

Aviation Sayville Student Pinned for Solo Flight

Cody Rodriguez, a Sayville High School Senior who is in his second year of Aviation/Professional Pilot Training at the Suffolk Aviation Academy run by Eastern Suffolk BOCES at Brookhaven Calabro Airport in Shirley, has been presented with three epaulets of accomplishment, displaying his rank.

Cody has passed the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Private Pilot written exam (one stripe), the FAA Flight Medical (two stripes), and has soloed recently, receiving three stripes for reaching the milestone. That day, he became a pilot. "Cody is the 17th student to solo this year out of 31," reported ESBOCES Ground School Training teacher Louis Ballester.

Sayville High School Senior Cody Rodriguez receives his three epaulets (right) and congratulations from aviation teacher Louis Ballester (below).



In this course, Cody studied aerodynamics, navigation, meteorology, aviation physiology, airplane performance, and air traffic control procedures. Graduates from the course have advanced college standing, and educational opportunities to acquire a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautics, Aeronautics Professional Pilot or Aviation Management.

Many of the ESBOCES Aviation graduates have gone on to become aircraft dispatchers, air traffic controllers, and ground and flight operators in addition to pilots.

Cody's future includes attending an aviation college to become a commercial airline pilot.