

## Lessons Learned

- Being prepared for the unexpected
- Double check your budget and make adjustments as needed
- ALWAYS check the weather before take-off
- Have a back-up plan when things go awry
- Patience is key to safe flying
  - Have FUN!



Getting a taste of flight training has only furthered my desire to seek out knowledge of flight operations and the piloting profession.

# Taking Flight

- I've always wanted to take flight lessons, but the cost was prohibitive!
- STEP helped me get my start in the aviation world by allowing me to pursue Introductory Flight Lessons
- Using the allotted funds, I rented a Cessna Skyhawk 172 for 12 flight hours and spent time with a private instructor learning the dynamics of flight, ground operations, and basic maneuvers.
- To mark an end to the project, I successfully soloed (flew alone) in a pattern work, and landed an aircraft by myself!



## Opportunities

There are many exciting avenues open to those who have piloting skills

- Flying commercially for an airline or the military
- Recreationally (also referred to as General Aviation)
- Aircraft Ownership and Certifications in different craft
  - Joining a unique community of aviation enthusiasts

# STEP

## SECOND-YEAR TRANSFORMATIONAL EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

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### Taking my first step on ground after my first solo!

- My favorite part of my project was getting to actually take-off and land a single-engine piston craft by myself! In the aviation world, this is referred to as soloing!
- You only get one chance to solo correctly, otherwise the consequences are drastic to the pilot and the aircraft.
- I had to hone my 12 hours of flight training including numerous ground-sessions and radio exercises into 10 minutes of adrenaline-filled flying.
- My favorite memory was when my instructor announced to the general aviation traffic that a student was about to solo, and the chit-chat stopped until I had successfully landed!