



Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senator, Washington
Hart Senate Office Building, 511
Washington, DC 20510

March 15, 2023

Subj: FAA Reauthorization Support

Senator Cantwell,

Aviation Technical Services (ATS) is grateful for the FAA Aviation Maintenance Technical Workers Workforce Development Award (AWD) we recently received. This funding will be critical to our ongoing efforts as we attract and train the maintenance professionals necessary to secure our business. We are especially thankful to you for securing this funding through the FAA Reauthorization Bill of 2018.

ATS aims to promote stable careers in aviation maintenance through our apprenticeship and workforce development training programs, which support entry-level and displaced workers, as well as military veterans transitioning to the civilian workforce.

ATS runs an internal technician training academy (the ATS academy), which introduces prospective airframe and components mechanics to the field through classroom and on-the-job training. Our apprenticeship programs are registered in Washington state, and with the U.S. Department of Labor at our Missouri and Dallas-Ft. Worth locations. We refer to this internally as our "Grow Our Own" initiative, a response to the dire domestic shortage of qualified aviation technicians.

ATS funds the ATS Academy internally. For incoming apprentices, ATS is the sponsor, employer, recruiter, and trainer to include all supplemental instruction. ATS also runs training and development programs for all Aviation Mechanic and Component Mechanic positions up to and including Inspector.

The FAA AWD Grant funding allows us to expand our workforce development initiatives, including ATS Academy. Our workforce development program helps us secure our core business for the long-term and, importantly, contributes qualified aviation technicians to the national aviation ecosystem.

Senator, I know you understand the importance of this program to the long-term vitality and safety of the U.S. aviation industry. We agree it is critical for Congress to reauthorize and expand the funding and scope of this program in the upcoming FAA reauthorization bill to facilitate more awards and support additional aviation career pathways.

We appreciate your efforts and fully support the continuance of this program in the next FAA Reauthorization Bill.

Sincerely,

Paul Dolan
Chief Executive Officer
Aviation Technical Services