

Why I want to go to Space Camp

You want to know why I want to go to space camp. The honest answer is, I've wanted this, an opportunity at space travel, or something close, for, wow, longer than I can remember. I've read astronaut memoirs to try and recreate the experience, and, although it's not the same, that little bit of spaceflight gives me a thrill I've never felt anywhere else. Not even on the soccer field, and, trust me, that's saying something.

Although I've never felt that thrill anywhere else, when I do something concerning aviation and aerospace engineering, I get a slightly smaller, but still exciting, thrill. The first moment I laid my eyes upon a plane I knew my future was in the skies.

Whether in the troposphere, or in the edge of the atmosphere (the exosphere technically, although some would say the stratosphere), I'm always most comfortable with my feet off the ground. Whether in a plane (preferably a fighter like the F-16 Fighting Falcon) or a Soyuz Capsule, I belong in the air.

But no airplane flight can be the same as a spaceflight. In the spring of 2015 I got to go to KSC and do a launch simulator. It was awesome! The vibration, the thrust, the building of the g's. What most people would be scared of gave me a blast of adrenaline. I loved it. Absolutely loved it, although my dad got so scared he just about broke all my fingers squeezing my hand.

My future is undoubtedly in the skies. Even if I don't get to space (although I would be lying if I said that wouldn't make me mad) my hope is to join the air force after graduating from college with a bachelors in aerospace engineering. I want to be a fighter pilot. That may seem a little childish, but trust me I know what it means. I know about the intense training, the risk, and I still want to do it. I believe my top priority in life is to help others, to save others, and what better way to do that than join the air force?

You don't know how long I've waited for a chance like this. You probably have a lot of applicates, and I understand that some will not get the scholarship, but with all my heart and soul I hope you pick me. I have no means of affording this without your help, and I want to do this so much.

I want to thank you for even letting me apply for this, and say that I think the organization you work for is fantastic. Helping kids become interested in science is great.

Thank You,

Eve Layne Kaufman

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Age 12 almost 13