

Stepping Stones: A Detailed Timeline for Military Pilots Transitioning to Civilian Aviation Careers

Initiate research on civilian aviation careers, network in the industry, attend career fairs, and engage on professional platforms like LinkedIn

Attend a TAP workshop for separation/retirement insights and benefits, and begin updating your resume for civilian roles.

Get ready for airline interviews by practicing common questions, refreshing technical knowledge, and prepping for simulator evaluations.

Post sep/retirement, begin your new airline's induction process, involving orientation, ground school, and simulator training, followed by flights with a training captain.

Attain FCC Radio operator License



Obtain your FAA ATP certificate if needed; military pilots can often convert their qualifications - visit FAA's official website for Military Competency info.

Start applying to airlines or cargo carriers via online applications, job fairs, and aviation recruitment agencies, and set up recruitment profiles with target airlines.

Attend airline interviews, with successful ones typically leading to conditional job offers contingent on medical exams and background checks.

Kick-start your airline career with aircraft-specific training, orientation, and supervised flying under a training captain.

