



**For more information contact:**  
John Niehaus  
Director of Program Development  
National Association of Flight Instructors  
(269) 355-6500  
[jniehaus@nafinet.org](mailto:jniehaus@nafinet.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **JAMES ALEXANDER EARNS NAFI MASTER GROUND INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION**

**KALAMAZOO, MI — 6/13/2023** The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member James Alexander has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Ground Instructor.

Alexander, of Hollywood, Maryland, found his passion for aviation at a local air show at age 11 and has been a private pilot since his 17th birthday. He has a degree in aeronautical and astronautical engineering. His long aviation career includes U.S. Air Force instructor/evaluator/navigator (retired), former NASA flight engineer, and



chief of safety at the University of Maryland UAS Research and Operations Center. He recently completed his second year of teaching private pilot ground school for minority youth aspiring to be pilots. He also teaches aviation science courses as adjunct faculty at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and serves as a crew resource management instructor. He has created a free website with references and resources for general aviation pilots: [vfraviation.wordpress.com](http://vfraviation.wordpress.com).

His volunteer activities include Ford Trimotor operations at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, FAA Team Representative, WINGSPro, Civil Air Patrol, and airport advisory board member for St. Mary's County Regional Airport (2W6). Alexander has been a lifelong aviation enthusiast and enjoys being an instructor to help others on their aviation journeys. His current flying goals are to continue learning new things and

enjoy new challenges and experiences. He recently completed his seaplane rating and is on a quest to fly as many different aircraft types as possible.

*The **NAFI Master Flight Instructor Accreditation** is earned by aviation educators based upon a system of advanced professional standards and peer review. The accreditation identifies and publicly recognizes those teachers of flight who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to excellence, professional growth, and service to the aviation community. The NAFI Master Instructor accreditation is for two years and may be used to renew an FAA flight instructor certificate. Applicants must have been a CFI for two years and have given 1,000 hours of flight instruction. In addition, candidates must meet and document activity in four NAFI Master Instructor categories (Instructor, Educator, Service to the Aviation Community, and Professional Activity).*

*Members of the **National Association of Flight Instructors** work as independent instructors, at flight schools, universities, FBOs, corporate flight departments and in the military. Since 1967, NAFI and its members, who teach in 30 countries, are dedicated to increasing and maintaining the professionalism of flight instruction. NAFI members influence active pilots daily: students working to become pilots, current pilots training to advance their skills with new ratings or certificates and pilots who seek to improve their skills with recurrent training. NAFI also serves as an advocate with industry and government as a voice for flight instruction. NAFI helps shape the current and future direction of flight training. For more information about NAFI or the NAFI Master Instructor program call **866-806-6156** or visit [www.NAFINet.org](http://www.NAFINet.org).*