

Become an FBI Agent or a Pilot at Embry-Riddle



Embry-Riddle prepares you for careers beyond the ordinary. Since 1925, we have over 155,000 alumni who enjoy the success that a degree from Embry-Riddle provides.

Some people are called to work beyond the office. They require adventure, excitement, and a deep sense of duty. Among our many programs, [Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University](#) prepares students for careers as either Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) special agents or pilots.

Whether pursuing a degree in [Global Security and Intelligence](#) to prepare for a career as an FBI agent or working towards earning your degree in [Aeronautical Science](#) to become a pilot, Embry-Riddle offers a challenging curriculum that prepares students for future success inside and outside of the classroom.

Types of Pilots

Pilots can earn one of three different types of FAA-issued credentials. You can pursue a private, commercial, or airline transportation pilot (ATP) certification. The path chosen dictates career outcomes. Private pilots generally fly recreationally and do not get paid.



Become a pilot through intensive training at Embry-Riddle

[Commercial pilots](#) get paid to fly and work nonscheduled routes, such as flying air ambulances or carrying cargo. [Airline transportation pilots](#) work for passenger airlines and carry hundreds of people across scheduled daily routes.

Types of FBI Careers

Several different types of careers are possible at the FBI. Some of these careers are:

1. Intelligence Analysts
2. Financial Experts
3. Scientists
4. Security Specialists
5. Linguists
6. Special Agents

Regardless of your desired career path in the FBI, Embry-Riddle offers intensive, leading-edge degrees that will prepare you for a successful future in law enforcement.

Additional Considerations to Become a Pilot

A college degree is not necessary to become a pilot. However, most aviation professionals say a degree is required in their organization. Income potential is also closely related to the level and the type of education achieved. Reviewing the abilities needed of a pilot makes it immediately clear how your degree from Embry-Riddle provides advanced and lasting benefits as you progress through and create your career.

Pilots Are Required to Have the Following Abilities:

1. Inductive and deductive reasoning ability
2. Information ordering and control precision
3. Written comprehension and expression
4. Recognizing and categorizing problems
5. Perceptual speed and rate control

Our [Aeronautical Science](#) and [flight training program](#) teaches you these skills.

Additional Considerations to Become an FBI Agent

The FBI requires an [intensive background and behavioral check](#) that includes the following criteria:

1. Adherence to the FBI drug policy
2. No engagement with organizations designed to overthrow the U.S. government
3. Filed all required federal, state, and local taxes

4. You have no prior felony convictions
5. You are current on any court-ordered child support payment

Additionally, you must pass a physical fitness test, have a bachelor's degree with at least two years of professional working experience, and possess a valid driver's license. Meeting these requirements culminates in your ability to obtain a Top-Secret Sensitive Compartmented Information Clearance (SCI). If you are interested in becoming an FBI special agent, it is critically important to remember that all your decisions from this moment forward directly affect this outcome. This means that professional, ethical, and legal behavior is mandatory.

Maybe you are one of the unique few who want to combine both fields.

Become a Pilot for the FBI

Fly beyond the office while serving your country. Working as a [tactical aviation pilot](#) for the FBI in the Critical Incident Response Group (CIRG) is the ultimate way to combine your interests in becoming a pilot and an FBI agent.

While many of these tactical pilots have military experience flying for the Navy or Air Force, this is not a requirement. Other flying experience may also qualify you.

Tactical Aviation Pilot Skills

Tactical aviation pilots fly both helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft in inclement weather and live-fire combat situations. However, most tactical aviation pilots for the FBI will work solely in the Tactical Helicopter Unit (THU). You can learn to fly a helicopter through

Embry-Riddle's [Helicopter Flight Training Program](#) while earning your Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Science degree.

Transporting SWAT and Hostage Rescue Teams is common, as is pursuing dangerous criminals. This level of responsibility requires pilots to know their aircraft and other equipment.

Regular aircraft training and maintenance are expected, as is being comfortable making deliveries on land and water. Tactical aviation pilots need leadership skills as they coordinate with commanders to support various operations.

Why You Should Choose Embry-Riddle

“At Embry-Riddle, we don’t simply train pilots,” said Kenneth P. Byrnes, Chair of the Flight Department, “we develop aviation professionals.” Embry-Riddle is a prestigious university with global name recognition. Your Aeronautical Science degree provides a unique foundation of skills and knowledge, setting you apart from the competition. Embry-Riddle's [intensive flight training program](#) teaches you the operation and control of aircraft while expanding your critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Our [Global Security and Intelligence Studies](#) (GSIS) degree prepares you for a career in the FBI and other law enforcement agencies. Steven Hooper, Assistant Professor of Global Security and Intelligence, says, “The uniqueness of a degree in Global Security and Intelligence Studies



Associate Professor Steven Hooper

immediately makes Embry-Riddle students competitive.”

Courses in national security, government, and counterintelligence give Embry-Riddle students a unique perspective that the FBI seeks. The GSIS program is taught from a practical, real-world perspective so students understand the realities of working for the FBI. Classes are taught by faculty who have extensive experience with national and global security issues.

Are you interested in a rigorous academic and personal challenge that will take you beyond the office and allow you to serve your country? Check out the rest of what [Embry-Riddle offers](#) our students, and [apply today!](#)