

Why Should you Apply? Here is what previous winners are saying

Brian Zankowski—2013

I received the CABAA/FlightSafety Professional Training Award in 2013. At the time I was going to school for my Masters in Finance from Lewis University and flying as a co pilot on King Air 350's for Blatti Aviation. CABAA and FlightSafety, citing my hard work and willingness to pay it forward, graciously allowed me to use the award to upgrade to a Captain position on the King Air 350. As a proud CABAA member, I was able to gain valuable experience as a part 135 King Air Captain. I am currently a Captain on the King Air 350 for Abbott Laboratories and volunteering on the CABAA Scholarship Committee. The support of CABAA, FlightSafety, Blatti Aviation, and many mentors along the way have proved invaluable for myself as a young person when I began my career. My advice is to do what it takes to turn your goals into reality, never be afraid to ask a question, always help the person next in line, and take as many opportunities to network as you can.

Mike Ban—2015

I am an aircraft technician at the Milwaukee Cessna Citation Service Center. I am a graduate of Lewis University with a degree in Aviation Maintenance Management. I have won 3 CABAA scholarships: two financial awards and the Maintenance Training Award. Throughout college CABAA has been a very important resource to my success in corporate aviation. I've been to numerous CABAA events and have met many professionals in corporate aviation. Due to being a recipient of the Maintenance Training Award through FlightSafety, I worked with CABAA to have the school be in the citation Sovereign (our second largest aircraft in the citation fleet). After attending this incredible school and since starting at Textron Aviation a year ago, my understanding of the aircraft has been expanded. I have learned so much at the school and Textron, which may not have been possible without CABAA's scholarship. I would recommend anybody wanting to get into corporate aviation to either join CABAA or at least go to events to meet with people from the Chicago area. Another piece of advice is to get as much experience possible through volunteering, job shadowing, and summer internships. Everything counts. All in all CABAA is a great organization that helps young people every year get into corporate aviation and achieve their goals.

Scott Moran--2005

In 2005, I was welcomed into the CABAA community while becoming the inaugural scholarship recipient. I was honored to have received the much-needed financial support. Support that has since been overshadowed by the relationships, mentoring and wisdom I have received over the last 12 years of being a CABAA member. Corporate aviation is a hidden destination that isn't found on the road map of high school or college counselors. The physical brick and mortar of many flight departments themselves, while well appointed are non-descript, secured facilities. To learn and become exposed to the industry, you almost need to seek an invitation. CABAA is that invitation that allows aspiring students to pursue their passion in corporate aviation. My connections with CABAA have helped me to succeed at Jen Air over the last 10 years in my role as a Pilot and Assistant Director of Operations.