



Fly and navigate fixed-wing aircraft

Good pilots are dependable, attentive to detail and prioritize safety.

Also known as:

Commercial Pilot, Airline Pilot

About the Pilot Job

Use of Technology

- Flight control and navigation systems
- Communications systems
- Flight management systems

Work Environment

Inside of aircraft, often working in limited space

Check out this [YouTube](#) video to learn more!



Day-to-Day Tasks

Start engines, operate controls and pilot aircraft; use instrumentation when visibility is poor; monitor engine operation, fuel consumption and the functioning of aircraft systems



Skills + Knowledge

Knowledge of aircraft, situational awareness, good decision-making, communication and stress management.



Related Careers

Air Traffic Controller, Flight Engineer, Flight Attendant, and Aviation Inspector

The Pilot Job Market

Annual demand/job outlook

- 176 new pilots needed this year

Compensation

- Entry level - \$66,500
- Average - \$142,900
- Experienced - \$181,100

Job posting snapshot

- 129 job ads in WA in 2025



Training is available at a [Washington Community or Technical College](#) near you.