The Aviation Technology program at the Vocational-Technical Institute is fully approved by the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) to offer ground school and flight, aircraft maintenance, and aviation electronic courses which cover the essential elements that are involved in this highly specialized industry. Students are trained for the field of aviation maintenance and operations, air carrier operations, and aviation electronics. At the present time students may select one of three options of specialization: maintenance technician, professional pilot, or aviation electronics.

Career Opportunities

The airlines and general aviation constitute an industry that requires large organizations staffed by highly skilled technicians. The industry has grown at such an unprecedented rate in the last decade that it is now faced with a serious shortage of properly trained aviation technicians. Men are needed who possess a wide range of knowledge and abilities which require training in general education as well as special technical training.

The aviation maintenance technician option is designed primarily to fill the great demand for airline maintenance technicians, general aviation maintenance personnel, and careers in industry which require knowledge of aircraft maintenance practices.

The professional pilot option is designed primarily for those who choose careers as airline flight officers, executive aircraft pilots, flight instructors, and air taxi operators.

The aviation electronics option is for those who desire careers as airline and general aviation technicians on the complex electronics equipment carried on today's modern aircraft, and to fulfill the needs of the manufacturers of this equipment.

High School Preparation

The high school graduate, who wishes to pursue the Aviation Technology program, should have demonstrated an aptitude in English, mathematics, social sciences and a reasonable degree of mechanical aptitude. The aviation technician's preparation permits him to function in the areas between the professional engineer and the skilled production worker. The degree of one's leadership in the field of aviation technology depends upon the extent of his general education background, related information and technical competence.
Because of the intensity of these programs, each candidate must complete a minimum of 96 hours credit in approved courses. Of the 96 credit hours, approximately 68 credit hours are devoted directly to the option desired. The remainder of the courses consist of a required sequence of English composition, speech, technical writing, mathematics, psychology, government, and labor management relations.

Financial Assistance To Students

Financial help for students is available for those meeting certain scholastic requirements and need standards through the University's scholarship, loan, and work programs. Incoming students should not expect to meet all their college expenses from these sources. The Student Work Program serves two major purposes. It provides financial assistance in the form of part-time employment; and it provides work experience which relates, if possible, to the student's academic program. The kind of training and length of the programs are determined by the employing unit in cooperation with the Student Work Office.

Illinois Military Scholarships are available for those who qualify. These scholarships cover tuition, activity fees, and graduation fee. Information concerning financial assistance and scholarships may be obtained by securing a Financial Assistance Bulletin, from Central Publications, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois 62901.

Student Activities

The University provides a great number of activities and organizations for the student's recreation and further development of his abilities both socially and academically. One of these organizations is the Alpha Eta Rho International Aviation Fraternity. Students enrolled in the Aviation Technology program are eligible for membership in this International Aviation Fraternity.

Admission

Students desiring complete information concerning admission to the University should read carefully the official admission policy appearing in the Undergraduate Catalog.

For further information write to:

E. J. Simon, Dean
University Technical and Adult Education
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, Illinois 62901

Curriculum Series Number 109C, issued by Central Publications, Southern Illinois University. This series is intended as a guide to prospective students of Southern Illinois University in choosing a career and selecting a course of study leading to the realization of a chosen career. Other folders in this new series will be issued intermittently and will be sent on request as they become available. Numerical coding will be followed by C (Carbondale Campus), E (Edwardsville Campus) for courses of study offered on one campus. Absence of C or E denotes offerings on both campuses. For additional copies of this series, class schedules, or other bulletins, write to Central Publications, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois 62901.