



### ***MDOT MAA participates in:***

- Airport Safety Compliance Program
- Airport Improvement Programs
- Airport Briefings
- Industry Safety Seminars
- Regional Conferences and Fly-ins

### ***Materials for distribution:***

- Maryland Aeronautical Charts
- Maryland Airport Directories
- Maryland Airport Radio Frequency Cards
- Regional Events Calendar (available online)
- Airport Website & Email Listing links

For additional information:

Maryland Department of Transportation  
Maryland Aviation Administration  
Office of Regional Aviation Assistance

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# Office of Regional Aviation Assistance





## Goals and Objectives

Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Aviation Administration (MDOT MAA) goals are to meet the air service needs of Maryland and to promote safety and security, environmental stewardship and economic development. MDOT MAA's Office of Regional Aviation Assistance (ORAA) carries out these goals by fostering, developing and regulating aeronautical activities within the State. Activities of ORAA include recommending policies governing aeronautical activity, management of State financial and technical assistance grant programs, and licensing and regulation of public-use airports in Maryland. There are 131 airports in the State, of which 35 are public-use facilities with three offering scheduled commercial air carrier service.

## Management and Design Assistance

ORAA provides management assistance to all airport owners by conducting proposed landing area surveys, taking traffic counts, evaluating obstructions and offering general advice and direction. ORAA also assists the airports and their local governments with preserving and improving existing airports, planning new facilities to meet future community needs and expanding services at airports throughout the State.

## Grant Programs

In FY 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), under the authority of the Secretary of Transportation, MDOT MAA allocated \$2.2 million for grants-in-aid. During this period, the federal government contributed \$33.1 million and local airport owners contributed \$1.02 million.\*

The Airport Improvement Program grants federal funding to public-use airports meeting specific needs. Projects include the repair and upgrade of runways, taxiways, ramps and lighting systems and the removal of trees and other obstacles from runway approaches. If an airport meets the program criteria, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will cover 90% of the costs, and the State and airport each contribute 5% of the total project cost.

Separately, the Maryland Assistance to Private Airports (MAPA) program provides for financial grants to airports that are open to the public, but are privately owned and not eligible for federal aid. Typical projects include runway and taxiway improvements, navigational aids and other airport safety-related projects. Under this program, the State provides 90% of the funding and the airport owner contributes the remaining 10%. MAPA eligible projects compete for the same funds in the Statewide Aviation Grant program.

## Aviation Safety

ORAA promotes aviation safety in cooperation with the Federal, local and industry groups through safety/accident prevention seminars. ORAA also publishes and distributes aeronautical charts, airport directories, radio frequency cards and other pocket-sized aids that can be used in flight planning and navigation. As necessary, ORAA issues safety alerts and important aviation announcements to pilot associations and airport operators. MDOT MAA supports safe integration of all National Airspace System users to include manned operations and unmanned operations.

## Airport Inspection and Licensing

ORAA conducts annual inspections and issues Airport Operating Licenses to public-use and private-use facilities. State and federal regulations are used to establish standards by which the airports can be measured. Inspection results are disseminated to pilots through federal flight publications. This provides a level of standardization for Maryland's public-use airports, and subsequently, a better understanding of the conditions that can be expected at each airport.

The Airport Safety Equipment Loan Program, sponsored by ORAA, assists airports by lending them equipment, including rotating beacons, ground-to-air radios, windsocks, low frequency radio navigation transmitters, runway lights and communication radios. This program ensures an airport maintains the level of equipment needed to operate safely, regardless of the airport owner's ability to provide it.

## Aerospace Education

The State supports aviation education and career awareness in Maryland through teacher workshops, student-teacher fly-ins, aviation art contests and visits to schools. ORAA staff provide general aviation briefings and presentations at public meetings, seminars, air shows, flying clubs, pilot association meetings and other aviation-related events.

\*Excludes funding for Baltimore/Washington International Marshall Airport and Martin State Airport.