Civil Air Patrol Position Vacancy

Aerospace Competition & Economic Security (ACES) Squadron

Position Announcement

Inaugural ACES Squadron Commander

About ACES

The Aerospace Competition & Economic Security (ACES) Squadron is a Board-approved prototype initiative designed to explore how the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary can leverage specialized civilian expertise in support of Department of the Air Force strategic competition challenges.

The ACES Squadron seeks to bring together experienced leaders from industry, government, academia, technology, finance, communications, manufacturing, cybersecurity, and other sectors to provide expertise and insight in support of approved mission requirements.

As the inaugural commander, the selected individual will have a unique opportunity to help establish the culture, governance, membership model, and operating framework of this prototype effort.

Position Summary

The ACES Squadron Commander serves as the senior Civil Air Patrol leader responsible for organizing, developing, and leading the ACES Squadron during its initial stand-up and prototype phase.

The commander will work closely with CAP National Headquarters, Department of the Air Force stakeholders, and the ACES governance structure to implement the approved prototype and establish a professional, accountable, and mission-focused organization.

The selected commander will be expected to lead through influence, innovation, and collaboration while maintaining strict adherence to CAP policies, ethical standards, and governance requirements.

Primary Responsibilities

- Lead stand-up and implementation of the ACES Squadron prototype.
- Assist in recruiting, onboarding, and developing qualified ACES members.
- Establish squadron operating procedures and governance practices.
- Partner with CAP National Headquarters and designated DAF stakeholders.
- Foster a culture of professionalism, integrity, innovation, and service.
- Ensure compliance with applicable CAP regulations and program guidance.
- Support prototype assessments, lessons learned, and continuous improvement efforts.
- Represent the ACES Squadron in engagements with CAP leadership and external stakeholders as required.

Desired Qualifications

Required

- Current Civil Air Patrol member in good standing.
- Demonstrated leadership experience at the squadron, group, wing, region, or national level.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work effectively with senior military, government, industry, and volunteer leaders.
- Ability to obtain and maintain any required security clearances.

Highly Desired

- CAP grade of Lieutenant Colonel or Colonel/Level 5 of CAP Education and Training Program
- Previous Wing Commander or Region Commander experience.
- Current or prior military service.
- Current Secret security clearance (or higher).
- Experience leading large, geographically dispersed organizations.
- Experience in strategic planning, organizational development, governance, or executive leadership.
- Experience working with government, industry, academia, or national-level organizations.

Leadership Attributes

The ideal candidate will demonstrate:

- Strategic vision
- Sound judgment
- Strong ethical leadership
- Organizational agility
- Collaborative leadership style
- Ability to operate in ambiguous and evolving environments
- Commitment to innovation balanced with disciplined governance

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Term

The initial appointment is anticipated to support the duration of the ACES prototype period and may be adjusted based on program requirements and command direction.

Application Process

Interested members should submit:

- Letter of Interest (maximum two pages)
- Resume or CAP Biography
- Summary of leadership experience
- Current security clearance status (if applicable)

Applications must be received no later than **10 July 2026**.

Point of Contact

Col Joe Winter
ACES Prototype Lead
Civil Air Patrol

jwinter@capnhq.gov

Applications and questions should be submitted directly to the POC.