



## **Delaware Aerospace Academy**

### **CELEBRATING THIRTY- SEVEN YEARS OF EXCELLENCE**

We Are Very Proud to Announce the  
2026 Delaware Aerospace Academy

The Delaware AeroSpace Education Foundation (DASEF) exists to inspire and educate the people of the Delaware Valley in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) with academies, presentations, professional development, events, and activities and our new Delaware Discovery Center in Smyrna.

Since 1990, the objective of the DAA has been to provide hands-on training and experience in aerospace-related activities and fields. Throughout the week, cadets are continually challenged to think, design, solve, build, and work cooperatively. All academies are designed to integrate the study of STEM using Earth and Space education as the unifying framework.

Dr. Stephanie M.G. Wright, President of the DASEF, heads the staff of the Academy. Talented experts in a cooperative learning experience supplement our excellent staff of teachers and young people. Lessons focus on applied learning through problem solving. Students learn in small groups, emphasizing the teamwork necessary in the real world.

### **FULL DAY DESTINATION ACADEMIES**

**1. Destination Discovery:** Creatures Under the Sea to Dinosaurs on Land (entering 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>) will be held at the Outpost at our site in Smyrna, Delaware. Children will set out on an imaginary voyage under and above the ocean and then discover a dinosaur pit on land where they will excavate bones. Through new and creative activities, we will learn about the ships, fish and different species of dinosaurs and prehistoric sea monsters - some that lived under the sea and even some pirates who will add to an exciting week of adventure.

**Dates:** June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Environmental Outpost Fee: \$400. The Environmental Outpost is located at: 140 Dinosaur Drive Smyrna, DE 19977

**2. Destination Sky** (entering 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>) features a week of creative problem-solving challenges including Powers of Ten, Millions of Stars, planets, space habitats, and rovers. In addition, cadets participate in exciting activities based on the physics of flight, leading to a training flight in the Elementary Simulator.

**Dates:** June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Delaware Discovery Center 60 ITEC Loop, Smyrna, DE 19977. Fee: \$400

**3. Destination Space** (entering 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup>) features a series of experiments conducted in a space laboratory like NASA's "White Room". The results and solutions could have the potential to benefit humanity. Cadets will discover and learn about concepts from ground to space including simple machines, engineering, circuitry, science, weather, and computer training. Plan on constructing and launching a bottle rocket.

**Dates:** June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Delaware Discovery Center 60 ITEC Loop, Smyrna, DE 19977. Fee: \$400

**4. Destination Flight** (entering 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>) focuses on an in-depth study of the principles of flight and cutting-edge studies of the FAA and NASA aeronautic programs. Cadets will apply their acquired knowledge as they operate our advanced flight simulators and hovercraft.

**Dates:** June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Delaware Discovery Center 60 ITEC Loop, Smyrna, DE 19977. Fee: \$400

**5. Destination Orbit** (entering 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup>) includes the following areas of study: Space Architecture, Living in Space, Physics of Space, Rocketry, and Planetary Studies. Highlights of the week include a trip to Dover Air Force Base, a presentation by ILC Dover (the manufacturer of NASA's space suits) and construction of a model rocket that is launched on the final day.

**Dates:** June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Delaware Discovery Center 60 ITEC Loop, Smyrna, DE 19977. Fee: \$400

**Free Bus transportation** is available for the Day Academies at the Delaware Discovery Center, June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>. Bus Transportation is from University of Delaware's Clayton Hall in Newark to the Delaware Discovery Center, departing at 8 AM and returning at 5 PM.

## OVERNIGHT ACADEMIES

**6. Destination Moon** (entering 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, or 9<sup>th</sup>) is an overnight academy held at the University of Delaware. Cadets will enjoy lessons in crystal development, advanced rocketry, remote sensing, robotics, computer simulation, composite materials, and telescope building. A field trip is planned to the Center for Composite Materials.

**Dates:** July 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, Overnight at the University of Delaware, Clayton Hall. Fee: \$800

**7. Destination Mars** (entering 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, or 10<sup>th</sup>) is an overnight academy held at the University of Delaware. During the academy, cadets will conduct Mars-related experiments and take part in a computer simulation. They will assemble a space station underwater, build a magnetic levitation vehicle, construct and launch a rocket made from spare parts, design a rover, and simulate astronaut training. Cadets hear from experts on Mars and take a field trip to Iron Hill Park.

**Dates:** July 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, Overnight at the University of Delaware, Clayton Hall. Fee: \$800

All cadets will receive an academy T-shirt, handbook, and resources about the new high-tech world they are entering. All session fees include a \$75 non-refundable application fee. Questions on registration, due dates, or scholarships should be mailed to the Academy or call (302) 834-1978. Tax ID # for DASEF is 51-0325362.

**Scholarships:** A limited number of needs-based scholarships are available upon request. Deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup>. Scholarships will reduce fees but will be exclusive of the initial \$75 application fee. No refunds after the academies begin.

A completed application and a \$75 non-refundable fee are required to reserve a space in a session. Applications accepted until the start date or until academies are full.

## APPLICATIONS

To apply for Aerospace Academy, complete the **online application** found here: [<link>](#). Upon creating an account and submitting the form, you then have the choice to either pay a \$75 deposit or the full amount, using either PayPal (a PayPal account is not needed) or a check made out to "Delaware Aerospace Academy". If you elect to pay the deposit, the remainder must be received by the first day of Academy.

### Mail Payments to:

Delaware Aerospace Academy  
P.O. Box 125  
Bear, DE 19701-0125

Make checks payable to Delaware Aerospace Academy.

W i s d o m B e g i n s w i t h W o n d e r  
C E L E B R A T I N G T H I R T Y - S E V E N Y E A R S O F E X C E L E N C E