



Welcome to AeroStar News

Workforce Shortages Are Outright Spooky!

Dear AeroStar Family, Friends & Supporters,

As the Fall air grows colder and the nights longer, we are all anticipating the festivities of the Season. And yet, beyond the playful ghosts and goblins, a more ominous specter haunts the United States – the phantom of workforce shortages.

Much like a haunted house, abandoned for years, the current market is rife with vacancies. Cobwebs of apprehension stretch across industries, as the demand for skilled training goes unmet by higher education. Like families telling ghost stories around a campfire, businesses, and institutions are sharing horrific tales of their struggle to find and retain talent.

Ghost-Busting Solutions

But fear not! For every ghostly problem, there's a team of 'ghostbusters' ready to tackle the challenge. Here are some spectral solutions to consider:

1. *A little Potion of Partnership:* We must bridge the chasm between academia and industry. Through joint ventures and programs, we can ensure that what's being taught aligns with what's needed in the real world.

2. *Magical Mentorships:* Apprenticeships and on-the-job training can act as talismans against the shadow of unskilled labor. By harnessing the wisdom of seasoned professionals, we can guide the next generation to success.



3. Spell-breaking Scholarships: Let's invest in scholarships focused on high-demand fields and high need populations, breaking generational curses of poverty. Like a charm that brings brings light, these funds can guide students towards areas of study that lead to fruitful careers that will transform the lives of them and their families.

4. Exhortations of Encouragement: Incentivizing continuous learning and retraining can act as the potion we need. As the world changes, so too must our skills.

While these workforce shortages may seem as daunting as facing a headless horseman, remember, every tale has its heroes. May this Season not only be a time of spooks and scares but also one of reflection, innovation, and action. Let's turn our fears into feats and face the future with courage and determination.

In this month's newsletter, you will have an opportunity to **REGISTER YOUR YOUTH FOR FALL PROGRAM**, hear insights on child labor abuse, get an update on our partner program in Nepal and impact on High Schoolers from Germany, catch up on industry global headlines, meet the 2023 Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame Inductees and get access to opportunities to share with your network for our youth.

To donate, in-kind services, and sponsorships click [HERE](#). Collaborate and volunteer (click [HERE](#) to volunteer). Support AeroStar and the future of aviation. Please contact me today at Tholmes@aerostarcorp.com for promotional sponsorship or grant opportunities.

Thank you for Giving Wings to Dreams.

Best regards,

Tammera L. Holmes AKA Dr. Tam
President & CEO, AeroStar Consulting Corporation
Founder & CEO, AeroStar Avion Institute NFP

#BoeingInspires #GoodLeadstheWay #AeroStarAvion #WingstoDreams

WORKFORCE VOID FILLED BY CHILD WORKERS AT UNPRECEDENT RATE

At Wage and Hour Division (WHD), safeguarding children at work has always been a top priority. WHD investigations found a significant increase in children being employed illegally and in 2023 launched a National Strategic Enforcement Initiative on Child Labor to put additional emphasis on addressing this critical issue.

In FY 2023, WHD concluded 955 investigations that found child labor violations, a 14% increase from the previous year. They found nearly 5,800 children employed in violation of the law, **an 88% increase since 2019**, and assessed more than \$8 million in penalties, an 83% increase from the previous year.

The innovative solutions needed to solve today's labor shortage are already being deployed successfully by organizations like **The AeroStar Avion Institute** and thousands of Non Profits and community based organizations

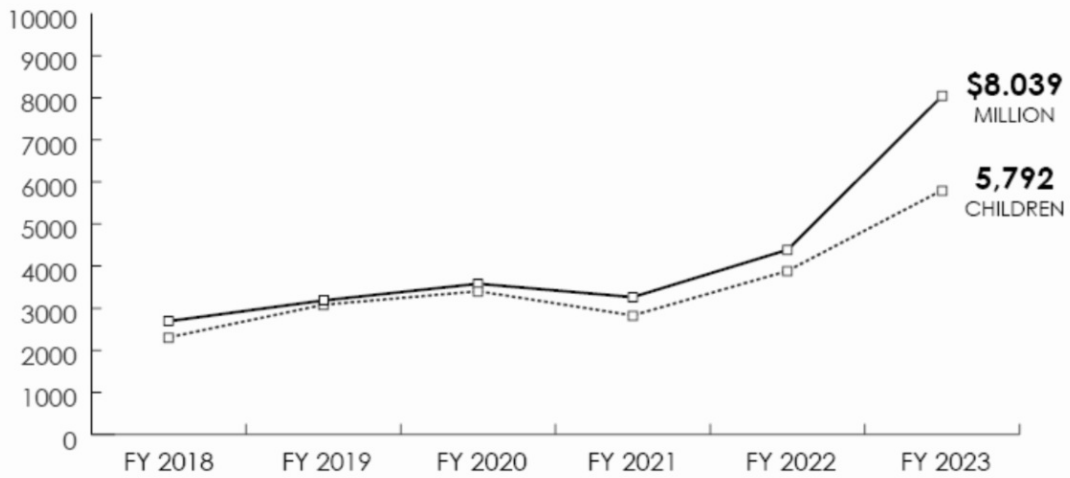
across the US. What is missing is:

- An overarching **funding mechanism** to provide critical resources to these programs to **properly prepare and train youth** to enter the workforce.
- **Employer education and training** programs to show employers how to attract, source and enlist young talent. With work permits, children can legally work in SAFE and AUTHORIZED work places before the age of 16.
- **Bridge programs** that scaffold opportunities on pathways that lead to licenses, certifications and credentials.
- **Youth apprenticeship programs** that build skills and confidence in workplace in partnership with an employer sponsor.



Child Labor Enforcement

—□— CIVIL MONEY PENALTIES ASSESSED -□- CHILDREN FOUND EMPLOYED IN VIOLATION



Source: U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division

dol.gov/whd

Giving Wings To Nepali Dreams!



We are beyond excited to see our partner program soar in Pokhara, Nepal. For the past several weeks, the students have been learning about basic aviation concepts, flight theory, careers, and the importance of the local impact of the air transport industry. This month they were able to take the classroom outside and airside!



(Stepping into the Airport for the first time!)

As part of our Aviation Education program, students from Kalika Secondary School had the incredible opportunity to visit the NEW_Pokhara International Airport. The airport tour, the inspiring and insightful briefing by the Airport General Manager, and the encouragement and motivation from airport personnel fueled their dreams.

This was an eye-opening experience that ignited their passion. They carry these aspirations with them, fueling their journey towards a future in aviation. Thank you to our partner and UniCoN Executive Director Binod Neupane and his team for their work bringing this vision to life.



[Click here](#) or scan the QR code below
to support our partnership with United Community Nepal (UniCoN)



German High School Students Inspired to Soar Higher in Aviation and STEM Careers

On October 10, Dr. Jarmese Sherrod (founder of SheWill Legacy and Sherrod Independent Mentoring Program- SIMP) invited AAI to open the world of STEM and aviation for her German high school student leaders visiting the US to study abroad.

The students were inspired by our Founder & CEO, Ms. Holmes, as she shared her personal journey through STEM inspiration and found an amazing careers and empowerment in Aviation. She was able to give these bright students advice like: the most important trait is authenticity- do not lose yourself, learn how to be true to yourself, lead instead of following, and learn to plan for your future because time flies. She also shared that you can't possibly plan out the entire journey at such a young age, but at least know the direction in which you'd like to go.

Students had the most questions they had of any of their Lunch & Learn presenters. Each youth shared three things they took from this Lunch & Learn. Thank you to Dr. Sherrod and everyone at SheWill Legacy for having me. It was an absolute treasure.





On The Radar

Archer Secures \$65 Million in Financing for 'World's Largest' eVTOL Production Plant

Photo Credit: Archer



Archer Aviation, an electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) manufacturer, has secured \$65 million in fresh capital through agreements with Synovus Bank and Evans

General Contractors. This funding will support the construction of Archer's first scaled manufacturing facility in Covington, Georgia. The facility is set to become the world's highest-volume eVTOL aircraft manufacturing site. Archer's initial construction phase will produce a 350,000-square-foot facility capable of manufacturing up to 650 aircraft per year, with a projected completion date in 2024.

Read the article [here](#).

The 62nd Annual Golden Fellowship Dinner Arrives this November



On Saturday, November 4, 2023, the Chicago Urban League will host its 62nd Annual Golden Fellowship Dinner (GFD). Their signature gala raises funds that are critically needed to support their service to thousands of Chicagoland residents each year and to continue to advance their mission of achieving equity for Black families and communities through social and economic empowerment. Each year, GFD brings together more than 1,500 of Chicago's business, civic, and community leaders to both celebrate their progress and support the work ahead. This year's gala theme, Accelerating Equity: All Hands on Deck, underscores the urgency of their mission and is a call to action for others to join them in making a better Chicago

Congratulations to the 2023 Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame Inductees!



As we continue to fight for representation in the present day, the discrimination and exclusion of African Americans from the historical narrative of Aviation is something we are still fighting to correct. It weighs on minority leaders, that soooo many legends who went before us, whose shoulders we stand on, have for generations, gone without recognition and honor! **The selection of this year's class was tough but we are honored to share that history was made as three African Americans and four women were amongst this year's inductees!**

The 2023 Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held on 10/5 near DuPage Airport. From aviation youth educators to benevolent business owners, the room was filled with honor and support for those have made an historic impact on the advancement of aviation in the State!

Our 2023 inductees are Janet Harmon Bragg, Mary Ann Eiff, Rufus A. Hunt Jr., James P. Johnson, Arthur Christopher "Chris" Lawson, Mona Marcec, and Luanne Enitan Wills-Merrell.

The Spirit of Flight Awards for 2023 were awarded to EAA Chapter 461 Bolingbrook and Illinois Aviation Academy.

Congratulations to all of the 2023 inductees!



**Boeing, NASA, United Airlines
To Test SAF Benefits with Air-
to-Air Flights**

Photo Credit: Boeing



Boeing, in collaboration with NASA and United Airlines, is conducting in-flight tests to measure the impact of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) on contrails, non-carbon emissions, and the fuel's climate impact. The goal is to assess how advanced fuels and technologies can reduce atmospheric warming, particularly the impact of contrails. SAF can reduce emissions by up to 85% over conventional jet fuel and improve air quality near airports. The project is part of a multi-year partnership between Boeing and NASA to explore SAF's environmental benefits, and Boeing aims to deliver commercial airplanes compatible with 100% SAF by 2030. Read the full article [here](#).

U.S. Issues Updated Travel Advisory for Israel, Gaza, and West Bank

Photo Credit: Getty



The U.S. State Department has advised Americans not to travel to the Gaza Strip and to reconsider travel to the West Bank due to the dynamic and volatile situation in Israel, with the risk of mortar and rocket fire. U.S. citizens in Israel were provided with contact information for the U.S. Embassy, and those outside of Israel were given options to get in touch. Travelers heading to the region were cautioned to stay vigilant, know the location of the nearest bomb shelter, and enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). Multiple airlines, including Delta, American, United, Air France, British Airways, and the Lufthansa Group, have canceled or diverted flights due to the situation.

Read the full article [here](#)

For more information about the Israel/Palestine conflict, read [here](#)

Student Opportunities

Fall Program



LET'S FLY INTO THE FALL!!



DATE
OCT 28TH -DEC 9TH
SATURDAY'S ONLY
WHEN:
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
FALL SESSION COST: \$50



AVAILABLE CLASSES
INCLUDE

- 5TH-8TH GRADE AVIATION
- 9TH-12TH GRADE AVIATION
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CHICAGO, IL 60628

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

INTERNSHIPS | SCHOLARSHIPS | JOBS

Southwest® Careers



We're one week away from Southwest's Q4 Virtual Job Chat featuring their Tech Ops Employees. If you haven't already, consider registering to attend!

During this 30-minute live webinar on November 2 at 11:00 a.m. CT and 6:00 p.m. CT., students will learn about Technical Operations (Tech Ops), the department that's responsible for maintaining the Safety, efficiency, and compliance of the all-Boeing fleet at Southwest. Students will hear from an Aircraft Maintenance Technician and an Engineer about their career journeys and how their roles support the day-to-day maintenance work on our aircraft. There will also be time for Q&A at the end.

Please register for either the morning or evening session as the material will be the same. Educators, parents, and high school students are all welcome.

[Click HERE](#)



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RONALD V. DELLUMS Memorial SMART Scholarship

smartscholarship.org

The Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship-for-Service Program, funded by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), is a combined educational and workforce development opportunity for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) students.

BENEFITS FOR DELLUMS SMART SCHOLARS



Full Tuition

Receive full tuition, an annual stipend, and book/health allowance while pursuing a STEM degree.



Internships

Receive invaluable experience and an experienced mentor during summer internships.



Career

Pursue full-time civilian employment with the Department of Defense after graduation.

The Ronald V. Dellums Memorial SMART Scholarship (Dellums SMART Scholarship) expands the SMART Scholarship opportunity to rising freshmen who plan to pursue a bachelor's degree in one of the 24 SMART STEM disciplines. **High school seniors are eligible to apply.**

ELIGIBILITY AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS



U.S. Citizen



Minimum 3.0 GPA



Complete Internships



Obtain Security Clearance



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NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY GEO-SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

About GEO-Scholarship Program

The GEO-Scholarship targets graduating high school seniors and degree seeking college students with less than 45 credits that are majoring in areas of study NGA deems as a critical need and are typically difficult to recruit. NGA offers tuition payment, a book stipend, and a paid summer internship for all scholars. Some scholars may also qualify for a travel stipend. All selected scholars are required to commit to a 1.5-year continuing service agreement post-graduation. This agreement states for every year NGA pays tuition, that scholar will commit 1.5-years of service post-graduation.

Awardees will onboard with NGA in August 2024, attend school during the Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 semesters, and return to NGA for their summer internship in summer 2025.

About the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

NGA is a unique combination of intelligence agency and combat support agency. It is the world leader in timely, relevant, accurate and actionable Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT). NGA enables the U.S. intelligence community and the Department of Defense (DOD) to fulfill the President's national security priorities to protect the nation. NGA also anticipates its partners' future needs and advances the GEOINT discipline to meet them. To learn more about NGA and opportunities, please visit the NGA website.

Areas of Study

NGA is looking to recruit scholars majoring in the following areas of study (but not limited to):

- Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Computer Vision
- Cartography
- Coding & Scripting Language
- Computer Programming/Science
- Criminal Justice
- Cybersecurity
- Data Analytics, Data Science, Data/System Engineering
- Data & Visualization
- Database Maintenance / Management
- Earth/Planetary Systems Science
- Engineering (any)
- Geodesy/Geomatics/Geophysics
- Geography
- GIS
- Homeland Security
- Image/Signal Processing
- Imagery Science
- IT- Network Operations
- Intelligence and National Security Studies
- Mathematics / Statistics
- Physical/Spectral Sciences
- Regional Studies
- Remote Sensing
- Software Development

SEE YOURSELF AT NGA? APPLY AT <https://careers.nga.mil/>

NGA-U-2022-02114

Apply for **National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency** High School Scholarships today!

The High School Internship Program is for high school students, age 16 or older, that are looking for real world experience.

High School Interns perform a variety of entry-level functions and tasks in support of the organization to which they are assigned. They are given a work project that involves problem identification, analysis, and resolution. Specific duties may include the preparation and presentation of briefings directly related to work assigned.

Apply Now!

Donate Today!

YOUR CONTRIBUTION CAN CHANGE LIVES!

You can help expand our mission to train and employ youth in this exciting industry. Now we need your help more than ever before. To give, click **HERE**. Your donation is tax deductible, and 100% of your gift goes toward training the next generation of aviation and aerospace professionals.

Invest in the passion...the mission...the future of aviation...DONATE NOW!


Give Wings to Dreams!

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