

Lake Area Technical College

Professional Fixed-Wing Pilot Training

Headset Purchasing Guidelines



You will be required to have your own headset that meets a minimum standard of quality and performance. Choose and purchase one of the following Lake Area Technical College approved headsets from the vendor of your choice (we've listed a couple of options) and have it available for your first week of school.

David Clark H10-13.4 Headset, Dual GA Plugs;

\$315 from Sporty's and \$336.42 from Aircraft Spruce as of 6/2020

<https://www.sportys.com/pilotshop/catalogsearch/result?q=h10-13.4>

https://www.aircraftspruce.com/catalog/avpages/h10_134.php?clickkey=362563

Telex Air 3500 Headset, Dual GA Plugs

\$338 as of 6/2020

<https://www.aircraftspruce.com/catalog/avpages/air3500.php>

Additional Information for the Informed Headset Purchaser (why are some other headsets \$800 - \$1200?) Serious pilots who fly hundreds of hours a year put much thought and research into headset purchase decisions. Questions to contemplate:

How much is this going to cost? Where is the best place to make the purchase? What manufacturer should I go with? Do I want features like Bluetooth and ANR (Anti-Noise Reduction)

Anti-Noise Reduction (ANR)

Does an amazing job of eliminating engine and air noise in the cabin. It's like sitting in a quiet living room. Communicating on the aircraft radio or intercom system is like having a quiet conversation. It's what commercial pilots who spend hundreds of hours a year in cockpits use to reduce fatigue during long or numerous flights.

Bluetooth

Allows you to connect to your phone. HOWEVER – if texting or talking on the phone while you're driving are dangerous, doing this while flying is MUCH more dangerous and we don't want you to be a distracted airplane driver. That said, there could be emergency situations or other times that safety of flight could be enhanced with the capability to be able to use your phone. Those are discussions we can have while you're in training.

The cost of these features from the main players like Bose, Lightspeed, David-Clark, and Telex will price out from \$800 - \$1200. **At this point in your pilot career, we do not feel that it is necessary for you to incur the additional cost and that the entry-level headsets listed above are adequate.**

For additional questions contact Professional Fixed-Wing Pilot Training Department Supervisor Greg Klein kleing@lakeareatech.edu or instructor Aaron.D.Weeldreyer Aaron.Weeldreyer@lakeareatech.edu