

CIVIL AIR PATROL NATIONAL CADET SPECIAL ACTIVITIES (NCSA) 2024

INTRODUCTION:

Cadet National Special Activities (NCSAs) provide a great way to meet cadets and senior members from across 52 Wings, learn about a topic in depth, and travel to another part of the nation. NCSAs provide a wide arrange of educational (and fun) training programs throughout the nation. In order to attend a NCSA, the cadet must be in good standing with the unit, should be doing well academically, and needs to discuss NCSA selections with his/her parent(s) or guardian(s).

I will give an introduction, then list the activities based on age eligibility. In most cases. the age pertains to the age upon arrival at that activity. With few exceptions, a cadet must have successfully completed a wing-wide encampment in order to apply for a NCSA. There are some exceptions, such as the National Emergency Services Academy (NESA).

The application process is online via e-services for all NCSAs with the exception of NESA. You can choose your NCSA activities in order of preference. Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters uses a ranking system based on publicized criteria to choose cadets as primaries and as wait-listed for a given NCSA. The deadline to apply is 15 January 2024

Typically, you will find out if you have been accepted to one or more NCSAs by March 2024. Sometimes, you end up on a waiting list. Sometimes, you do not get accepted into any of your choices. Sounds intimidating? Over the years, using Goddard Cadet Squadron as an example, MAWG cadets have attended Cadet Officer School, Glider & Powered Flight schools, National Blue Beret, Cyber Security schools, Hawk Mountain Ranger School, aviation manufacturing facilities, National Emergency Services Academy, Honor Guard Academy, Pararescue, International Cadet Air Exchange, Space Familiarization Course, and Engineering Technology, to name a few. Senior members can attend national activities as well.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS NEED TO BE INVOLVED WITH THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.

In almost all cases, you don't need to pay for the activity until you get accepted to the program. MAWG wants every eligible cadet to attend a national activity if the desire and motivation are there.

On the flip side, if you do get into a national activity, you are expected to attend unless there are extenuating circumstances. It does not reflect well on the unit nor on Massachusetts Wing if a cadet backs out after accepting admission to a NCSA. So, keep this in mind. For example, if you sign up for an \$ 900.00 powered flight academy and get in, you are expected to go. So, don't sign up if you can't afford to pay for the tuition plus the full cost of supplies and transportation to and from the activity.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applications are due by January 15, 2024. Some NCSAs are more competitive than others. That being said, if you have, for example, 3 NCSAs that you are interested in attending, you might want to list the most competitive one as your top choice. **You need to notify your squadron commander once you have applied as he/she needs to approve your application.**

How do you apply? Go to: www.ncsas.com

Once you have selected your choices in order of preference (1, 2, 3,...) scroll to "Apply online."
Follow the instructions. Read dates carefully.

The National Emergency Services Academy (NESA) has a separate application site:

<http://nesa.cap.gov>

WHAT ABOUT MASSACHUSETTS WING'S 2024 SUMMER ENCAMPMENT?

MA Wing Encampment is tentatively slated for July 27 through August 3, 2024. The secondary dates are Aug 3 through August 10, 2024. It will be held on Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC). JBCC will make the final determination as to when encampment will be held.

CADET WINGS PROGRAM AND NCSAs:

Cadets enrolled in Cadet Wings are not eligible for national activities until they complete the program or are disenrolled.

NATIONAL CADET SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR SUMMER 2024.

For any of the activities below that you are interested in, please go to the NCSA website and click on the link for that activity. Review all requirements and prerequisites. There is always an email associated with the NCSA if you have questions. Again, NESA has its own website. You will see many entries for NESA, based upon age at the start of the activity.

The activities below are listed in terms of age restrictions. That is, we will start with NCSAs open to all cadets aged 12 and up at the start of the activity, and progress from there. Some activities have not yet listed firm dates and/or costs and/or location. These should be on the NCSA site soon. So, if you do not see a date, it is not yet on the website but will be soon

AGES ARE BASED ON THE CADET'S AGE AT THE START OF THE ACTIVITY

I TRY TO LIST THEM CHRONOLOGICALLY: THOSE WITH NO DATES ARE AT THE END.

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE FOR CADETS AGED 12 & UP

[New Hampshire Wing's Cadet NCO School, Fort Devens, MA](#)

\$

Dates: 24 February to March 2, 2024

Prerequisite:

Encampment credit

Encampment

[New Hampshire Wing's Cadet NCO School, Fort Devens, MA](#)

\$

Dates: Spring or Summer 2024

Prerequisite:

Encampment credit

NESA: National Emergency Services Academy , Joint Base Camp Atterbury, Indiana
Basic Ground Search and Rescue (GTM3)
Advanced Ground Search and Rescue (GTM2, GTM1)
You can do Basic Session I, Advanced Session II

\$

Session I Dates: 30 June – 6 July 2024

Session II Dates: 7-13 July 2024

Prerequisites: You do not need encampment credit for this activity.

FEMA online courses: IS 100 & IS 700

CAP online courses: CAPT 116 General Emergency Services, CAPT 117 Part I

Encampment credit preferred but not required

Go to www.nesa.cap.gov for more information as NESA is not on the NCSA website

Hawk Mountain Basic & Advanced Ranger School OR Mission Radio School, Kempton, PA.

\$ varies

Dates: 6- 14 July 2024

Prerequisites at the Minimum:

Encampment Credit

CAP online courses: CAPT 116 General Emergency Services, CAPT 117 Part I

FEMA online courses: IS 100 & IS 700

You MUST go to the Hawk Mountain site to review the schools. It specifically says not to pay unless you are accepted: <https://www.capranger.org>

Hawk Mountain also offers Mission Radio Operator Training and Medical Training.

WA Wing's Ground Search and Rescue Academy, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA

\$200

Dates: 21-28 Jul 2024

This course is full: no more cadet applicants!

Washington Wing's Cyber Education Camp, Joint Base Lewis McChord, WA (primarily held at Redmond National Guard Armory, Redmond, WA)

\$275

Dates: 3 – 11 August 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment Credit

Must have MAWG email address

Mid-Atlantic Region Honor Guard Academy, Virtual & State Military Reservation, Virginia Beach, VA

\$ [REDACTED]

Dates: 3-10 August 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment Credit

You may be interviewed.

Desert Scorpion-Utah Wing – Search and Rescue Academy, Wendover Airfield, UT

Cost: \$200.

Dates: [REDACTED]

Prerequisites:

Encampment Credit

CAP online courses: CAPT 116 General Emergency Services, CAPT 117 Part I, Online portion of ICUT (Intermediate Communications User Training)

FEMA online courses: IS 100 & IS 700

Great Lakes Region Cybersecurity Academy, Big Rapids, Michigan

\$ 450

Dates: [REDACTED]

Prerequisites:

Encampment Credit & Basic Cyber Security Badge or demonstrate equivalency

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE FOR CADETS AGED 14 & UP

Lonestar Emergency Services Academy, Brownsville, Texas

\$180

Dates: 26-31 December 2023

Prerequisites: You do not need encampment credit for this activity.

CAP online courses: CAPT 116 General Emergency Services, CAPT 117 Part I

Physical Fitness Category I: Must pass Physical Fitness Test on Day 1 & Prior to Graduation

Texas Wing Medical Orientation Training, Nagogdoches, Texas

\$450

Dates: 18-28 July 2024

Prerequisites: You do not need encampment credit for this activity.

Online FEMA courses: IS 100 & IS 700

Online CAP course: CAPT 116 General Emergency Services, CAPT 117 Part I, online portion of ICUT (Intermediate Communications User Training).

EMR certification is only available to those age 16 years or older.

Rocky Mountain Region Cyberspace Academies, US Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO

\$:

Dates: 13 -20 June 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment Credit and Possible Interview

Successful Completion of **one** of the following courses: Cyberspace Familiarization Course, Cyberspace Operations Fundamentals Course, Cyberspace Advanced Course, Cyberspace Advanced Administration Course, or Great Lakes Region Cybersecurity Advanced Course

The following 2 courses must be completed by 1 June 2024 via Cisco Networking Academy: Introduction to CyberSecurity **AND** Networking Basics

Engineering Technologies: Robotics, US Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO

\$450

Dates: 15-26 June 2024

Prerequisite:

Encampment Credit

Lt Raymond Johnston National Flight Academy: Balloons: Mattoon, IL.

\$:

Dates: 18 -29 June 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment Credit

Civil Air Patrol National Cybersecurity Academy, Hampton Road, Virginia

\$375

Dates: 23-29 June 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment Credit.

Proof of US Citizenship

C/SSgt or higher at the time of application

Complete all preparatory assignments on time upon selection

Civil Air Patrol National Cybersecurity Academy, San Antonio, Texas.

\$375

Dates: 20 – 27 July 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment Credit.

Proof of US Citizenship

C/SSgt or higher at the time of application

Complete all preparatory assignments on time upon selection

Engineering Technologies Academy, Middle Tennessee State University, TN

\$450

Dates:

Prerequisite:

Encampment Credit

NESA All-Hazards Radio Operator (RADO) Course: Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

Basic and Advanced: U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Critical Infrastructure Security Agency (DHS/CISA) course radio Courses. Go to the NESA site to explore

National Flight Academies: Glider: Prerequisites and General Information:

Those who have soloed a glider are NOT eligible for glider academies.

Participant Requirements: See Next Page

- 1) Completed encampment and recorded in eServices by time of application
- 2) Age 14 by activity start date
- 3) Start application for Student Pilot Certificate--Getting a Student Pilot Certificate is a multi-step process which can take 6-8 weeks. Certificates issued after April 1, 2016 do not expire. If you currently hold a certificate which will expire before 31 August 2023, you need to get one issued. There is no charge to create an account and begin the certificate application process. Go to: <https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/Default.aspx> to create an account and begin application.

Go to <https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/HelpandInfo.aspx?id=5> for help on creating account and applying for a student. provide copy of you must submit a copy of your student pilot certificate to activity staff by the 31 March initial dep

4) Hold a government issued photo identification card (driver's license or photo identification card issued by your s License, Passport). **A school ID is NOT acceptable for this. There is more information on the website for the power**

5) To be eligible to solo, you must hold a valid Third Class Medical Certificate (for a list of Aviation Medical Examinin www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/medical_certification)

6) *If you are slotted for the activity, you will need provide proof of citizenship. The glider site provides a link t when you are detailed information. If you are NOT a US Citizen, you must contact the director of your glider*

7) *If you are slotted, you MUST become student member of the Soaring Society of America.*

National Glider Flight Academies by Date, Location: Cost is \$900

Lt Col Raymond Johnston Flight Academy: Gliders: 21-29 June 2024: Mattoon, Illinois
Texas Glider Flight Academy: 6 – 13 July 2024: Waller, Texas
Northeast Region Glider Flight Academy in PA: 6 – 14 July 2024: Fredericksburg, Pennsylvania
Southeast Region Glider Flight Academy: 11 – 21 July 2034: Tullahoma, Tennessee
Washington Wing Joint Flight Academy: Gliders: 15-27 July 2024: Ephrata, Washington
Northeast Region Glider Flight Academy in VT: 3 – 11 August 2024: Springfield, Vermont

Southwest Region Glider Flight Academy: Dates: : Socorro, New Mexico

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE FOR CADETS AGED 15 & UP

Space Operations Academy, Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colorado

\$500

Dates: 8 - 15 June 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment credit

C/SSgt or higher when you apply

Proof of United States Citizenship

Space Operations Academy, Patrick Space Force Base, Florida

\$500

Dates: 14 - 22 June 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment credit

C/SSgt or higher when you apply

Proof of United States Citizenship

Air Force Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training: Columbus AFB, Mississippi

\$500

Dates: 12 - 19 July 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment credit

Air Force Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training: Laughlin AFB, Texas

\$500

Dates:

Prerequisites:

Encampment credit

Aviation and Aeronautics Business Academy, Vaughn College, Queens, New York

\$350

Dates:

Prerequisite:

Encampment Credit

Canadian Exchange: Advanced Aviation Course, Canadian Forces Base, Borden, Ontario

\$375

Dates:

Prerequisites:

Encampment Credit

US Passport

National Virtual Private Pilot Ground School

\$40

Dates:

Prerequisites: You do NOT need encampment credit for this activity.

Cadets enrolled in the Cadet Wings are not eligible for national activities until they have completed the program or are disenrolled from Cadet Wings. Cadets need to schedule the FAA Knowledge test at a nearby Knowledge Test Center. The fee of about \$160.00 needs to be paid upfront by the cadet but will be reimbursed upon successful completion of the test. You need to schedule the test no earlier than 13 August 2024 and no later than 23 August 2024. If you schedule prior to 13 August, you will not have completed the course nor have the Gleim Completion Certificate which allows you to take the test.

Air Force Civil Engineering Academy, Tyndall AFB, Florida

\$375

Dates:

Prerequisites:

Encampment credit

NESA: Wilderness First Aid Course, Joint Forces Camp Atterbury, Indiana

\$

Dates: 7 – 13 July 2024

Prerequisites: No encampment credit needed for this activity.

Preferred cadet grade of Second Lieutenant or higher but will make exceptions to this.

Certification in CPR and AED

Ground Team

3 Qualified

Pararescue & Survival Training Courses are NOT being held in 2024: So Sad!

Air Force Basic & Advanced Pararescue and Survival Training: Basic: Davis-Monthan AFB, Air

Force Basic Pararescue and Survival Training: Kirtland AFB, New Mexico (15 years)

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE FOR CADETS AGED 16 & UP

Civic Leadership Academy, Washington, D.C

\$500

Dates: 24 February to 3 March 2024

Prerequisites:

Cadet grade of Second Lieutenant or higher at the time of application: encampment completion
Physical Fitness Category I

NESA sUAS Courses (Drones): Session I: Basic Session II: Advanced Camp Atterbury, IN

\$

Dates: Session I: 30 June to 6 July 2024 Session II: 7 – 13 July 2024

Prerequisites for Basic Course:

FEMA online courses: IS 100 & IS 700

CAP online courses: CAPT 116: General Emergency Services

FAA TRUST Certificate

National Blue Beret, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

\$455

Dates: 15-29 July 2024

Prerequisites:

Encampment credit

Physical Fitness Category I

FEMA online courses: IS 100 & 700

CAP online courses: Aircraft Ground Handling, Basic & Intermediate Operational Risk Management, CAPT 116 General Emergency Services, CAPT 117 Parts 1, 2 and 3

Mission Qualifications: ICUT completion

Cadet Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama: You need to attend either Regional Staff College or this NCSA in order to promote to Cadet Lieutenant Colonel.

\$400

Dates: 16 – 25 July 2024

Prerequisites:

Cadet grade of Second Lieutenant or higher at the time of application: encampment credit.

Cannot be age 21 prior to the close of the activity.

Aircraft Manufacturing Academy, Cessna Headquarters, Wichita, Kansas

\$475

Dates: _____

Prerequisites:

Encampment credit

National Powered Flight Academies: Prerequisites and General Information.

Those who have soloed in a power aircraft are not eligible to attend a powered flight academy. If you

have already attended a CAP Powered Flight Academy, you cannot attend a second time.
Participant Requirements for Powered Flights:

- 1) Completed encampment and recorded in eServices by time of application
- 2) Age 16 by activity start date
- 3) Start application for Student Pilot Certificate--Getting a Student Pilot Certificate is a multi-step process which can take 6 to 8 weeks. Student pilot certificates issued after April 1, 2016 do not expire. If you currently hold a certificate which will expire before 31 August 2023, you need to get one issued. There is no charge to create an account and begin the certificate application process. Go to: <https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/Default.aspx> to create an account and begin application. Go to <https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/HelpandInfo.aspx?id=5> for help on creating account and applying for a student. If selected, you selected, you must provide copy of you must submit a copy of your student pilot certificate to activity staff by the 31 March initial deposit date.
- 4) Hold a government issued photo identification card (driver's license or photo identification card issued by your state or Federal government (Driver's License, Passport). **A school ID is NOT acceptable for this. There is more information on the website for the powered flight school.**
- 5) To be eligible to solo, you must hold a valid Third Class Medical Certificate (for a list of Aviation Medical Examiners--AMEs--in your area, go to: www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/medical_certification)
- 6) You must have a pilot log book.

National Powered Flight Academies (PFA) by Date, Location: Cost is \$900

Southeast Region National PFA: Sebring, Florida: 27 December 2023 to 5 January 2024

Hawaii Wing National PFA: Distributed sites in Hawaii: 6 January to 7 April 2024

North Carolina Wing National PFA: Asheville, North Carolina: 1 March to 2 June 2024

Alaska Wing National PFA: Distributed sites: 15 March to 30 June 2024

Maryland Wing National PFA: Hagerstown, Maryland: 17 May to 7 July 2024: **60 hours ground school as well as 15 hours of powered flight time.**

Texas Wing National PFA: Nacogdoches, Texas: 1-8 June 2024

Southwest Region National PFA: Ada, Oklahoma: 13-23 June 2024

North Central Region National PFA: Fremont, Nebraska: 13-27 June 2024

Lt Col Raymond Johnston PFA Session I: Mattoon, Illinois: 14-22 June 2024

Lt Col Raymond Johnston PFA Session II: Mattoon, Illinois: 21—29 Jun 2024

Great Lakes Region National PFA: Oshkosh, Wisconsin: 7 -17 July 2024

Middle Atlantic Region National PFA: Camden, South Carolina: 13-21 July 2024

Washington Wing National PFA: Ephrata, Washington: 15 – 27 July 2024.

New Jersey Wing National PFA: Joint Base Maguire-Dix Lakehurst, NJ: 19-27 July 2024.

New York Wing National PFA: Syracuse, New York: 19-27 July 2024

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE FOR CADETS AGED 17 & UP

**IACE: International Air Cadet Exchange: Depart from Washington, DC.
Worldwide Destinations**

\$1400

Dates: 5-23 July 2024

Prerequisites:

Age 17 to 20 by the start of the activity. Must be age 18 if going to the United Kingdom

Not 21 years old by 24 July 2024

Cadet grade of Captain or higher at the time of the application

United States Passport: current

Cannot have attended this activity in the past

Resume and Letter of Recommendation

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHALLENGE? Each summer, hundreds of cadets from eighteen nations come together to broaden their understanding of aviation and foreign cultures through the International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE). CAP has been the U.S. representative to the Exchange for more than 70 years. CAP cadets selected for the Exchange have a reputation as being the best of the best; possessing great integrity and leadership ability; a keen interest in aviation and foreign culture; and their desire to share experiences. Selection to IACE makes a cadet one of CAP's... and America's ambassadors to the world. WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME? The International Air Cadet Exchange is a life-shaping experience. You will meet people from around the world who share the Exchange's goal of promoting goodwill and fellowship through the common interest of aviation. You will receive special access to factories, airports, engineering laboratories, and government agencies; learning about how your host country contributes to the aviation community. One day you may find yourself in the latest fighter simulator, the next day meeting high government officials at an official banquet, and hiking through pristine wilderness on yet another day. You will be joined not only by your fellow CAP cadets assigned to the country, but also by aviation cadets from a variety of countries representing five continents. Due to the global pandemic, the countries available for U.S. citizens to travel to is a fluid situation. IACE will update whenever possible. . .

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE FOR CADETS AGED 18 & UP

National Character and Leadership Symposium, US Air Force Academy, Colorado

\$200

Dates: 21-24 February 2024

Prerequisites:

Full time college student

Cadet grade of Captain or higher at the time of the application

Encampment credit

Completion of Cadet Officer School, Civic Leadership Academy, or IACE preferred

NESA has MANY opportunities for cadets aged 18 and up

Mission Scanner Training (Sessions I & II)

Mission Observer Training (Sessions I & II)

Mission Pilot Training with flight hour prerequisites (Sessions I & II)
Aerial Scanner and Photographer (Sessions I & II)
Aircrew Survival School (unsure which session)
Incident Command Schools: (Sessions I & II)
Ground Team Leader School (Session II)

Happy Holidays to All,

Respectfully and with Cheer,

LouAnn Maffei-Iwuc, Lt Col, CAP
MAWG Cadet Activities Officer