

EAA YOUNG EAGLES BUILD AND FLY PROGRAM FAQs

What is the Young Eagles Build and Fly program?

The Young Eagles Build and Fly program is an intensive RC model building and flying initiative designed for EAA chapters to partner with local Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) clubs to engage Young Eagles participants and other youths. The program can either lead to or follow up a Young Eagles flight and is intended to further their passion for aviation.

What is included in the kit?

The program box includes an electric-powered Old School Model Works Fifty Six kit, along with every required component, radio system, and accessories; a Horizon Hobby Vapor indoor RC model; and a RealFlight RC flight simulator (internet access required).

What is the cost to an EAA chapter for the kit?

The program's contents would typically retail for more than \$1,500, but thanks to the generous contributions of the Chapters Development Fund, which is supported by Peter Burgher of EAA Chapter 1093, and EAA's great relationships with AMA, Old School Model Works, and Horizon Hobby, each program kit costs only \$500 plus shipping and handling for participating chapters.

Who is eligible for this program?

All EAA chapters and squadrons who are in good standing and have developed a relationship with a local AMA club in their area are eligible to participate in this program. Relationships between EAA chapters and local AMA clubs are paramount to successful Young Eagles Build and Fly programs. AMA clubs are where technical expertise is found pertaining to building and flying RC model aircraft. They are also the avenue for flying the finished model at the local RC aircraft flying field.

Where can we find kids to participate in the program?

Advertising a future Young Eagles Build and Fly program during a chapter's Young Eagles rally is a great way to attract families and engage them in the program. Take this opportunity to invite parents to register their kids in the program. Continued involvement in and exposure to aviation activities will help foster a lifelong involvement in aviation.

Does a chapter need to complete an EAA insurance request to participate in the program?

Yes, file for your EAA event insurance prior to participating in the program. The Young Eagles Build and Fly program is an EAA-approved activity. Only one insurance request is needed, assuming the form is completed to include all activity dates. EAA.org/EventInsurance

Does the program require volunteers and mentors to participate in EAA's Youth Protection Policy?

It is common practice and a common expectation by organizations engaging in youth programs to participate in a youth protection program. All participating adult volunteers will complete EAA's Youth Protection Policy training and background check. For more information, visit EAA.org/YouthProtection.

How long does it take to build the Fifty Six model?

An experienced builder can complete this model in 40 hours. Since the chapter will be coaching kids through the build process, you should count on it taking twice as long. The goal should not be to complete the kit as quickly as possible but to allow plenty of time for mentoring and development of building skills. Consider having multiple build stations where various pieces of the aircraft are being worked on simultaneously.

What other activities might a chapter include during the RC build program?

The program kit includes a RealFlight RC simulator, and it is suggested to incorporate this into your build curriculum to get both volunteers and youth participants engaged in flying RC models as quickly as possible. A Vapor ready-to-fly indoor RC model is also included and may be used as curriculum to teach flight concepts early in the build and familiarize youth participants with flying techniques.

Who should build the RC airplane?

The program is designed to introduce kids to aviation typically upon completion of a Young Eagles flight. The build process and subsequent RC flight training with the finished model are both equally important parts in the success of the program. Youth participants will learn as much during the build process as they do during the flying portion, as it is the kids who will build the RC model. Through chapter mentoring, the RC model project should be completed through multiple build sessions, intermixing aircraft construction and flight theory into each session at the build facility and flying field.

Can the RC build sessions be at an EAA member's house?

It is not permissible to engage in youth activity at a private residence or home. A suitable location is required to build the RC kit where the kit can remain in place throughout the duration of the build. Space is also needed to create an additional activities area such as a youth ground school or other hands-on activities — ensure there is ample activity for the kids. Plan to have dedicated volunteers available to support the program.

Where can a chapter fly an RC airplane?

The Young Eagles Build and Fly program is intended to include a local AMA club. AMA club members will be a great source for building expertise and RC flight training, specifically an AMA flying field to use for the aforementioned flight training program post-completion of the Fifty Six model.

Where can we find additional information regarding the program?

For more information about the Young Eagles Build and Fly program, please visit EAA.org/YEBuildandFly and review the Young Eagles Build and Fly Program Handbook and other helpful information.

How can we find a local AMA club near us?

Please visit EAA.org/YEBuildandFly to learn more about how to find AMA clubs in your area, or visit ModelAircraft.org/Club-Finder.

What do we do with the RC model after it is completed?

Have fun flying the RC model with your youth participants by joining the local AMA club. One reason for teaming up with your local AMA club is access to their flying site alongside their expertise in flying and training. While you can legally fly the model elsewhere, we suggest the model ONLY be flown at the local AMA club flying field. Please be familiar with the AMA's Know Before You Fly program before flying the model, which can be found at KnowBeforeYouFly.org. Consider a second RC build project to continue to foster kids' interest in aviation.