the quality of the program during this time of increasing enrollment. There is an eminent shortage of pilots that has been dwelling for a few years. It has now become a reality. With the increase in students, this will also mean increasing the number of part-time faculty both online, and face to face at our satellite locations. This also calls for more aircraft, flight instructors, maintenance personnel, hangers, etc.

This year, in addition to our current learning outcomes ((1) - Exhibit knowledge involving application of mathematics, science and applied science to aviation-related disciplines as required by the FAA (2) Students will demonstrate instructional knowledge related to the use of techniques, skills, and modern technology necessary for professional practice as required by the FAA (3) Students will exhibit instructional knowledge in identifying and solving problems), we will be adding a fourth, "Demonstrate proficiency in integrating theoretical knowledge and practical skills to effectively manage aviation operations, emphasizing the application of principles in aviation science and management to ensure safe, efficient, and compliant practices within the industry standards set forth by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)." We will also be looking to see how we can improve on the capstone project(s) that seniors would take in their final semester(s).

Accreditation for the program is through Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI). Our 5 year re-affirmation visit is April 21st, 2024.

Using IPEDS data, list the supply of graduates in the program and related programs in the service area:

Similar or Related Degrees/Programs	CIP Code	Supply* (Graduates/Completers)	Competitor Institutions**
Airline/Commercial/Professional Pilot and Flight Crew	49.0102	37	Auburn University

**Supply = Number of program graduates last year within the study area*

***Competitors = List other USG institutions that offer this program of a similar program in the area*

Labor Market/Career Placement Outlook/Salary:

Based on the program’s study area, what is the employment outlook for occupations related to the program?

If data for the study area is not available, then use state- or -national-level data. Only list the jobs that are highly aligned and likely to be those for which you are preparing students and not every possibility.

Possible Resources:

- Click [here](#) for US and Georgia occupation projections
- Click [here](#) for 2026 Georgia Department of Labor data projections for the State or Georgia Workforce Board Regions in Qlik (link to GDOL Projections); data is also available through the [GDOL Labor Market Explore Website](#)
- Using data from [O*-Net](#), identify the average salary for the related occupations identified in question.

Occupation	O*Net ¹	Current Employment	% Growth	Average Salary <i>(O-Net data)</i>	Future Earnings Potential <i>(O-Net data)</i>
Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	Projected Jobs (10 Yr) 10,800	81,700	2-4%	\$211,790	Not Found

¹National Center for O*NET Development. *O*NET OnLine*. Retrieved [include date] from <https://www.onetonline.org/>

Note: The narrative areas should be as direct as possible, address all the areas/elements referenced above, and be of sufficient length to represent your academic program holistically since the last review. In drafting the CPR note the principle function is to “address the quality, viability, and productivity of efforts in teaching and learning, scholarship, and service as appropriate to the institution’s mission.”

USG Academic and Student Affairs Handbook 2.3.6 “consistent with efforts in institutional effectiveness and strategic planning, each USG institution shall develop procedures to evaluate the effectiveness of its academic programs to **address the quality, viability, and productivity of**

efforts in teaching and learning, scholarship, and service as appropriate to the institution's mission. Institutional review of academic programs shall involve analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data, and institutions must demonstrate that they make judgments about the future of academic programs within a culture of evidence”

IEB's Comprehensive Program Review Rubric and Evaluation

Date Reviewed: 4/12/24

Program Reviewed: B.S. Aviation Science and Management

<p>Contextual Notes: Summarize any demographic or environmental factors described in the introduction that might significantly impact assessment of the program</p>
<p>Reviewer 1: There is ample interest in the program, not to overshadow the need for attention to ongoing evaluation</p>

Area of Focus	Exemplary Area	Satisfactory Area	Area of Concern	No Evidence	Notes
Enrollment	<i>This program has significantly positive enrollment trends and robust credit hour production</i>	<i>This program has stable or moderately positive enrollment trends and healthy credit hour production</i>	<i>This program has negative enrollment trends and weak credit hour production</i>		Reviewer 1: Demonstrates enrollment growth in multiple campuses and delivery modes
Graduation Trends USG benchmark:	<i>Three year rolling average greatly exceeds USG minimum benchmark for degrees conferred</i>	<i>Three year rolling average meets or exceeds USG minimum benchmark for degrees conferred</i>	<i>Three year rolling average does not meet USG minimum benchmark for degrees conferred; the program is "low</i>		

IEB's Comprehensive Program Review Rubric and Evaluation

<p>Bachelor's Degrees: 10 graduates/year</p> <p>Graduate, Associate's or Certificates: 5 graduates/year</p> <p>Programs failing under these benchmarks are designated as "low performing"</p>			<p><i>performing* by USG definition</i></p>		
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Program Strengths of Note:

Reviewer 1: Growth in enrollment from multiple measures; The program is accredited through the AABI, lending strength to reputation

Areas of Concern:

IEB's Comprehensive Program Review Rubric and Evaluation

Reviewer 2: Surprise in lack of information on future earnings.

Other Comments:

Comprehensive Program Review Report

Academic Program Name: B.S. Aviation Science and Management

College or School: School of Aviation

Department: Aviation Science & Management

Date of Last Internal Review: 2/25/2019

Outcome of Previous Program Review (brief narrative statement, if applicable): At the time of the last review this program had good enrollment and graduation numbers.

Current Date: 7/18/2024

Executive Summary: This program has exhibited continued growth over the past 10 years and according to BLS as well as U.S. major air carriers, the growth is expected to continue. In the original CPR review there was only one note regarding potential earnings. Below is an additional earnings and job projections from the Bureau of Labor and Statistics.

Commercial Pilots

Quick Facts: Airline and Commercial Pilots	
<u>2023 Median Pay</u>	\$171,210 per year
<u>Typical Entry-Level Education</u>	<u>See How to Become One</u>
<u>Work Experience in a Related Occupation</u>	<u>See How to Become One</u>
<u>On-the-job Training</u>	Moderate-term on-the-job training
<u>Number of Jobs, 2022</u>	142,600
<u>Job Outlook, 2022-32</u>	4% (As fast as average)
<u>Employment Change, 2022-32</u>	5,600

Categorical Summation

Check any of the following to categorically describe action(s) the institution will take concerning this program. *Include a statement of plans for action based on the overall categorical summation contained in this section.*

Program MEETS Institution's Criteria (also indicate 1 subcategory below)


- Program is critical to the institutional mission and will be retained.
- Program is critical to the institutional mission and is growing or a high demand field and thus will be enhanced.

Required statement of plans for action: _____

Program DOES NOT MEET Institution's Criteria (also indicate 1 subcategory below)

- Program will be placed on a monitoring status.
- Program will undergo substantive curricular revisions.
- Program will be deactivated.
- Program will be voluntarily terminated.
- Other (identify/add text):

Required statement of plans for action: _____

Academic Dean Signature: 

Dean of Graduate Studies Signature (when applicable):

Date: 7/18/2024

Comprehensive Program Review Report

Academic Program Name: BS Aviation Science and Management

College or School: School of Aviation

Department: Aviation Science and Management

CPR Review Schedule AY23-24

Provosts Response:

I concur with the Chair and Dean's assessment that the **Bachelor of Science in Aviation Science and Management** remains a **critical and growing program** that directly aligns with **Middle Georgia State University's (MGA) mission and the University System of Georgia's (USG) strategic goals**. This program provides **high-quality aviation education** to support workforce demand in aviation management and professional pilot training, both of which are **critical industries facing nationwide shortages**.

Over the past **five years, enrollment has increased by 46.51%**, with notable growth in **Cochran (37.79%) and Online (96.61%)**, reflecting sustained demand for the program. **Graduation rates have increased by 59.68% since 2019**, indicating improved student success and program stability. However, **face-to-face enrollment has declined at select campuses**, and as the program continues to expand, it will require **targeted faculty and infrastructure investments** to maintain program quality and accommodate increasing student demand.

The program's alignment with **Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI) standards**, along with its **five-year reaffirmation visit in April 2024**, further underscores its commitment to academic excellence. Given the **nationwide pilot shortage and job growth projections of 4% in the next decade**, the demand for aviation graduates remains strong, with median pilot salaries exceeding **\$171,000 annually**.

Next Steps – Sustaining Growth & Program Enhancement:

- 1. Evaluate Faculty & Infrastructure** – Continue the review of capacity and staffing of **full-time faculty and part-time instructors** to support increasing enrollment and sustain **face-to-face instruction**. Additional **aircraft, flight instructors, and hangar space** will also be needed to maintain program capacity.
- 2. Enhance Capstone & Learning Outcomes** – Implement the new learning outcome focused on integrating **theoretical knowledge with practical aviation operations**, ensuring alignment with **FAA and AABI standards**. Improve **capstone project structure** to better assess industry readiness.
- 3. Strengthen Industry & Employer Engagement** – Develop additional **partnerships with major airlines and regional carriers** to create clear career pipelines for graduates, leveraging internship and cooperative learning opportunities.
- 4. Monitor Workforce & Enrollment Trends** – Track **aviation job demand** and adjust program offerings as needed to align with **labor market shifts, student enrollment patterns, and competitor institutions**.

5. **Maintain Accreditation Compliance** – Continue **maintenance of AABI accreditation following reaffirmation in Spring 2024** to ensure continued programmatic best practices and compliance with evolving industry standards.

Categorical Summation

Check any of the following to categorically describe action(s) the institution will take concerning this program.

- X Program MEETS Institution's Criteria**
- X Program is critical to the institutional mission and will be retained.**
- Program is critical to the institutional mission and is growing or a high demand field and thus will be enhanced.
- Program PARTIALLY MEETS Institution's Criteria
- Program DOES NOT MEET Institution's Criteria
- Program will be placed on a 1 year monitoring status.
- Program will undergo substantive curricular revisions.
- Program will be deactivated.
- Program will be voluntarily terminated.
- Other (identify/add text):

Provost or VPAA Signature: Date:



2/5/25