



2023 Jasper Harris, Jr. Aviation Scholarship



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My relationship with the Red-Tailed Hawks Flying Club began when Mr. Roland Bradley introduced me to the organization at church. Despite my initial disinterest, I joined one meeting in October of 2018 just to see what it was all about, and after that meeting, I signed up to become a member.

Nevertheless, it wasn't until I was selected to be a Red-Tailed Hawks FLY Cadet that my entire perspective and attitude toward the world of aviation changed. I discovered various paths beyond medicine, culminating in achieving my private pilot's

license after excelling in the 2021 cadet class and subsequently soloing thereafter. This organization has empowered me to explore passions that I didn't know I had. Though I have taken a break from flying just for the duration of my undergraduate career, this scholarship could help me further that education so that I may begin training again.

While I expressed my interests were elsewhere, the Red-Tailed Hawks did not shy away from helping me connect with individuals in the field of my passions and broaden my perspective on how medicine and aviation can intertwine. Since then, I have dedicated my time and efforts to serve this organization just as they did me by participating in monthly meetings (including while away for college), volunteering in the annual Future Thrust Awards (2019-2021), and even starting an Instagram to reach students across the globe and serve as the administrator for the account.

As a fellow Bison, to honor the legacy of Jasper Harris, Jr., I am fully dedicated to advancing diversity and inclusion within aviation. I understand that his contributions have played a pivotal role in breaking down racial barriers within the industry. I am committed to continuing his work by actively participating in mentorship programs and outreach initiatives aimed at inspiring young Black individuals to pursue their dreams in aviation. I believe that representation matters, and I am committed to being a role model for future generations, proving that they too can reach for the skies.