



2020 Jasper Harris, Jr. Aviation Scholarship



Trey Cooper

**Northern Arizona University
Mechanical Engineering**

On August 23rd, 2017, I achieved a milestone in my aviation career by conducting my first solo flight during the Red-Tailed Hawks Flight Lessons for Youth (FLY) program. Since then, I have continued to work towards my goal of becoming a certified pilot by achieving several additional milestones.

These include earning a score of 90% on my written exam and completing a solo cross-country flight. Although I have made significant progress in my training, my journey has not been without challenges. After completing my initial solo in a Cessna 152, I continued my flight training with funding from the Red-Tailed Hawks Flying Club (RTH). During this time, I learned to overcome obstacles that hindered the pace of my progression such as weather, aircraft maintenance issues and high school AP academics. While I was unable to earn my certificate before leaving Washington for college, I obtained a solo endorsement and completed the vast majority of the training necessary to be eligible for the private pilot practical exam. Determined to finish my training, I enrolled in a flight school near my University and began training in a Cessna 172. After learning the operating procedures of the Cessna 172, I received an endorsement for the practical exam and took the exam on January 27th, 2020. Although I was unable to complete the exam, I have learned from my mistakes and remain committed to completing my training when COVID-19 restrictions are lifted...

The mission of the RTH is to promote careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics through aviation. My experience as an RTH cadet has allowed me to share my knowledge and insight into these career fields with others. I have served as a chaperone and ground crew during RTH Aviation Day Camp and RTH Aviation Experience. I have also advised and encouraged several of my peers both within and outside of the RTH. As a result, I believe that I am exemplary of the organization's mission. Jasper Harris Jr. dedicated his career to bringing about change and serving others. I intend to honor Harris's legacy by promoting and expanding opportunities within the aviation industry.

