

## Aviation Outlook Day Exhibitor Information

Thank you so much for supporting the annual career day at WMU's College of Aviation! We are beyond excited to welcome you. Below you'll find the important details to help you prepare for a smooth and successful event. If you need anything else, don't hesitate to reach out to **Tom Thinnnes!**

### Event Address:

Western Michigan University  
College of Aviation  
Aviation Education Center  
237 Helmer Road N  
Battle Creek, MI 49037

This year's event will take place at our **Aviation Education Center**. When you arrive, feel free to pull up to the main entrance to unload your materials, then park in the lot. Look for the "wing-shaped" overhang and the strobe light on the "wing-tip" — that's your clue you're in the right place! Ring the doorbell, and one of our friendly **Aviation Ambassadors** will greet you and escort you to your table.

### Exhibitor Social: We Want to Hang Out With You!

Will you and your team be arriving on Thursday night? If so, why not join us for some fun at the **University Roadhouse** for heavy hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks (we'll cover the soft drinks, but adult beverages are on you — sorry, no open bars here!). This is a great chance to mingle with your fellow industry reps and WMU faculty and staff.

- **Where:** University Roadhouse
- **Address:** 1332 W Michigan, Kalamazoo, MI 49006
- **When:** 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- **Please RSVP** using the sign-up link below!

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS: Let's Get to Know Your Company!

At **Aviation Outlook Day**, you have the exciting opportunity to present information about your company. These **25-minute Breakout Sessions** will give you the chance to connect with students eager to learn more about careers with your organization. Sessions will be held between **10 a.m. and 2 p.m.**, with limited slots, so don't wait — sign up today!

### We Need Your T-Shirt Size!

Yes, you read that right! As a thank-you for your participation, we'll be gifting your team **College of Aviation t-shirts**. Please send us your team's **T-shirt sizes** so we can make sure everyone looks sharp.

## Submit your Information and Sign up here!

<https://forms.gle/kow8X4esfUydsRnN9>

## **Schedule:**

### **Aviation Outlook Day**

Friday, April 3

- **8:30 – 10 a.m.:** Arrive and unload materials. We'll have coffee and pastries waiting for you to fuel up!
- **10 a.m.:** Students begin circulating. (The early bird catches the student! You may find students approaching you a little earlier.)
- **11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.:** Exhibitor lunch. The event will continue during lunch, so you might want to eat in shifts.
- **2 p.m.:** Event concludes.

### **WMU Aviation Fly-In: Hosted by Alpha Eta Rho**

Sunday, April 12

- **Alpha Eta Rho – Theta Chapter** is hosting a **Fly-In event** on Sunday, April 12 and we want you back! Plan on attending to “rekindle and mingle” with all the connections you have made with WMU students.
- For more details, contact **Nolan Chickering** at [nolan.r.chickering@wmich.edu](mailto:nolan.r.chickering@wmich.edu).

## **Parking:**

- Exhibitor parking will be available directly to the north and northeast of the Aviation Education Center. Feel free to pull up to the entrance to unload your materials before heading to the parking lot.

## **Package Shipping Instructions:**

You can ship your materials to WMU before the event! Just a couple of things to note:

- **Shipping vendors:** FedEx and UPS ONLY (sorry, no other couriers can be used).
- **Shipping timeline:** Ensure materials arrive between **March 26 and April 2, 2026**.
- **Return labels:** Please attach **printed return labels** to any outgoing packages.
- **Shipping Address:**  
Western Michigan University  
College of Aviation  
Attn: Tom Thinnes  
237 Helmer Road N  
Battle Creek, MI 49037  
**FedEx and UPS ONLY.**
- For questions, call the College of Aviation at **(269) 964-6375**.

## **Hotels and Restaurants:**

### **Hotel Accommodations:**

Check out the many local hotels offering discounts for WMU affiliates. Be sure to call the local (269) number and ask for a **WMU discount** when booking!

- [Kalamazoo and Portage Hotels](#)
- [Battle Creek Hotels](#)

### **Restaurants:**

Feeling hungry? Discover the best dining spots in both **Kalamazoo** and **Battle Creek**:

- [Kalamazoo Dining Guide](#)
- [Battle Creek Dining Guide](#)

Thanks again for your support and engagement with our students! If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to reach out to me via email at **tom.thinnes@wmich.edu** or by phone at **(269) 964-5768 (office)** or **(269) 317-0415 (cell)**.

We can't wait to see you there!

Thanks!

### **Tom Thinnes**

Director of Recruitment, Marketing, and Outreach  
Western Michigan University  
College of Aviation