JAD

The University of Kansas

Jayhawk Aero Design Sponsorship Packet

2025-2026

Contents

Letter From the Team

Dear Potential Sponsor,

Thank you for your interest in Jayhawk Aero Design (JAD), the Design Build Fly (DBF) team of the University of Kansas! Design Build Fly is a collegiate design competition in which teams from across the globe compete to produce the best RC plane for the competition parameters provided. Jayhawk Aero Design is a top-tier team and has proudly represented the University of Kansas at these events for 9 years now.

JAD was founded in 2016 by a small group of KU aerospace engineering students. Since then, JAD has grown to over 70 undergraduate students each year across numerous disciplines of study. Through engaging in practical design, production, and evaluation, we offer an experience that goes beyond traditional classroom learning and is extremely beneficial for individuals aspiring to pursue a career in aerospace engineering. Your support enables us to connect the worlds of education and industry, promoting engineers who are dedicated to achieving excellence.

Such a complex engineering project would not be possible without the generous support from our sponsors, who extend the capabilities of the project beyond our resource and manufacturing limits. To create a top-notch and competitive RC plane, the project relies on a significant budget. Whether sponsors provide monetary or material donations, this support enables the team to strive for excellence alongside the finest DBF teams globally and plays a pivotal role in shaping the future success of KU engineering graduates.

The following pages will provide you with more resources on who our team is, what we do, and how you can support us. Please feel free to contact us with further questions. We are excited about the opportunity to collaborate with you in the upcoming year to support Jayhawk Aero Design. Thank you for your time and for considering the sponsoring our team.

Sincerely,

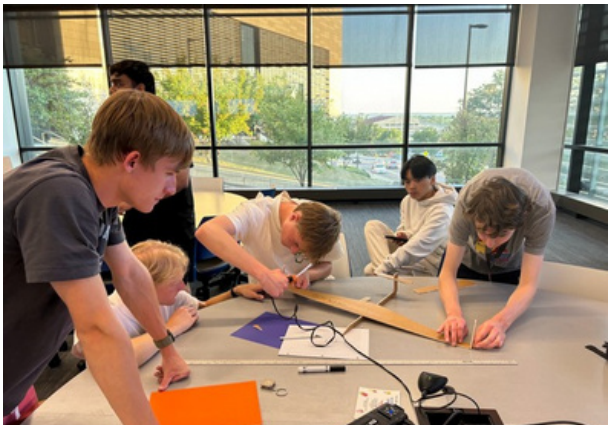
Mayah Haug
2025 President

About Design Build Fly

Design, Build, Fly is an annual aerospace design competition hosted by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). Started in 1996 by the AIAA Applied Aerodynamics, Aircraft Design, Design Engineering, and Flight Test Technical Committees, the competition provides university students with the opportunity to gain real-world aircraft design experience and to test their analytical studies. To encourage innovation and maintain a fresh design challenge, the design requirements and mission objectives are changed each year. This years competition will be hosted in Wichita, Kansas during the month of April 2026.

About Us

Jayhawk Aero Design is the official Aero Design club of the University of Kansas that competes in the annual AIAA Design, Build, Fly competition. We were founded in Fall of 2016 and have been operating since. Our purpose is to provide undergraduate students with aircraft design experience, hands-on manufacturing skills, and leadership opportunities to make KU students more competitive on the national aerospace engineering stage. Our advisor is Dr. Emily Arnold and our workspace is in the basement of Learned Hall. Our team is comprised of 70 KU undergraduate students who are excited to compete in this year's DBF competition.



Team Structure

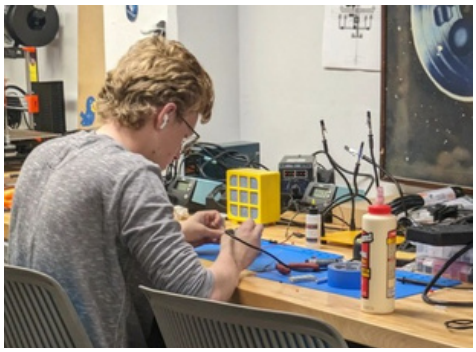
Aerodynamics Team	Responsible for aerodynamic performance, sizing, and dynamic stability analysis.
Structures Team	Responsible for design and analysis of the primary structural components of the aircraft, including spars, ribs, stringers, fuselage skin, and bulkheads.
CAD Team	Responsible for creating, organizing, and delivering the various CAD models that the team requires.
Mechanical Systems Team	Responsible for all of the mechanical systems on the aircraft including servos, control linkages and hinges, landing gear, mounting brackets, aircraft disassembly, internal access, and more.
Flight Test Team	Responsible for conducting flight tests to ensure the aircraft's operational capabilities, as well as the design of tests to ensure safety, efficient use of resources, and high quality data.
Manufacturing Team	Responsible for planning and leading the manufacturing efforts of JAD. They compile tasking, research manufacturing techniques, and work with the other sub-teams to manufacture their designs.
Optimization Team	Responsible for analyzing the scoring formulas provided in the rules, performing sensitivity analyses, and informing the engineering team on ways to design the final vehicle in order to maximize score.
Propulsion Team	Responsible for the aircraft propulsion system on the aircraft as well as other electronic components of the aircraft such as servos, ESCs, avionics, radios, batteries, etc.
Administrative Team	Responsible for planning social events, handling recruitment efforts, coordinating with sponsors, organizing finances, and designing monthly newsletters.

Why Support JAD?

Recruitment

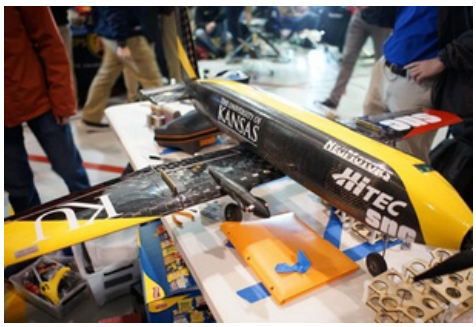
- By supporting JAD, your company will help cultivate a group of highly skilled young engineers with valuable experience in the design, construction and testing of model-scale aeronautics projects. This sponsorship
- will grant your company direct access to these engineers, who have demonstrated their capabilities in competition and are eager to join your team.

Education



- Sponsorships provide the team with access to more advanced materials, parts, and manufacturing processes.
- Not only does this enhance the team's competitiveness, it also elevates the quality of education the team offers and raises the level of expertise that students gain during their time on the team.

Brand Promotion

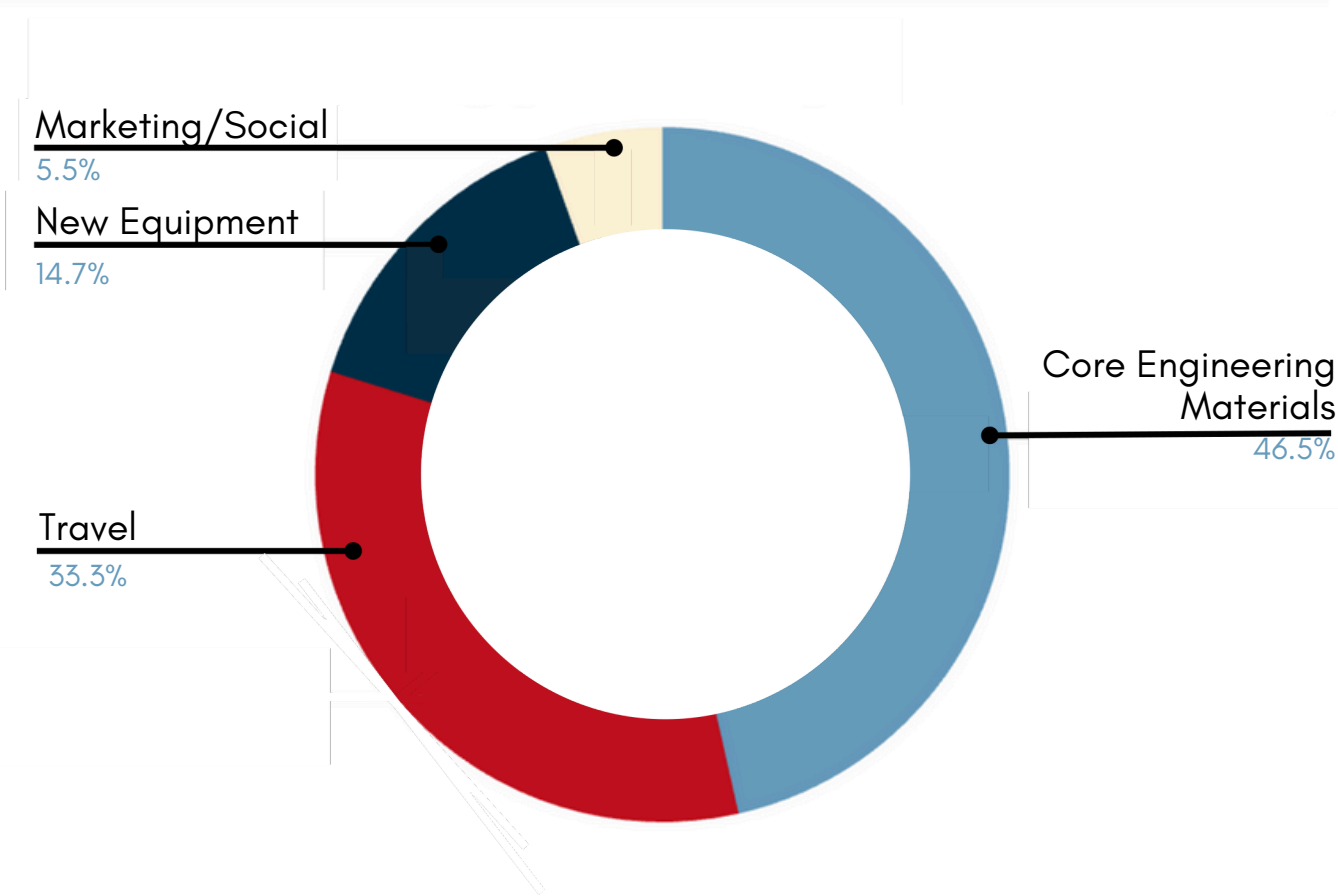


- Your company will receive prominent placement in team promotional materials, including aircraft livery, social media, and select team merchandise.
- The team's members and followers will acknowledge your company's contribution and your sponsorship will gain visibility at the DBF competition, which attracts over 100 universities worldwide. Your company will also be credited to our success.

Financial Distribution

We assure that all sponsorships will be utilized for the advancement and enhancement of our aircraft and for teaching our members/helping them become better engineers who are ready to enter the industry.

Taking into account 2025/26 market prices and the team's requirements, sponsorship funds will be allocated to one of the categories in the cost-projection chart below, unless otherwise requested by the sponsor.



Sponsorship Tiers

For any sponsors that donate material/equipment, the sponsorship tier list benefits will be proportional to the "fair market" value of the donated supplies.

Bronze Level: Donation of $50+

- A monthly newsletter of our progress
- Invitations to provide feedback on our design report
- Signed name on aircraft OR small 1.5"x2" logo space on competition aircraft

Silver Level: Donation of $500+

- A monthly newsletter of our progress
- Invitations to provide feedback on our design report
- A 3"x5" logo space on the competition aircraft
- Name and logo on team competition shirts

Gold Level: Donation of $1,500+

- A monthly newsletter of our progress
- Invitations to provide feedback on our design report
- A 5"x7" logo space on the competition aircraft
- Name and logo on team competition shirts
- Access to the Jayhawk Aero Design team for company PR (can be discussed further)
- A package of 5 competition shirts sent back to you, with signed cards/photos from the team
- An open invite to speak to the team about your organization, careers, industry, etc.

Platinum Level: Donation of $3,000+

- A monthly newsletter of our progress
- Invitations to provide feedback on our design report
- An 8"x12" logo space on the competition aircraft (whole wing or fuselage half)
- Invitations to our scheduled design reviews Name and logo on team competition shirts
- Access to the Jayhawk Aero Design team for company PR (can be discussed further)
- A package of 10 competition shirts sent back to you, with signed cards/photos fro m the team
- An open invite to speak to the team about your organization, careers, industry, etc .
- Commemorative plaque from the team thanking you for your support and indicating our final placement for the year
- Three guaranteed promotional social media posts per year

Material Donations

If you've got raw materials, or old tools laying around that are in need of requisition, we could probably find a use for it! Just reach out to us and let us know what you have, and we can discuss if we have the means/space to accept it. Typical materials/tools used by the team are listed below:

- Dry Carbon/Fiberglass/Kevlar Fabrics
- 3D printing filaments for tooling and functional parts, PLA/PETG
- Paints/Primers/Finishes
- Balsa/Light Ply
- Small RC electronics, servos, lipo batteries, radios, actuators
- Small hardware, M5-M2
- Hand/Power Tools/Air Tools
- Glues/Tapes/Adhesives
- Aluminum extrusion and raw stock, sheets/rods
- Carbon tubing, rods (usually used for spars and stiffeners)
- Boxes/Storage Chests/Storage Bins
- Small parts organizers

Thank You

We rely on sponsors like you to fuel our mission. With your support, we can promote the engineering skills of our members and compete on a global scale. By backing our team and our initiative to create opportunities for students from all backgrounds, you are ensuring that the future of aerospace is in the hands of a new generation of passionate engineers. We appreciate your consideration and hope that you will join us.

Contacts

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Thank you again for your interest in supporting us; if you have any questions, contact us at jayhawkaerodesign@gmail.com.

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