CAREER BRIEF

(Grades 9-12)

PILOT

WHAT IS A PILOT?

- Pilots fly and navigate airplanes, helicopters and other types of aircrafts
- There are many different kinds of pilots including, but not limited to:
    - Military pilots, commercial pilots, firefighter pilots

WHAT DO PILOTS DO?

- Perform pre- and post- inspections on aircrafts
- Select safe and efficient flight routes
- Keep safety and inspection records
- Communicate with air inspection agencies and other personnel
- Responsible for the safety of the passengers and materials being transported
- Military pilots lead missions for the United States military
- Fire fighter pilots fight fires using aerial techniques (dropping fire suppression materials on large fires)

Fun Fact: *Amelia Earhart was the second person and the first woman to fly solo nonstop across the Atlantic*

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- A high school diploma or equivalent (GED)
- At least 2 years of college
- A Bachelor's Degree is highly recommended with coursework in math, physics, English, and aeronautical engineering are encouraged
- Pilot Training School with hours of flight training
- Pilot Certification: which includes written and flight test
- Pilot's License

SKILLS

- Communication Skills and Teamwork: must communicate effectively and be detailed oriented. Must work well with a team and communicate with crew members, air traffic controllers and flight dispatchers
- Adaptability: must be able to adapt to the unusual hours and work conditions
- Critical Thinking: must use data and information to make informed decisions during flight

EXPLORING THIS CAREER

- https://www.bls.gov/ooh/transportation-and-material-moving/airline-and-commercial-pilots.htm
- Military Pilot: https://www.airforce.com/careers/detail/pilot
- Firefighter Pilot: https://www.fire.ca.gov/programs/fire-protection/aviation-program/

"The engine is the heart of an airplane, but the pilot is its soul."
– unknown

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