

My Upcoming Internship at Harvey Field
by Ryan Fox

My love of airports goes back to Harvey Field's 2006 Youth Aviation Camp, which I attended at age 13. What I learned that summer--with additional inspiration from my dad and grandfather--not only kindled a love of flying but also helped me appreciate that aviation is about more than flying. Today I am a senior at CWU studying aviation management. *I am a student member of WAMA and the grateful recipient of a 2013 WAMA aviation management scholarship.* This summer I am excited for the opportunity to serve an internship at Harvey Field. I will be part of a high-quality team in a professional setting, moving beyond the detached projects of student life. I love that aviation is inclusive; it welcomes innovations from all corners. Because of the atypical way my brain works, I know I will make my best contributions by hands-on doing. A busy airport is the perfect place to be useful and learn.

A successful internship starts with goals. I have several. First, I want to learn about ramp and hangar operations, including basic tasks and safety procedures for aircraft movement, fueling, and other ground servicing. I would like to help organize supplies and tools, mow fields, help customers with luggage and tiedowns, and even track noise measurements. Second, I wish to understand how airport departments work together, what equipment is involved, planning processes, and maintenance. Third, I hope to discover how an FBO flight department functions, how decisions are made, and how Safety Management Systems--which we learn so much about in school--are really used. Finally, I want to practice my business communication skills. And I have offered to tag along on any flights as needed!

The team at Harvey Field will help me formulate a detailed plan for turning my goals into actions and making sure the internship is a win-win arrangement in which real work gets done. At the end of my summer, I hope to write again to let you know how my internship went. For now, I feel excited to get going serving all of my customers and learning everything I can!