

General Aviation Awards

FAASTeam Representative of the Year

Award Criteria & Judging Guidelines

Role of the FAASTeam Representative

FAASTeam Representatives (Reps) are volunteers dedicated to advancing aviation safety. They serve as **assistants to the FAASTeam Program Manager (FPM)**, acting as liaisons between the FAA and the aviation community.

Reps function as **safety advisors** without regulatory authority. They influence safety culture by donating their time, knowledge, and talents to outreach, education, and awareness programs. While some Reps may also hold FAA certificates (e.g., mechanics, instructors), the award recognizes contributions made in support of FAASTeam objectives—not routine instruction or maintenance.

Mandatory Qualifications

Nominees for FAASTeam Representative of the Year must:

- Be an active FAASTeam Representative in good standing.
 - Serve the community pro-bono (without charge), making their safety outreach accessible to all.
 - Demonstrate professional knowledge, good character, leadership qualities, and the ability to work collaboratively.
 - Have completed aviation safety training or professional development within the past three years.
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Professional Standards

The FAASTeam Representative of the Year must:

- Consistently promote aviation safety and FAASTeam objectives.
 - Earn a positive reputation as a trusted advisor in the aviation community.
 - Demonstrate integrity, leadership, and the ability to coordinate effectively with others.
 - Show commitment to outreach that benefits the **widest possible aviation audience**, not just a single group or airport.
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FAASTeam-Specific Activities

Judges should give the highest scores for **activities identified in the FAASTeam Representative Manual** and are consistently performed within the past three years. Representatives may specialize in certain areas; consistency of contribution is more important than variety.

Recognized activities include:

- Hosting or participating in safety programs and seminars.

- Serving on safety committees or supporting community safety initiatives.
 - Disseminating regulatory updates, ADs, safety bulletins, and procedures.
 - Providing remedial training or counseling on behalf of the FAA.
 - Identifying hazards or unsafe conditions and recommending solutions.
 - Distributing safety materials and publicizing FAASTeam programs.
 - Mentoring or training other FAASTeam Reps.
 - Assisting the FPM with outreach, safety product development, or GA Awards nominations.
 - Promoting the **WINGS Pilot Proficiency Program** and the **AMT Awards Program**.
 - Publishing aviation safety articles or producing educational materials (print, digital, online, video).
 - Conducting safety seminars at conventions, symposia, and national events.
 - Suggesting improvements and contributing to FAASafety.gov content.
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Training & Professional Development

Because aviation is dynamic, the nominee must demonstrate **ongoing training or professional involvement** within the past three years. Acceptable activities include (but are not limited to):

- Annual FAASTeam Rep training or refresher programs.
 - Attendance at FAA recurrent training (IA seminars, DPE meetings, FIRC, etc.).
 - Manufacturer training (aircraft, simulators, avionics, or engine systems).
 - Involvement in professional or volunteer aviation organizations (AOPA, EAA, IMC Clubs, PAMA, CAP, Pilots-N-Paws, etc.).
 - Attendance at air shows, trade shows, or aviation symposiums.
 - Earning WINGS credits or similar safety education awards.
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Leadership Recognition

A **Lead Rep** designation indicates sustained leadership in FAASTeam safety initiatives. Judges should award higher scores for nominees who have achieved and demonstrated this leadership role.

Final Considerations for Judges

When evaluating a nominee, ask yourself:

- Does this individual **champion FAASTeam objectives** and promote aviation safety broadly?
- Has this nominee provided **consistent, pro-bono contributions** that reach beyond a single organization?
- Would you proudly hold this nominee up as an **example for other Reps and the aviation community to emulate**?

The FAASTeam Representative of the Year should be a **leader, mentor, and champion of aviation safety**; a professional whose example strengthens the FAASTeam mission.