

Core Steps to Starting a Local Summer Flying Program

1. **Find some friends that you want to work with:** *Expect 3 years of companionship. Purposely meet with your local FSDO and tell them about the program, invite them to speak during the week. Get a letter of intent and file it.*
2. **File for incorporation in your state:** *Business ID, write bylaws, bank account*
3. **File for 501(c)3** nonprofit status with the IRS: *Unless you plan on paying for everything yourself, grants and donations are going to be required.*
4. **Buy insurance:** *D&O, general liability, rental coverage... You worked hard to attain your position in life, don't assume unneeded risk.*
5. **Outline a day by day schedule,** a weeklong program is best. *5 days are best for an immersion experience . Have a rainy day plan for when you can't fly.*
6. **Start small:** *3 students the first year, more once you get some year experience: what you can handle depends on you.*
7. **Partner with CFI's** for flight instruction: *The relationship with CFI, should allow students to continue with them after the program week. Provide a log book, and log the students time.*
8. **Find space on the airport.** *classroom, bathrooms, place to eat...*
9. **Teach what you know:** *every pilot has knowledge on flight that is S.T.E.M related*
10. **Market your program about S.T.E.M. education,** *not a flying program. Flight is the appetizer for STEM*