

JOHN HOEVEN
NORTH DAKOTA
338 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
TELEPHONE: (202) 224-2551
FAX: (202) 224-7999
hoeven.senate.gov

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
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October 4, 2024

Administrator Michael Whitaker
Federal Aviation Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
800 Independence Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Whitaker:

I am writing to express my support for the University of North Dakota's (UND) application the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Enhanced Air Traffic-Collegiate Training Initiative (AT-CTI) program. I appreciate your full consideration of this application.

North Dakota has long been a leader in the field of aviation. UND is one of the few institutions in the country enrolled in the current Air Traffic-Collegiate Training Initiative (AT-CTI) Partnership Program, providing an exceptional source of candidates to fill in-demand ATC positions.

The University of North Dakota's John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences is one of the most active flight schools in the world with over 500 faculty and staff and over 2,000 students. UND is a world-renowned center for collegiate aviation education, atmospheric, and policy research. Collegiate aviation programs, like UND's Air Traffic Management Program, train first-rate candidates to meet FAA's need for air traffic controllers now and in the future.

In April 2024, FAA began accepting applications from universities to join the new Enhanced AT-CTI program. The goal of this program is to accelerate ATC hiring and allow recent ATC graduates to begin facility training immediately upon completion of their degree. UND is at the forefront of technology, testing, and oversight for ATC training. I look forward to FAA's continued partnership with UND and across the state.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your important work at FAA during this critical time. Please keep me informed of the review process, and feel free to contact my office with any updates or inquiries you may have.

Sincerely,



John Hoeven
United States Senator