In response to the projected shortages in aviation maintenance technical workers, the U.S. Congress gave the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) authority to establish an Aviation Workforce Development Grant Program in Section 625 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-254) for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2023. The goal of this program is to support education, recruitment, and development of the aviation maintenance industry workforce.

ELLIGIBLE PROJECTS:
Only projects that fall into one or more of the following categories will be eligible for award:

- Projects that establish new educational programs that teach technical skills used in aviation maintenance, including purchasing equipment, or to improve existing programs
- Projects that establish scholarships or apprenticeships for individuals pursuing employment in the aviation maintenance industry
- Projects that support outreach about careers in the aviation maintenance industry to:
  - Primary, secondary, and post-secondary school students, or
  - Communities underrepresented in the industry
- Projects that support educational opportunities related to aviation maintenance in economically disadvantaged geographic areas
- Projects that support transition to careers in aviation maintenance, including for members of the Armed Forces
- Projects that otherwise enhance aviation maintenance technical education or the aviation maintenance industry workforce

ELLIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- Holders of a certificate issued under Parts 21, 121, 135, or 145 of 14 CFR, or labor organizations representing aviation maintenance workers
- Accredited higher education institutions (20 U.S.C. 1001), or secondary schools or high schools (20 U.S.C. 7801)
- State or local governmental entities

FUNDING:
Since 2020, Congress has appropriated $5 million annually for this program. The FAA may award between $25,000 and $500,000 (the ceiling established by legislation) for any one grant in any one fiscal year.

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