

Sunshine Coast Future Careers+2025



Aviation and Aerospace



Sunshine Coast Council is embarking on a strong and prosperous future which includes a progressive approach to sustainable economic growth and opportunities that are unrivalled anywhere in Australia. Council's Regional Economic Development Strategy is a blueprint for sustainable economic growth until 2033.

The strategy will help ensure the region actively participates in the global economy and delivers an enviable lifestyle and opportunities for local residents and businesses.

Current Industry Snapshot

Aviation and Aerospace is one of the seven high-value industries on the Sunshine Coast. The region is home to a diverse aviation industry, encompassing domestic and international travel, pilot training, education, manufacturing, engineering, design, charter services, emergency services and maintenance.

The Sunshine Coast Airport and Caloundra Aerodrome are the two aviation facilities in the region and contain high-value, small and medium-sized businesses which partner with aviation-related organisations worldwide. Both airports have a diverse and dynamic range of businesses and activities that will attract differing business and investment opportunities within the aviation industry.

Caloundra Aerodrome supports general aviation activity with around 40,000 movements of aircraft and helicopters each year. Unlike the Sunshine Coast Airport, Caloundra Aerodrome does not provide for large passenger services. The Caloundra

Game Changers on the Sunshine Coast

The following projects are some of the major 'game changer' developments in the Aviation & Aerospace Industry that will provide jobs in 2025.

Sunshine Coast Airport Expansion

The proposed Sunshine Coast Airport expansion, costing \$347 million, is a key development in the region and will deliver a new 2450m x 45m runway expected to be completed by 2020. This expansion will provide new taxiway loops, expanded apron and terminal facilities, a new air traffic control tower and associated infrastructure.

This project will allow new domestic flights to more destinations and open up international flights to Asia and the Western Pacific thereby enhancing national and global connections.

It is estimated the project will create 86 jobs in the construction sector and 1538 positions for airport operation. In addition to the current Aerospace Precinct, other areas under the masterplan will be opened up to accommodate new businesses, building upon the significant businesses already there which range from corporate jets and helicopter

operations to advanced flight simulator training. The airport will contribute more than \$4 billion to the local economy between 2020 and 2040.

Caloundra Aerodrome

The Caloundra Aerodrome has a masterplan to expand with new sites designated for emerging and existing businesses. By 2030, it is predicted that the number of annual aviation movements will increase to 84,000.

The aerodrome is built on approximately 145 hectares of land and when developed, the existing areas will evolve to cater for an increased number of small to medium, high-value businesses such as aircraft systems design, manufacture and fitment, engineering, aircraft modification and repair.

One of the new businesses that will be developed is a light aircraft pilot training facility. The Caloundra Aerodrome will be an adaptable location that has the potential to implement a drone hub or advanced engineering precinct.

Over time, the Caloundra Aerodrome will become even more important for the region and the industry combined with Sunshine Coast Airport.



Aerodrome has many businesses currently working in the aviation sector. Some of the current jobs at the Caloundra Aerodrome are: modifying helicopters, airline and flight training, advanced engineering manufacturing and training, plus the Queensland Air Museum which attracts tourists from all around Australia. Caloundra Aerodrome is already home to advanced aerospace activities as shown by Helimods, an internationally recognised helicopter modification and engineering company.

The Sunshine Coast Airport (SCA), located in Marcoola, welcomes more than one million passengers annually and is one of Australia's leading regional airports for passenger traffic and medium to larger scale businesses. The airport contributes more than \$475 million to the Sunshine Coast economy and is the largest council operated airport in Australia with 600,000 people in the airport catchment area.

In 2014, the aviation and aerospace industry employed 554 people on the Sunshine Coast. Today, the Sunshine Coast Airport alone employs more than 600 people. The planned expansion of the Sunshine Coast Airport will see international flight capability by 2020. The airport is Australia's first accredited carbon neutral airport and has twice won Australia's Major Airport of the Year award.

Projected Growth Snapshot

The Aviation and Aerospace industry is set to almost double by 2025. The region's population is estimated to grow from 289,389 in 2016 to 380,649 by the end of 2025 which will place higher demand on the current airports. Noted for innovation and creative thinking, the aviation industry will continue to accelerate towards 2025 in order to meet its economic, technological and eco-efficiency goals, as well as ensure that air travel continues to be one of the safest, and most efficient, means of transportation.

Expansion of infrastructure in the Sunshine Coast's Aviation industry will allow access to the dynamic Asian region. The Sunshine Coast is striving to be a leader in the implementation of UAV (unmanned aerial vehicles) or UAS (unmanned aircraft systems) training, education, design, research and development. The introduction of a UAV or UAS sector could place the Sunshine Coast at the heart of a massive new global niche industry. UAVs are a key example of a developing technology with unlimited potential e.g. aerial scanning systems, photography, geographical mapping etc.

Future Careers 2025

The future of the aviation industry is set to grow into 2025 with many new and exciting career opportunities.

Corporate Pilots	Aircraft Interior Designers
Commercial Pilots	Airport Duty Managers
Agricultural Pilot	General Operation Manager
Aircraft Maintenance Engineers	Air Traffic Controllers
Aeronautical Engineers	Flight Attendants
Civil Engineers	Airport Support Operations
Aviation Safety Officer	Ground Operations
Flight Engineers	Mechanical Engineers

The Top 3 Careers in 2025

1. Advanced engineering – aeronautical, aircraft, avionics, mechanical, civil, UAV, UAS
2. Airport operational roles – project management, accounting, administration, airline staff, air traffic control staff, ground operations
3. Pilot training and other pilot roles – domestic, charter, light aircraft, helicopter, UAV, UAS



Career Pathways and Education

There are a number of aviation schools operating on the Sunshine Coast Airport and Caloundra Aerodrome respectively for students who are willing to pursue a career in the aviation industry.

Subjects to look for at High School				
Mathematics A, B, C	Physics	Chemistry	Biology	English
Aerospace Studies	Engineering Skills	Engineering Technology	Information Communication Technology	Information Processing Technology
Information Technology Systems	Technology Studies	Accounting	Business Communication & Technologies	Business Management

Tertiary / University Education Pathway at the University of the Sunshine Coast		
Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical)	Bachelor of Science	Bachelor of Information & Communication Technology
Bachelor of Business	Bachelor of Commerce	Bachelor of Education

Online Courses + Career Colleges + Work Based Learning		
Diploma of Aviation – Instrument Flight Operations (Aero Dynamic Flight Academy, Flight Training)	Certificate IV in Aviation – Commercial aero plane Pilots License (Aero Dynamic Flight Academy, Flight Training)	Commercial Pilots License (Aero Dynamic Flight Academy, Advanced Flight Theory)
Airline Transport Pilot License – Theory (Advanced Flight Theory)	Private Pilot License (Flight Training)	Certificate I, II & III in Aviation

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Crossover Industries

Aviation roles on the Sunshine Coast have the potential to be linked to other industries such as agribusiness, health, tourism, sport, leisure, information technology and education. For example, agribusinesses can utilise new drone technology supported by IT organisations to assist with farm operations.

The particular use of information technology and communication (ICT) in the aviation industry has evolved over the years and today there is a strong influence of IT on aviation around the world. Development of technological systems that monitor and manage passenger movement, data collection, analysis and coding are just a few examples critical to improve efficiency and sustainability of the aviation industry.

