



Fort Drum
Career Skills Program (CSP)
for Active Duty Soldiers

Watertown International Airport

Overview of Career Skills Program (CSP):

The Watertown International Airport is a regional non-hub commercial service airport located just outside the City of Watertown. The airport is owned and operated by Jefferson County located in the greater Thousand Islands and Fort Drum area. The airport is the only full service airport within 60 miles for civilian aircraft. The airport receives four daily operations of American Airline's service and multiple daily operations of general aviation aircraft. Approximately 48,000 passengers travel through the airport every year on the Airlines. During the summer, a few thousand passengers fly in and out in private jets or corporate aircraft while visiting the area for business and pleasure. The airport department is responsible for the daily operations of the Airfield Management, Fixed Base Operation including Fueling aircraft, and Airfield maintenance activities. Being small regional airport employees perform many diverse job duties and responsibilities day to day whereas larger airports have more specialization.



The airport has routine openings during the summer time for temporary staffing for airfield maintenance activities and aircraft flight line services. These positions serve as the job pool for full time hiring positions as they become available.

The CSP would enable program participants to gain experience in various roles and activities while being supervised that will be attractive to potential employers located at airports or related industrial activity across the country in the public or private sector. Some experiences may include but are not limited to:

Airport Administration CSP

- Finance and Administrative duties
- Customer Service
- Account analysis
- Digitization of records
- Special projects
- Data entry File keeping and typing
- Marketing Events and Projects
- Historical record keeping
- Information Technology activities



Airfield Maintenance and Fixed Base Operations (FBO) CSP



- Aircraft Fueling Quality Control Operations
- Operation of specialized ground service equipment
- Airport operations
- Airport maintenance
- Aircraft refueling
- Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting
- Airfield Electrical systems
- Navigation Aid Maintenance
- Pavement Maintenance
- Airfield Vegetation Management
- Building HVAC and utility systems
- Airfield Wildlife Management
- Custodial operations
- Operation of medium to heavy motor equipment
- Customer Service

Training Overview:

The participant will need to select from the two CSP programs of either Administrative or Airfield Maintenance and FBO services.

Participants will gain civilian experience in each area as listed above.

Participants will obtain a Safety First Training Program qualification from the National Aviation Transportation Association (NATA) which is the industry standard for line service and customer service specialists. The training certificate for the Airport Maintenance and FBO services will meet the FAA 14 CFR Part 139 requirements for personnel fueling aircraft. Participants will also gain knowledge of civilian airports and be able to participate in a wide range of job duties and activities in the airport operations and maintenance.



Purpose/Outcome:

This CSP program will enable the soldier transitioning out of the ARMY to establish contacts in the industry and gain valuable experience working in the civilian aviation industry. The aviation industry is expecting to seek job candidates to fulfill a number of positions based upon predicted shortages of the labor force. This CSP program will give the applicant the needed experience and training certificate to be one-step ahead of other applicants applying for a similar position at airports worldwide.

**For more information: Active Duty Soldiers only may contact Patti Shields, Career Skills Program Installation Administrator
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