SIU Carbondale has been in the business of training pilots since 1960. The Aviation Flight program currently operates a fleet of 35 Cessna aircraft at the Southern Illinois Airport, situated between Carbondale and Murphysboro on IL Rt. 13. Training in the program leads to FAA certification as an instrument-rated commercial pilot in both single- and multi-engine aircraft. The program is nationally recognized as one of the best collegiate flight training programs in the country. The award-winning Flying Salukis, SIU Carbondale’s National Intercollegiate Flying Association precision flying team, has won their regional competition 9 of the past 10 years. They have been invited to compete in the national competition for the last 10 years, and brought home the National Championship trophy in 2011, 2014 and 2015. The 2016 NIFA Top Pilot and the 2001, 2005, 2006 and 2013 NIFA top female pilots were all SIU Carbondale Aviation Flight students.

In addition to excellent flight instruction, campers will have an enjoyable time visiting SIU Carbondale. Campers will have access to numerous recreational facilities that are available at the University Recreational Center. These activities include swimming, basketball, volleyball, exercise rooms, bowling, billiards and a video game room. Organized social activities are planned and all campers are supervised by camp staff on a 24-hour basis.

You may obtain more information and register via credit card at our website: continuinged.siu.edu

Remember - the camp is limited to eight (8) campers and registration will be on a first to register basis.
Southern Illinois University Summer Wings Aviation Camp - Summer 2022

The Department of Aviation Management and Flight at Southern Illinois University Carbondale offers Summer Wings, a week-long aviation camp designed to give interested high school students an opportunity to experience first-hand the thrill of flight.

Summer Wings offers students the chance to explore a career as a pilot by providing ground and flight training similar to the training that SIU Carbondale flight students undergo. Participants will attend ground school classes, fly university flight training devices and aircraft (weather permitting), and enjoy evening activities on campus.

Participants will spend a week at the Southern Illinois Airport learning the basics of flight including:

- History of flight
- Aerodynamics
- Aircraft performance
- Weight and balance
- Aviation weather reports
- Preflight aircraft inspection
- Radio procedures

All flights will be conducted under the strict supervision of the Department of Aviation Management and Flight faculty members. Full and part time instructors regularly employed by the University will staff the Summer Wings Program. The commuter fee includes one (1) evening meal, four (4) lunches (Monday-Thursday), souvenir polo shirt, limited accident medical camper coverage, and all flight instruction. Included in the resident fee is all the above and supervised evening activities, all meals (Sunday dinner-Friday breakfast), and five (5) nights lodging in a university residence hall, which is air-conditioned. Campers will enjoy excellent housing accommodations with two campers per room. Resident campers may choose their roommate.

The Camp Director, Lorelei Ruiz, is an Assistant Chief Flight Instructor at SIU Carbondale. She may be contacted at 618-453-9265, or email lruiz@aviation.siu.edu.

To register, call 618-536-7751, fax registration forms to 618-453-5680, or register online at conferenceservices.siu.edu.

The camp is limited to 8 students. Students must be completing their freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior year of high school this year. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note the non-refundable $100 deposit due when the application is submitted. Applicants will be notified whether they have been accepted for the camp or waitlisted upon receipt of a completed application. Payment in full will be required no later than May 16, 2022 for those applicants who have been accepted. Applicants not meeting the payment deadline will forfeit both the deposit and the camp slot. Check-in for residents and commuters will be at 2:00 pm on Sunday, June 26. Resident check-out will be at noon on Friday, July 1. Additional information including directions to SIU Carbondale will be included with your registration confirmation.

Cancellation/Refund Policy: All requests for refunds must be submitted in writing. Your camp cost, less the $100 non-refundable deposit, will be refunded if you cancel by May 16, 2022. At any time after that date, refunds (less the $100 non-refundable deposit) are made for medical reasons only and all such requests must have a signed statement from your physician. If a medical cancellation request is not received by the first day of camp, funds are not given to campers who voluntarily leave camp or who are sent home for disciplinary reasons. The University reserves the right to cancel any program. In the event of cancellation, only those pre-registered will be notified.

FOR COVID-19 GUIDELINES: Please note that Summer Wings will follow all appropriate campus COVID guidelines.