Aviation and aerospace industries have a long history of success in Mississippi. Safran, formerly Zodiac Aerospace, has manufactured parachute systems in Liberty, Mississippi, since the 1930s. NASA's Stennis Space Center in Hancock County has been crucial to every NASA mission since the 1960s and continues to be the largest rocket engine test complex in the U.S. Today, companies like GE Aviation, Rolls-Royce and Lockheed Martin rely on Mississippi’s supportive business environment, transportation infrastructure and skilled workforce.

Mississippi also plays a leading role in the designing, testing and manufacturing of unmanned aerial systems. Industry leaders Stark Aerospace, Northrop Grumman, Insitu and Aurora Flight Sciences all have locations in the state.
Mississippi offers the **Aerospace Initiative Incentives Program**, which provides additional tax incentives for aerospace-related businesses locating or expanding in the state. Eligible businesses may receive a 10-year state income tax exemption, 10-year franchise tax exemption and an exemption from sales and use taxes for the start-up of the facility. This incentive program applies to businesses engaged in manufacturing, research and development and training services within the aerospace and aviation industry.

### AEROSPACE INCENTIVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$25 MILLION INVESTMENT</th>
<th>10-year property tax abatement</th>
<th>May qualify for fee-in-lieu of property taxes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 JOBS</td>
<td>10-year exemption State income and franchise taxes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tax exemption for building materials and supplies</td>
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</tbody>
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*For a project that will have major economic impact in Mississippi, additional tax incentives and grant funding may be available through legislative action.

**FAA’s Unmanned Center of Excellence**

The Federal Aviation Administration selected Mississippi State University as the location for its Unmanned Aerial Systems Center of Excellence (ASSURE). At the civilian academic center, MSU will lead 23 other member universities and more than 100 industry partners to assist the FAA with research methods to integrate UAS into the national airspace.

**Unmanned in Mississippi Works**

Research and development, testing, operations and manufacturing are all part of Mississippi’s expertise in unmanned systems. In 2017, the Department of Homeland Security chose Mississippi as the base of operations for small unmanned aircraft systems. Mississippi State University was selected to coordinate and oversee specialized training and evaluations at multiple sites across the state. The various test ranges will support the department's missions, including border security, maritime security and counter-UAS operations.
Mississippi offers a strong, supportive business climate. The spirit of cooperation is high, and the price of doing business is low. Construction costs, energy rates and business tax rates in Mississippi fall below the national average. The state offers a variety of incentive programs, which can be customized to meet the needs of each project.

**STRONG INCENTIVES PORTFOLIO**

Customized incentive and financing programs to meet the needs of each individual investment project

- **TAX**
- **WORKFORCE**
- **INFRASTRUCTURE**
- **GRANTS & LOANS**

**Business Incentives**

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**MISSISSIPPI RANKS**

**TOP 10**
FOR EXPORT INTENSITY
- The U.S. Chamber Foundation, 2018

**MISSISSIPPI RANKS**

**#1**
FOR LOW COST OF LIVING
- Council for Community & Economic Research (C2ER), 2018
Virtually every commercial plane in the world has at least one component made in Mississippi.

- Aerojet Rocketdyne – Stennis Space Center*
- Airbus Helicopters – Columbus
- Aurora Flight Sciences – Columbus
- Eaton Aerospace – Jackson
- GE Aviation – Batesville
- GE Capital Aviation Services – Greenwood
- General Atomics – Shannon
- Insitu – Starkville
- Lockheed Martin – Meridian
- Lockheed Martin – Stennis Space Center*
- NASA – Stennis Space Center*
- Northrop Grumman – Moss Point

*NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center is a unique federal city, home to more than 30 federal, state, academic, and private organizations and numerous technology-based companies.
Mississippi is centrally located between the East and West coasts and provides easy access to major U.S. markets, including Mobile, New Orleans, Atlanta, Nashville, Dallas, Houston and St. Louis. The U.S. distribution hub of Memphis, Tennessee, is across the northern state line, and the Gulf of Mexico forms our southern border.

Aerospace and aviation companies benefit from an established industry infrastructure and numerous nearby suppliers. Of particular interest to research and development companies are the state’s research universities and NASA’s Stennis Space Center. Stennis is not only home to NASA and other federal tenants, but also to many major private companies and research and development initiatives.

Companies contracting with the Department of Defense enjoy close proximity to important military installations, including Columbus and Keesler Air Force bases, the Army’s Camp Shelby and Meridian Naval Air Station.
Skilled Workforce

Mississippi is committed to understanding and meeting businesses’ needs. The state provides one of the strongest workforce training programs in the nation through its community college network. State officials work closely with companies to tailor workforce training programs to meet specific industry needs.

Mississippi’s research universities collaborate with industry partners on relevant research and development initiatives. The Raspet Flight Research Laboratory at Mississippi State University is the largest flight lab of its kind in the U.S. The University of Southern Mississippi offers one of the nation’s premier polymer research facilities. The University of Mississippi offers a prime training ground for engineers, managers and researchers with its Center for Manufacturing Excellence.

The state’s commitment to strengthening its superior workforce includes the Mississippi Works Fund, which commits $50 million for customized training programs to meet new and existing business needs.

Join these companies in our strong aerospace community.

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS  ROLLS-ROYCE  GE Aviation  Lockheed Martin  Northrop Grumman  Raytheon