

# WASHINGTON 2025 FLY-IN

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**ATEC**



Welcome to the

# WASHINGTON



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# ATEC

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# FLY-IN AGENDA

## TUESDAY, September 16

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

### Welcome Reception

YOTEL's Art and Soul

415 New Jersey Ave NW

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**Ryan Smith**, Airman Certificate Testing Service (ACTS)  
Program Manager, Training and Certification Group (AFS-810)

**Shelly Waddell Smith**, Testing Standards Section  
Manager, Training and Certification Group (AFS-810)

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

### Lunch & Learn: Legislator Perspectives on Aviation Workforce Development

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Gain insights directly from a legislative champion of the aviation maintenance community. This session will spotlight how congressional action support technical education, training pathways, and workforce development, providing critical context for effective advocacy during Hill meetings.

**Sen. Jerry Moran**, Chair, Subcommittee on  
Aviation, Space and Innovation (R-KS)

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

### Welcome, Breakfast & Introductions

U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, Room SVC 210/212

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**Timothy R. Adams**, Director, Office of Safety  
Standards, Federal Aviation Administration

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

### FAA Workforce Policy Leadership Forum: Training, Certification, and the Pipeline Ahead

Join senior FAA officials for a roundtable discussion on federal policies shaping the future of aviation maintenance training. Topics will include modernization of airman certification standards, testing capacity challenges, workforce provisions in FAA reauthorization, and national strategies to strengthen the aviation workforce pipeline.

**Tanya Glines**, Aviation Safety Inspector, Airmen  
and Special Programs Group (AFS-320)

**Sean Gasperson**, Vice President Assessment  
Services, PSI Services LLC

**Brett Greenwood**, Senior Vice President  
Federal Programs, PSI Services LLC

**Daniel Hamm**, Senior Psychometrician, PSI Services LLC

**Jennifer Lentz**, Airworthiness Delegation Manager,  
General Aviation and Commercial Division (AFS-850)

**Kevin Morgan**, Airmen Section Manager, Airman  
and Special Programs Group (AFS-320)

**Everette Rochon**, Manager, Training and  
Certification Group (AFS-810)

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

### Transforming Workforce Policy Through Interagency Collaboration

Senior officials from the Departments of Labor, Education, and Commerce will share how the Administration's Talent Strategy is reshaping the workforce system to meet the needs of priority industries such as aerospace. The discussion will highlight efforts to scale Registered Apprenticeships, expand worker mobility, streamline fragmented programs, and prioritize results-driven investments. Get insight into how interagency collaboration and future federal funding will build and support a stronger, more responsive pipeline of skilled aviation technicians.

**Megan Baird**, Acting Administrator, Office of  
Apprenticeship, Department of Labor

**Adam Flynn-Tabloff**, Policy, Research, and  
Evaluation Director, Office of Career, Technical, and  
Adult Education, Department of Education

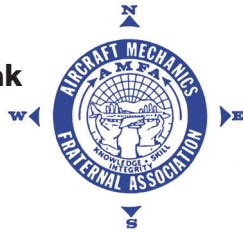


## WEDNESDAY, September 17 cont'd

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM

### Networking Break

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2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

### Legislative Priorities Overview and Congressional Meeting Prep

Get an overview of the ATEC legislative issues and marching orders for the next day's hill meetings.

4:05 PM

### An Evening at the Ballpark: Nationals vs. Braves—Nationals Park

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After a full day of engaging discussions and advocacy efforts, join fellow attendees for a night of America's favorite pastime! Enjoy great company, stadium fare, and an exciting game under the lights. Whether you're a die-hard fan or just in it for the atmosphere, this evening promises to be a highlight of the Fly-In experience.

## THURSDAY, September 18

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

### Congressional Meetings on Capitol Hill

Attendees will spend the day meeting with members of Congress and their staff to advocate for policies supporting aviation maintenance education and workforce development. These meetings are an essential part of the Fly-In, providing a platform to share local stories, spotlight program successes, and highlight pressing industry needs.

All meetings will be pre-scheduled and coordinated by ATEC, grouped by delegation to ensure participants are matched with their respective congressional representatives and senators. ATEC will provide attendees with personalized meeting itineraries, talking points, and support materials in advance to ensure each participant is fully prepared to make the most of their time on the Hill.

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

### Pipeline Report Press Brief Luncheon

U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, Room SVC 210/212

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Join us for the unveiling of the 2025 Pipeline Report—an annual snapshot of the aviation technician workforce pipeline. The briefing will highlight data and trends in technician supply and demand, providing critical insights for policymakers and industry stakeholders. Members of Congress, congressional staff, administration officials, industry stakeholders, media, and allied organizations are invited to attend this boxed luncheon and engage in a timely discussion on strategies to close the skills gap and strengthen the aviation maintenance workforce.

**Livia Hayes**, Director, Oliver Wyman Vector

**Devon Holden**, Technical Specialist, Oliver Wyman Vector

**Crystal Maguire**, Executive Director, ATEC

4:00 PM TO 5:30 PM

### Reception

Hawk N Dove, 329 Pennsylvania Ave SE

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Wrap up a day of advocacy with fellow Fly-In attendees and industry allies in a relaxed setting. This informal reception offers a chance to network, reflect on the day's meetings, and continue the conversation over refreshments just steps from the Capitol.

## FRIDAY, September 19

8:00 AM TO 11:00 AM

### Board Meeting and Breakfast (open to all)—YOTEL

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# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

**As the voice of aviation technical education and workforce development, ATEC consistently advocates for common-sense law, particularly those impacting the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Department of Education, and the aviation industry. ATEC's specific legislative priorities are as follows:**

## **Fully Fund the FAA Workforce Development Grant Program.**

The aviation industry faces a worsening shortage of maintenance technicians, as highlighted in the 2025 ATEC Pipeline Report. To address this challenge, Congress created the aviation workforce grant program in the 2018 FAA Reauthorization Act to strengthen industry-education partnerships and build sustainable talent pipelines. Although funding was increased to \$40 million annually through FY 2028 in the 2024 FAA Reauthorization bill, appropriated funds remain undistributed, and the program is currently stalled. This undermines the administration's talent strategy, which prioritizes employer-led training and measurable results. ATEC urges Congress to release all appropriated funds and fully support the program to close technician gaps and safeguard aviation's future.

## **Reappoint Industry Partners to Advance Airman Certification Standards (ACS) and Workforce Reforms**

In Sec. 406 of the 2024 FAA Reauthorization Act, Congress directed FAA to collaborate with industry to maintain and improve the ACS—a partnership essential to aviation safety and workforce development. FAA's termination of industry committee appointments has stalled ACS progress and delayed other congressional mandates, including a military transition pathway (Sec. 426) and reforms to reduce mechanic testing barriers (Sec. 405). As envisioned in the administration's talent strategy, this committee unites industry, education, and government to build standards and talent pipelines. ATEC urges Congress to press DOT to promptly reappoint members to keep reforms on track.

## **Expand Access to FAA Airman Testing.**

A lack of Designated Mechanic Examiners (DMEs) is a growing concern, cited as a barrier to creating certificated mechanics by nearly one in three AMTS. Despite a slight decrease in active DMEs last year, a record 11,612 tests were administered last year—nearly 2,000 more than 2023—pushing annual workload per DME up 25%. This underscores the urgent need to expand examiner capacity. ATEC urges Congress to press FAA to finalize its proposed Airman Certification Organization Designation Authorization (ODA), which would allow schools and industry partners to manage testing, and to direct FAA to modernize DME qualifications and remove geographic limits to expand access.

## **Promote Aviation Technical Career Pathways through Secondary Education.**

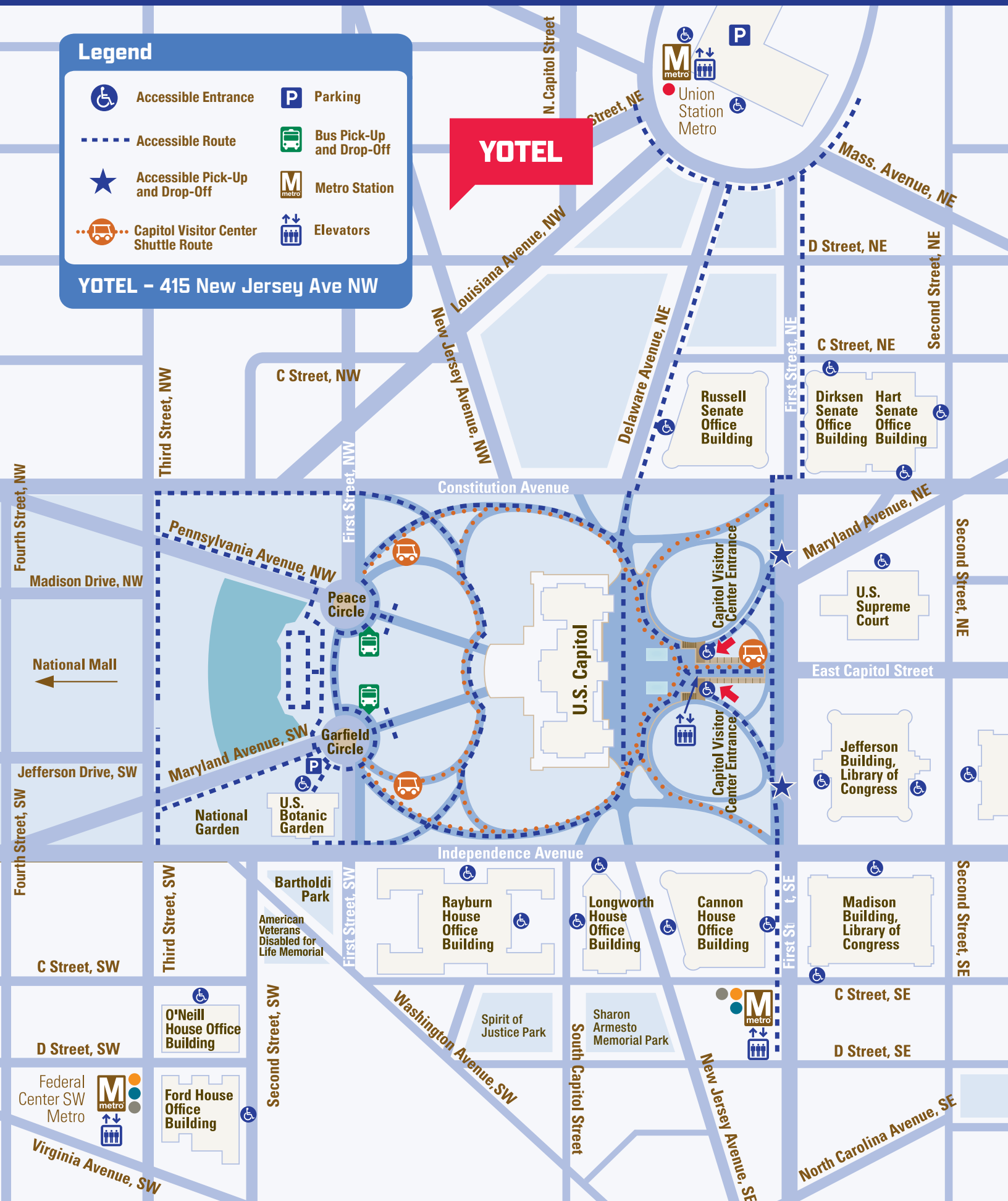
To meet rising workforce demand, ATEC—through its partnership with Choose Aerospace—has developed a turnkey training program that places participants on a direct path to high-wage aviation careers. Deployed in high schools, non-profits, and apprenticeship programs nationwide, it creates industry-driven pathways into FAA-certificated technician schools or direct employment, expanding access and strengthening the pipeline. Aligned with the administration's talent strategy—emphasizing early exposure, employer-led training, and integrated education-to-career systems—this initiative delivers measurable outcomes for students and employers. ATEC urges Congress to support nationwide implementation in partnership with schools, communities, and industry to raise awareness and build the future aviation workforce.

# CAPITOL MAP

## Legend

- Accessible Entrance
- Parking
- Accessible Route
- Bus Pick-Up and Drop-Off
- Accessible Pick-Up and Drop-Off
- Metro Station
- Capitol Visitor Center Shuttle Route
- Elevators

**YOTEL - 415 New Jersey Ave NW**



# FLY-IN ATTENDEES

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Director, Office of Safety Standards  
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## NOTES



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