Angel Flight NE Fuel Reimbursement Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is the program?
Angel Flight North East is one of only three volunteer pilot organizations that the FAA allows someone other than the pilot to pay for the fuel used on a Part 91 flight.

Volunteer AFNE pilots may solicit funds from any other person to pay for fuel used for Angel Flight missions. Received funds will be placed in the individual pilot’s fuel fund.

How will the funding be controlled?
The FAA requires that Angel Flight NE manage each pilot’s individual fuel fund. Donations to the individual fuel fund must be made to Angel Flight North East, with a notification the enclosed money is to be placed in the named pilot’s individual fuel fund.

How will the donations be handled to ensure they go to the proper account?
The gift is a tax-deductible donation made to Angel Flight NE. The donor makes it a restricted gift by designating that the funds are only to be used for the individual pilot’s fuel reimbursement fund. The donor simply includes a note with their check identifying it is to be used for the a specifically named pilot.

If the donation is made online, the donor can select “Make a Donation”, and enter the desired amount under the “Pilot Fuel Reimbursement Program”. The donor must indicate that the donation is for a specific pilot by entering the pilot’s name in the “Dedicated Preference” section and choose “In Honor of”, then entering the pilot's name.

How do I sign up for the program?
Volunteer pilots who wish to participate in the Fuel Reimbursement Program are required to adhere to qualifications and requirements listed in FAA Exemption No. 10360E. Copies of the FAA exemption and forms are available on our website under ‘Pilots’ and ‘Fuel Reimbursement Program’.

Volunteer pilots who would like to take part in the program must meet the following requirements:

- Read and understand “Exemption 10360E” updated April 30, 2019.
- Complete the Fuel Reimbursement Program Opt-In document. This is a one-time requirement.
- You and your CFI must complete the proficiency check list, which is an annual requirement.
  - You must check off all items and discuss requirements which you do not fly.
- Provide a copy of your class II medical. This is an annual requirement.
- Provide a certificate of the completion of your aircraft’s last annual inspection. This is an annual requirement.
- Provide a copy of your last IPC. This must have been completed within the past 12 months and is an annual requirement for this program.
- Provide a copy of the completion certificate of the online AOPA “Single Pilot IFR”. This is a onetime requirement.
- Provide a copy of the completion certificate of the online AOPA “Public Benefit Flying”. This is a one-time requirement.
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What happens to the balance of money if a pilot stops flying?
If a pilot has opted in and has not flown a flight under the fuel exemption program for 24 months, we will contact the pilot to discuss the usage of his/her account. After talking with the pilot, we reserve the option to transfer the remaining balance to the account of another AFNE pilot.

Will reimbursement from the fuel fund eliminate my tax-deductible in-kind donation?
No, this reimbursement does not stop the pilot from claiming a tax deduction for expenses that are not reimbursed. Pilots should consult their tax accountant with any questions.

What do I have to do before a flight?
Before the flight departs for which you are seeking a reimbursement for, you must complete and submit a Pilot Go/No-Go Checklist. We must have this form, or we cannot issue a reimbursement.

How do I go about getting reimbursed after a flight?
Once you have completed the flight, simply fill out the Reimbursement Form with fuel cost receipt(s) attached and submit it to Angel Flight NE for payment. Once approved, a reimbursement check will be mailed to you shortly.

Can I use my own CFI for the initial and recurrent training?
Yes. On our website we have provided a copy of the Proficiency Checklist covering the initial and recurrent training requirements for pilot and CFI use. All items must be completed as flight maneuvers or ground instruction. If the item on the checklist does not require flight, discuss the item with your CFI, and have them check that it was completed. If your instructor has any questions, please have them contact us.

Do I need a program endorsement in my logbook?
No

What about reimbursement for aircraft handled through an LLC?
The FAA’s exemption to Angel Flight NE allows for fuel reimbursement only to the PIC flying the Angel Flight mission. Checks must be made out to that pilot and not to a business, corporation or LLC.

What if someone else flies my plane and I pay for the fuel?
Again, the exemption only allows for fuel reimbursement to the PIC flying the mission.