



***RTAG Presents the Scholarship Opportunities for 2026***

**\$2500 Tom Pagnano Memorial Student Pilot Scholarships  
&  
\$2500 Bob Meurer Memorial Advanced Rating Scholarships**

*These scholarships are made possible by a generous grant from the  
George W. Gillemot Foundation and Pathways to Aviation.*

**Qualifications & Eligibility**

**Student:** This scholarship is open to student pilots who have soloed by the application deadline. Previous awardees are not eligible.

**Advanced:** This scholarship is open to private pilots who wish to obtain an advanced rating such as Instrument, Commercial or CFI/CFII.

Scholarship recipients are responsible for paying for flight training themselves and will receive scholarship funds on a reimbursement basis after providing acceptable receipts. These must be submitted within 1 year from the award date.

Applicants must:

1. Reside and complete training within a 50nm radius of KRNO.
2. Be current paid members of the Reno-Tahoe Aviation Group. Join in person at an RTAG meeting or online at [www.renoaviation.org/join](http://www.renoaviation.org/join).
3. All training must be completed with a CFI and/or FAA-approved flight training device.
4. Submit 3 copies of all pages of the application. No binders other than paper folders.
5. Submit 3 copies of their student or private pilot certificate and medical certificate.
6. Submit 3 copies of the last 6 months of their logbook. For student applicants, this must show the solo flight endorsement.
7. Submit 3 copies of a letter of recommendation from a CFI/CFII. If a 2nd letter from another non-family source would support their application, they may submit that also.
8. Be willing to participate in an interview by phone, video or in person.
9. Meet the criteria by the application deadline of April 20, 2026.
10. If a check ride is scheduled, or the rating earned, prior to the award date, the applicant must notify RTAG.

Scholarships are presented at the annual Celebration of Aviation Banquet, May 30, 2026. Awardees are encouraged to attend as RTAG's guests.

Applications may be dropped off or mailed to:

**Reno-Tahoe Aviation Group  
Scholarship Committee  
% Atlantic Aviation  
655 S. Rock Blvd.  
Reno, NV 89502**



***RTAG scholarship application questionnaire***

**Pilot information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Flight Information:**

Date soloed or earned private pilot certificate: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number flight hours: \_\_\_\_\_ In the last 6 months: \_\_\_\_\_

Type aircraft you fly: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How did you become interested in aviation?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What are your future goals in the field of aviation?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What interests or hobbies do you have outside of aviation?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Have you previously received an aviation-related scholarship? If so, please describe.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Describe your need for this scholarship and how you've financed your flight training to date.



6. How much are you currently paying per hour for flight lessons? Wet or dry? Instructor rate?

7. Describe a memorable cockpit experience