

# ***NEWS***

*From the Office of*

## **Brad Mitzelfelt**

Supervisor, First District  
San Bernardino County

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For information, contact  
David Zook (909) 387-4830  
[www.sbcounty.gov/mitzelfelt](http://www.sbcounty.gov/mitzelfelt)

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### **SCLA Aviation School Receives Final FAA Certification**

VICTORVILLE – The School of Aviation Technology at Southern California Logistics Airport received its final certification from the Federal Aviation Administration and students who graduate will now be fully qualified in all aspects of aircraft repair and maintenance.

“This is an exciting step for the school and for the economic future of the High Desert,” said First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who was instrumental in getting the school started. “Aviation will be one of the pillars of job growth in the region, requiring highly skilled workers who will earn good wages and will sustain a strong middle class. I want to thank and congratulate those who worked tirelessly to obtain this final FAA certification.”

Supervisor Mitzelfelt particularly commended John Hardell, president of the school, who completed the lengthy application to obtain the certification.

The school had been certified for “general” and “powerplant” training, and the final step was getting certification as an “airframe” school, which was obtained last week.

The school, which started more than a year ago, is about to send 51 students to take the FAA tests for their powerplant certifications. That includes written, oral and practical examinations. The practical examination involves troubleshooting and repairing an actual jet engine.

A new class with 30 students begins April 19 and the airframe portion for the current students will begin in May. The airframe class will cover all non-engine aspects of the aircraft, such as avionics and hydraulics. The tuition for the students who have participated in the program thus far has been paid by grants provided by the San Bernardino County Workforce Investment Board.

Aviation technician jobs are expected to be in high demand and pay salaries that can be more than \$50,000 per year to start, with experienced technicians capable of earning more than \$100,000 per year. More than a dozen students are already working part-time at businesses at SCLA.