

Atlas

AIRCRAFT CENTER

Atlas Aircraft Center, Inc. 115 Flightline Road, Portsmouth, NH 03801-6811
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April 15, 2022

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator for New Hampshire
506 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Letter in Support of FY2023 Congressionally Directed Spending Request of
Nashua Community College
Project Title: Aviation Technology Training Center

Dear Senator Shaheen:

I am writing in the capacity of V.P. and General Counsel of Atlas Aircraft Center, Inc. and its affiliates, located at the Portsmouth International Airport at Pease. You may recall visiting our facility at 115 Flightline Road in Portsmouth, part of the PlaneSense, Inc. aircraft fractional ownership program.

As of this date, this program employs over 443 people, most of whom are New Hampshire residents. We have enjoyed steady growth over the 27 years of our existence. Our growth has been greatly threatened, however, by what has become a persistent scarcity of pilots and aviation technicians (mechanics).

Funding for the Nashua Community College Aviation Technology Center is important to attempt to alleviate what has become nothing less than a crisis in the form of lack of availability of trained aircraft airframe, powerplant and avionics technicians. It is not an exaggeration to claim that this is an existential problem for many local aviation businesses like ours. The larger airline and cargo air carrier operations have economic advantages with which it is difficult to compete.

We urge your office to do everything it can to fund Nashua Community College and other training centers like it, not only for the benefit of employers, but to provide the means of the prospective students to obtain an education in a practical field for which there is great demand.

Lastly, our experience with Nashua Community College has been very positive. Its request for \$365,000.00 is well-deserved.

Sincerely,



Gary M. Arber
Vice President and General Counsel

GMA:jm