

Caden R. Carlson

Aerospace Engineering, Gore Scholar at Wichita State University
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EDUCATION

Wichita State University

Wichita, KS

Pursuing Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering (Minor in Mathematics)

Class of 2026

GPA: 3.83/4.00

- Awarded both the Gore and Wallace Scholarships for excellence in leadership and engineering
- Relevant Coursework: Digital Computation (MATLAB), Flight Dynamics & Control, Flight Structures II, Aero Propulsion, Introduction to CFD, Differential Equations, Engineering Graphics (CATIA V5, GD&T)

EXPERIENCE

National Institute for Aviation Research – Walter H. Beech Wind Tunnel

Wichita, KS

Student Assistant

August 2025 – Present

- Designed, manufactured, and installed test article apparatuses to meet customer needs
- Supported calibration, data collection, and data analysis efforts utilizing state-of-the-art equipment
- Effectively operated the wind tunnel to reach customer requirements and company safety standards

Textron Aviation Defense and Special Missions

Wichita, KS

Structures Intern

May 2025 – Present

- Executed a root cause investigation of unexpected cracking found on a full-scale test article
- Owned multiple projects to analyze and substantiate repairs completed by aircraft mechanics in the field

Carlson CAD

Aurora, NE / Wichita, KS

Owner and Operator

May 2019 – May 2025

- Utilized computer-aided design and additive manufacturing to serve clients across the United States
- Created invoices and other administrative documents to organize my business

Experimental Methods Special Project

Wichita, KS

Project Lead

January 2025 – May 2025

- Led the development and testing of a novel test article to quantify the benefits of the magnus effect on finite wings
- Gained extensive experience in wind tunnel testing and aerodynamic research

Traudt Aerial Service

Aurora, NE

Aircraft Ground Maintainer

May 2024 – August 2024

- Collaborated on 100-hour inspections, propeller balances, and general maintenance of piston and turboprop engines
- Excelled in the high pace, pit-stop-like environment of prepping, mixing, and loading chemicals onto aircraft

Grain Weevil Corp.

Omaha, NE

Engineering Intern

January 2022 – August 2023

- Owned the development and implementation of a proprietary depth camera using Microsoft drivers and C/C++
- Hold US Patents: US20250060760A1 and US20240408754A1 (pending)

LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

Wichita State University Track & Field

Wichita, KS

Student-Athlete (Pole Vault)

August 2022 – Present

- Worked with peers across the country as vice-chair of the American Conference Executive Board
- Served on Division I SAAC as the representative for over 7,000 American Conference student-athletes

SKILLS

Computer Programming: Proficient in Python, C/C++, and MATLAB – Experience in LabVIEW, JavaScript, and HTML

CAD/Simulation Software: Proficient in CATIA V5, Fusion 360, NASTRAN, Patran, and Femap – Experience in Creo

Software Tools: Proficient in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and GitHub – Experience in Squarespace Domains

Technical: Proficient in forklift operation, power tool use, and agricultural equipment maintenance