

2026 - 2027 SPONSORSHIP PACKET

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY VERTICAL FLIGHT SOCIETY TAMU VFS



LOCATION



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
710 Ross St, College Station, TX, 77840

CONTACT



WEBSITE: tamuvfs.org
EMAIL: tamuvfd@gmail.com

ABOUT US



The Texas A&M Vertical Flight Society is the Texas A&M chapter of the National Vertical Flight Society, dedicated to advancing vertical flight. Our chapter serves as an **incubator for student vertical flight initiatives**, managing funding, partnerships, logistics, and shared initiatives so technical teams can focus on **execution rather than administration**.

HISTORY

Our inaugural program was TAMU VFD, founded in August 2023 by eleven aerospace students with a common goal: **pushing the boundaries of vertical flight**. Their relentless pursuit of innovation culminated in VFD taking home **its first championship** in the prestigious VFS student DBVF competition only eight months after being founded.

Since then, VFS has grown to nearly 100 students, all carrying the same **innovative mindset** that drives the team's pursuit of excellence. Our members renowned blend of adaptability, ingenuity, and technical skills allow them to thrive in **real-world** applications.

MEET THE TEAM



DR. MOBLE BENEDICT
Faculty Advisor

benedict@tamu.edu



JADEN BEHRINGER
VFS President

jaden.behringer@tamu.edu



AMIT GADANG
Graduate Advisor

amitggadag7599@tamu.edu



GREYSON ACKER
VFD President

greysonacker@tamu.edu



PETER HANSEN
eVAIR President

phansen.tx@tamu.edu



MARIE STRITTMATTER
UpLift Director

mariestrittmatter@tamu.edu



NICHOLAS TAYLOR
Business Lead

nbtaylor2005@tamu.edu



ADARSH SHETH
External Relations

adarshsheth@tamu.edu



JONATHAN LAWLER
Technical Advisor

jonathanlawler@tamu.edu

ABOUT US, cont.



OUR VISION

We are building Texas A&M into a **global leader in vertical flight innovation**. We do this by providing Aggies hands-on technical opportunities, professional development, workshops, guest lectures, and direct exposure to industry. Our approach is **people-first**: we develop engineers who are ready to lead and shape the future of vertical flight. VFS supports this mission through our three core pillars:



RESEARCH

VFS pushes its members to learn from industry innovations by sourcing technical research papers.



INNOVATE

We produce innovative engineers with real-world experience that are ready to be pioneers in any industry.

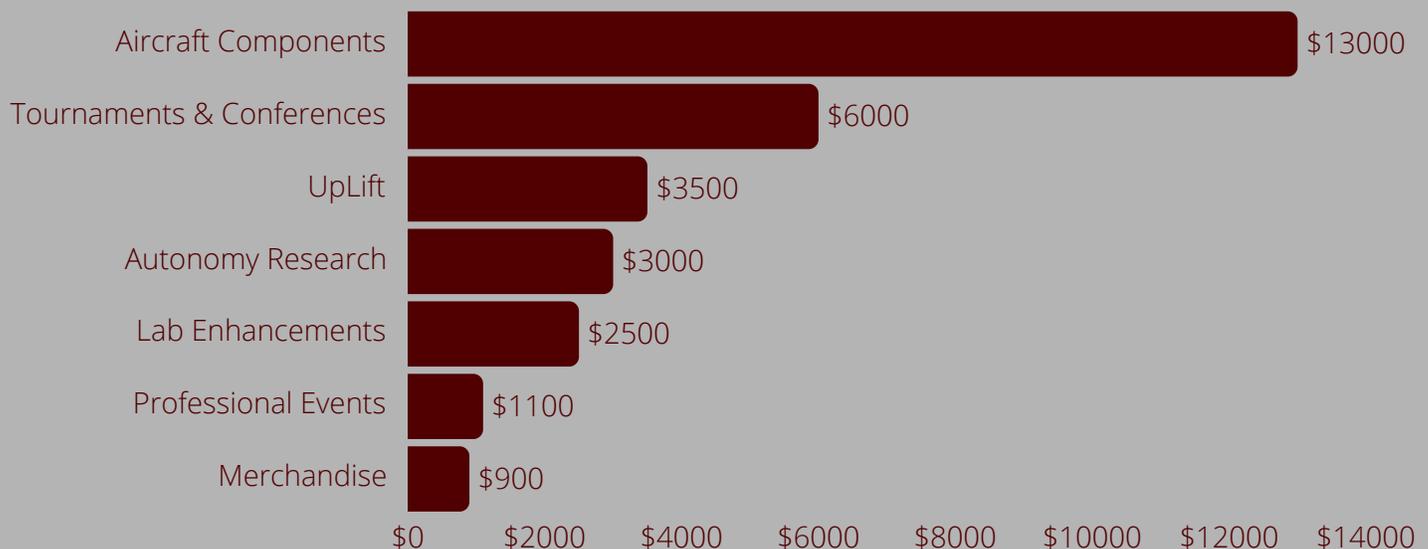


DISPLAY

We present and test the culmination of our work throughout the year in competitions or forums.

2026-2027 Budget Breakdown

Based on past years spending and goals for the upcoming year, we plan to spend a total of **\$40,000** across all of our VFS programs; see the breakdown:



PROGRAMS



VERTICAL FLIGHT DESIGN (VFD) *award-winning competitive design team*



National Champions of the Vertical Flight Society student design-build-vertical flight (DBVF) competition. Aiming to also compete in SUAS alongside eVAIR.



eVTOL Autonomy & AI Research (eVAIR) *research program*



Student led research program focused on developing **artificial intelligence systems** for autonomous eVTOL flight. Aiming to publish first **research paper in 2027** for the VFS technical forum, in addition to competing in the **worldwide SUAS competition** alongside VFD.

UpLift *high school outreach program*



Weekly, yearlong outreach program designed to teach **underrepresented HS students** to design, build, and fly 3-inch FPV drones for a fly-off hosted at TAMU REllIS.



2026-27 AGENDA



COMPETITIONS

TAMU VFS will be sponsoring entries into three worldwide competitions



DBVF

Design Build Vertical Flight is a yearly eVTOL challenge. Past competitions have focused on developing aircraft for **autonomous firefighting** capabilities, with our VFD team **winning first overall** in 2024, and placing 5th in 2025, and competing in April for 2026.



SUAS 2027

The **Student Unmanned Aerial Systems** competition is the largest UAS competition in the world, with nearly **100 teams worldwide**. Missions can last **up to an hour**, incorporating long distance travel, autonomous payload integration, spatial mapping, and more. VFS is entering the 2026-2027 competition.



AI Grand Prix

The **AI Grand Prix**, founded by Anduril, is a global **AI drone racing** competition with hundreds of teams and a **\$500k top prize**. VFS is entering an elite team under the name **KAIRO**, advised by the **Dean of Engineering** & controls expert Dr. Robert Bishop.

TECHNOLOGY

REV-1, revolutionary Biplane Tailsitter, won DBVF 24



REV-3, high lift firefighting autonomous hex



Rev-2, 25 lbs, 80 mph cruise. subscale of finalist in the \$1M GoAERO proposal



URBAN NAVIGATION land rover prototype



EVENTS

OPEN FLY DAYS

This hands-on experience offers opportunities to **pilot drones**, observe flight testing, and learn about aircraft systems in a practical setting.

A³M COMPETITION

VFS is developing the **Aggie Advanced Air Mobility** competition, a new eVTOL competition, with the incubating new startups and technology.

INDUSTRY TRIPS

Trips to **conferences** and **sponsor headquarters**. VFS will be visiting Amazon's Seattle HQ in May 2026

SPONSORSHIP



WHY SPONSOR

None of these aspirations would be possible without the support of our generous sponsors! Sponsoring VFS allows us to continue **winning championships**, releasing **research publications**, and sharing **educational opportunities** with the community. By sponsoring VFS, you're helping supporting the **future of vertical flight** innovation, and making a **direct impact** on not just our aspiring Aggie Engineers, but everyone in the Bryan/College Station community.

SPONSOR BENEFITS

Monetary donations are **tax-deductible** through the Texas A&M Foundation, a registered **501 (c3)**. Please contact us for equipment donations, or with any questions at tamuvfd@gmail.com

BENEFIT TYPE	 \$2,500+ MAROON TIER	 \$5,000+ BRONZE TIER	 \$10,000+ SILVER TIER	 \$20,000+ GOLD TIER
Logo/name on team shirts	✓	✓	✓	✓
Personal thank you letter	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo/name on website	✓	✓	✓	✓
Quarterly design updates	✓	✓	✓	✓
Team resume bank access		✓	✓	✓
Social media thank you		✓	✓	✓
Invitation to VFS events (flight testing, etc.)		✓	✓	✓
Logo/name on aircraft			✓	✓
Special thanks in all media regarding competition			✓	✓
Receive VFD merchandise			✓	✓
Exclusive recruitment opportunities with the team				✓
Premium logo placement				✓
Option to present to team				✓

PAYMENT STEPS



STEP 1



Visit the Texas A&M Foundation website:
<https://www.txamfoundation.com/give.aspx>

STEP 2

1 Setup Your Gift

Search For An Account

Or select an account using the form below.

Select a Unit or College *

Under "**Setup Your Gift**", please click "**Search For An Account**"

STEP 3

Search Accounts

Enter Any Part of a Giving Account Name

Unlisted x Search

No Results Found

Can't find the account you're looking for? Enter it here.

958830

Use Account I Entered ✓

Enter "**Unlisted**" into the search bar and hit Search.

Enter **958830** into the field marked "Can't find the account you're looking for".

STEP 4

Enter your **donation amount**, then fill out the rest of the fields.

STEP 5

Email the attached sponsorship donation form to tamuvfd@gmail.com once you've finished, to ensure you receive all of your sponsorship benefits!

DONATION FORM



This form is for our own records: See the donation guide on the previous page

Please digitally fill out this form and email a copy to tamuvfd@gmail.com

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the email above.

Company/Personal Name: _____

Company/Personal Contact: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____ **Date:** _____

Additional Notes/Requests: _____
