



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Department of Aviation

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Re: Aviation Youth Empowerment Foundation

The Oregon Department of Aviation supports diversity and inclusion in all facets of aviation in Oregon, and greatly appreciates the efforts of the Aviation Youth Empowerment Foundation (AYEF) to strengthen racial and gender diversity within Science, Technology, Education, and Mathematics (STEM) college programs and industries.

Oregon's airports and aviation industries offer a wide range of exciting career opportunities that support critical activities such as law enforcement, wildland fire suppression, commercial fishing, air ambulance, search and rescue, commercial passenger transport, freight and mail transport, military and US Coast Guard operations, real estate tours, agriculture, wildlife management, and natural resource conservation. These services contribute to Oregon's economic development by providing safe and efficient access to the state's communities, recreational areas, and abundant natural resources. They connect people and goods at local, national, and global levels, as well as play an important role in the safety and welfare of Oregon's residents, businesses, and visitors.

STEM programs are an important way to give our youth the education and resources they need to work in a highly technical field such as aviation. Scholarship programs like AYEF's help to expose aviation career opportunities to a broader and more diverse group of students that represent the diversity of Oregon, Washington, and California's population, and help them to achieve their goals and realize their dreams.

We support the Aviation Youth Empowerment Foundation's goal to empower youth from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds to achieve STEM degrees.

Sincerely,

Anthony Beach

Anthony Beach
State Airports Manager

*Oregon Department of Aviation's mission is to provide infrastructure, financial resources,
and expertise to ensure a safe and efficient air transportation system*