

News Release

Douglas Potts, Williams, Minn., Completes Flight Training for Private Pilot Certificate

By Itolfe on Thursday, April 11, 2013 Despite strong crosswinds and turbulent weather conditions, Douglas Peterson Potts (in photo), Williams, Minn., recently completed his private pilot training. Potts, a freshman at the University of Minnesota Crookston majoring in agricultural aviation, completed all necessary flight training for the Private Pilot certificate. Anderson was trained by Chase Enghauser, a graduate of the U of M Crookston business management aviation program.

The private pilot certificate is typically the first pilot license that an aspiring pilot seeks on his or her way to becoming a professional pilot. The Private Pilot certificate enables the aviator to carry passengers and travel cross country in many types of aircraft. To complete that certification, the budding aviator must complete a series of lessons of increasing complexity, including planning and flying a solo flight of more than 150 miles, and many, many practice landings and takeoffs under the careful supervision of their flight instructor. The Private Pilot certification process requires that the student pass a comprehensive knowledge exam, and the Stage 28 lesson includes both an oral and flight test.

At three points during the aspiring pilot's training, he or she flies with an evaluator or check airman, who is typically more experienced than the flight instructor. These evaluations are called stage checks, and at the successful conclusion of the Stage 28 (lesson number 28), students at the University of Minnesota Crookston receive their private pilot certificate.

The University of Minnesota Crookston partners with the University of North Dakota to provide students with flight training and academic coursework in Agricultural Aviation, Business Management Aviation, Law Enforcement Aviation and Natural Resources Aviation.

Today the University of Minnesota Crookston delivers 27 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and 39 concentrations on campus--as well as 10 degrees online--in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,800 undergraduates from 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.



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