DSU | College of Business

Center for Advanced Air Mobility

Mid-Atlantic Advanced Air Mobility Forum 2026

Advancing regional AAM through integrated community, workforce, operational, infrastructure, and policy ecosystems

May 20, 2026 | Dover, Delaware
Bank of America Room 309
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Scan to Register



Event jointly hosted by:

Delaware State University College of Business
Center of Advanced Air Mobility
CNA Corporation

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Overview

The **Mid-Atlantic Advanced Air Mobility Forum 2026** is designed as a strategic convening to align state leadership, industry, academia, and public-sector partners to advance economic development, workforce readiness, infrastructure planning, and regional coordination for the broader Mid-Atlantic Advanced Air Mobility ecosystem. Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) represents the next generation of low-altitude aviation systems, including electric passenger aircraft (commonly referred to as air taxis), regional air mobility, cargo logistics, emergency response, and digitally integrated airspace operations. Additional information on AAM can be found through the U.S. Department of Transportation AAM resources and the Federal Aviation Administration Advanced Air Mobility initiative.

This inaugural forum is jointly hosted by Delaware State University's College of Business, Center for Advanced Air Mobility (CAAM), and CNA Corporation on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at Delaware State University's Dover campus. The event aims to strengthen a growing regional coalition focused on transitioning AAM from research and demonstration into real-world implementation. Attendees will include representatives from government agencies, NASA Wallops, aerospace and aviation companies, universities, high schools, infrastructure providers, industry experts, and regional stakeholders across the Mid-Atlantic corridor. Delaware State University is also participating as a university team member within the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation-led NASAO AAM Multistate Collaborative, recently selected for the FAA's eVTOL Integration Pilot Program (eIPP). Through this forum, DSU seeks to support Delaware's leadership role in AAM by fostering collaboration around workforce development, operational readiness, infrastructure planning, policy alignment, and commercially viable regional AAM integration. Early stakeholder participation will help shape the long-term growth and implementation of this emerging transportation sector.

Event Snapshot

- **Date/Time:** May 20, 2026, | 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (Breakfast & Lunch Included Registration free, Invitation-Only Event)
- **Location:** Delaware State University, Dover Campus

Forum Focus Areas

- Government, Policy & Infrastructure Alignment
- Industry & eIPP Coordination
- Digital Airspace & Operational Readiness
- Workforce & Regional Ecosystem Development
- Live Demonstrations & Emerging Topics in AAM

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Day/Time:	Wednesday, May 20, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Address:	Delaware State University, 1200 N Dupont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901
Meeting Venue:	Bank of America - College of Business Room 309
Google Map:	https://maps.app.goo.gl/yNu9vZAb2fG8i5RRA *(Parking Lot 16)*
Contact Email:	dmaity@desu.edu

Agenda

9:00 – 10:00 AM | Arrival, Breakfast & Networking

- Arrival at Parking (Lot 16)
- Check-in
- Breakfast Networking

10:00 – 10:15 AM | Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Opening Remarks
  - ***Michael Casson, Dean, College of Business, Delaware State University***
  - ***Patrice Gilliam, Provost, Delaware State University***
  - ***Halleh Seyson, Vice President, Enterprise Systems and Data Analysis, CNA***
- Setting the stage
  - ***Devdeep Maity, Associate Professor & Co-Director of the Center of Advanced Air Mobility, Delaware State University***

10:15 – 11:15 AM | Government, Policy & Infrastructure Alignment

- DRBA airport capabilities, commercial airline challenges, and AAM
  - ***Joel V Coppadge, Executive Director, Delaware River and Bay Authority***
- SEPA developments and growth at Chester County Airport
  - ***Tesfaye Ali, Chester County Area Airport Authority - Senior Advisor & Chairman, AAM/Aviation Technology Subcommittee, Pennsylvania Aviation Advisory Committee to the Governor***
- Advanced Air Mobility (AAM): Future Outlook for Delaware
  - ***Austin Gray, Assistant Director, Planning, Delaware Department of Transportation***
- Sussex County updates
  - ***Robert Bryant, Airport Manager, Delaware Coastal Airport***

11:15 – 11:30 AM | Break

11:30 – 12:30 PM | Industry & the eIPP Updates

- The Coming AAM Wave
  - ***Greg Mand – Senior Consultant, AlarisPro***
- Update on the eIPP
  - ***John Eberhart, Managing Director, ATA Aviation***
- AAM Infrastructure Pilot Investment Program
  - ***John Eberhart, Managing Director, ATA Aviation***
- Southern New Jersey: AAM initiatives and ecosystem integration
  - ***Ian Levitt - Founder and CEO of Tapestry RDI, former FAA and NASA Research Scientist***

12:30 – 2:00 PM | Interactive Lunch

- Lunch & Networking
- The Need for a Digitally Based Airspace Operating Mode
  - ***Andrew Lacher, former chief technologist for Future Airspace Operations, NASA Langley Research Center***
  - ***David Wing, former research scientist at NASA Langley Research Center, air traffic management research and development (R&D)***
- Clearing the Runway
  - ***Devon Mitchell, CEO, MitchellGarVey LLC***
- Quantifying business viability of regional AAM operations using cross-domain Digital Twins
  - ***Antonio Correas, Chief Growth Officer, Skymantics***

2:00 – 3:15 PM | Live Demonstrations & Emerging Topics in AAM

- Enabling Safe and Scalable AAM: Advanced Simulation and Cybersecurity Tools in Action
  - ***Steven Habicht, Ph.D., Director, Center for Enterprise Systems Modernization, CNA***
  - ***Mark Lozano, Systems Engineer, CNA***
- Charging Systems for Electric Aircraft
  - ***Joshua Portlock, Co-Founder & CEO, Electro.Aero***
  - ***Isabel Johnson-Li, Associate, Electro Ventures***
- How Cities Own the eVTOL Future: Autonomous Charging, Tokenization, and Local Wealth Creation
  - ***Nikhil Varma, Associate Professor of Management, Ramapo College of New Jersey***
- World Cup Support and National Special Security Events (NSSEs)
  - ***Jamie Biglow, Project Manager, CNA***

3:15 – 3:45 PM | Networking

3:45 – 4:00 PM | Closing

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Invited Stakeholders

Government / Public Sector

- Congresswoman Sarah McBride's Office
- The Delaware Department of Transportation
- Delaware Prosperity Partnership
- Delaware River & Bay Authority
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
- NASA Wallops Flight Facility
- Sussex County (Delaware Coastal Airport)
- Chester County Airport Authority

Industry / Private Sector

- CNA Corporation - *Research and Analysis*
- Jacobs - *Engineering Services*
- RS&H - *Architecture, Engineering, and Consulting*
- TN Ward Company - *Construction*
- Electro.Aero - *Supplier of Aviation Charging Tech*
- XTI Aerospace – *UAS/Commercial Aviation*
- Summit Aviation - *Full-Service Aviation*
- Leonardo Helicopters - *Aerospace, Defense, and Security*
- ATA Aviation - *Integral Data And Information Network Services*
- AlarisPro - *UAS Fleet Management Platform*
- Tapestry RDI - *Enterprise Software And Artificial Intelligence Research*
- Vector Strategic Consulting, LLC - *Risk Management, Strategic Planning, And AI Governance*
- Leach Strategic Partners, LLC - *Public Safety UAS Programs*
- The Padina Group - *Aerospace Consulting*
- MitchellGarVey LLC - *Training and Mentorship Programs*
- Skymantics, LLC - *Project Management, Technical Consulting, Software Development*
- AirTech Aviation Consulting, LLC - *Consulting UAS Operations, Maintenance, Safety, Risk Management, Accident Investigation, And Training*

Non-Profits, Universities, High Schools

- National Aerospace Research & Technology Park
- The National Defense Industrial Association Delaware Valley Chapter
- Ramapo College of New Jersey
- Kutztown University of Pennsylvania
- Charter School of Wilmington
- Delaware State University
    - *College of Business*
    - *College of Agriculture, Science, and Technology*
    - *Aviation*
    - *Center for Advanced Air Mobility*