

From: Osborn, Derek (Lankford)
Sent: Thu, 1 May 2025 15:16:41 +0000
To: Matesic, Hannah (OST); Harmer, Miriam (Lankford)
Cc: Fritz, Trish (OST); Priebe, Jack (OST); Schmoll, Joseph (OST)
Subject: RE: ATC Hiring Supercharge Press Conference

You don't often get email from derek_osborn@lankford.senate.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi Hannah – thank you for sending all of this over. I expect that we'll put out a statement of support once this is announced. I've copied our Deputy Legislative Director and Energy Policy Advisor. Could she be added to your distribution list?

From: Matesic, Hannah (OST) <hannah.matesic@dot.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 1, 2025 11:11 AM
To: Matesic, Hannah (OST) <hannah.matesic@dot.gov>
Cc: Fritz, Trish (OST) <trish.fritz@dot.gov>; Priebe, Jack (OST) <jonathan.priebe@dot.gov>; Schmoll, Joseph (OST) <joseph.schmoll@dot.gov>
Subject: RE: ATC Hiring Supercharge Press Conference

Press release attached and you can watch the conference here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EG2bv8Cjg28>

Thanks!
Hannah

From: Matesic, Hannah (OST)
Sent: Thursday, May 1, 2025 10:39 AM
To: Matesic, Hannah (OST) <hannah.matesic@dot.gov>
Cc: Fritz, Trish (OST) <trish.fritz@dot.gov>; Priebe, Jack (OST) <jonathan.priebe@dot.gov>; Schmoll, Joseph (OST) <joseph.schmoll@dot.gov>
Subject: ATC Hiring Supercharge Press Conference

Hi all – wanted to flag for you at 11 the Secretary will be hosting a press conference to announce further actions to address the shortage and retention of existing controllers and hiring of new controllers. Some details of this plan are below in advance of that. I will send you the final press release once live, please keep internal until that point.

Let me know if you have any questions,
Hannah

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy today unveiled a new package of actions to further supercharge the air traffic controller workforce. The package will allow more of the best and brightest candidates to get into air traffic facilities and on the job faster, as well as increase retention of experienced controllers. Secretary Duffy first launched the supercharge program in February

To retain existing experienced controllers, the FAA will:

- Offer a limited-time incentive package to keep experienced controllers from retiring.

To supercharge the hiring pipeline, the FAA will:

- Provide new opportunities for veteran military controllers, including an expanded list of qualified facilities.
- Provide financial incentives to graduates and new hires for completing initial training milestones.
- Reward academy graduates who are assigned to hard-to-staff facilities.
- Ensure the best and brightest candidates aren't waiting for a year or more for routine medical and security clearances.
- Expand the number of instructors and establish a Learning Center at the Air Traffic Controller Academy in Oklahoma City.

Additional Information:

Recruitment and Retention Incentive Package:

The FAA and National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA) have agreed to a new limited-time incentive package to recruit and retain controllers.

- \$5,000 award for academy graduates who successfully completed the initial qualification training
- \$5,000 award for new hires who successfully complete the initial qualification training
- \$10,000 award for academy graduates who are assigned to one of 13 hard-to-staff air traffic facilities
- Certified professional controllers eligible to retire but under the mandatory retirement age (56) will receive a lump sum payment of 20 percent of their base pay for each year they continue to work

Additional Actions to Supercharge Air Traffic Hiring Pipeline:

To get these qualified candidates into the Academy faster, the FAA is now putting additional resources into the medical and security clearance phase, such as retaining the services of additional qualified medical personnel, including those who can perform psychological evaluations.