



Aircraft operations counting plays a major role in informing how the North Carolina Department of Transportation Division of Aviation and the state's 72 public airports prioritize millions of dollars of local, state and federal investments to build and maintain airport infrastructure.

New airport flight operations counting services on the market today provide data collection and analysis capabilities that are vastly superior to the rudimentary methods traditionally used for this purpose.

They also offer benefits and features that can enhance airport security, inform impact assessments of all kinds and ensure accurate counts of based aircraft data for property tax collections, a significant source of revenue for N.C. communities.

To facilitate the adoption of these products, the NCDOT Division of Aviation offers the Tracking Aviation Logistics, Operations, Navigation & Security, or TALONS program. TALONS reimburses 50% of the cost of installing and maintaining a pre-qualified counting service up to \$3,000 a year. Airports must have a signed Memorandum of Agreement with the Division of Aviation to request reimbursement.

Airports may submit reimbursement claims to the Division annually through the EBS Grant Management system. Claims must include vendor invoice with dates of service provided and proof of payment to vendor.

Prequalified TALONS vendors:

- 1200.aero
- Airport Monitoring Systems
- Maritime Information Systems
- Virtower

#### Vendor Eligibility & Requirements

Operations counting services must provide automated, continuous 24/7, all-weather, real-time access to flight operations data, including aircraft landings and takeoffs.

Services must record 90% or better of landings and takeoffs from runway pavement by equipped (ADS-B) fixed-wing aircraft. Each recorded aircraft operation with ADS-B data should identify its associated Aircraft Design Group (ADG), as defined by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Vendors must provide the Division of Aviation:

- A monthly report of airport summary data showing aircraft operations by type and daily operations totals.
- Login access to the airport's service platform for ongoing evaluation and operations information.

A Division of Aviation-appointed reviewer conducts performance evaluation of services installed at each airport at least once every two years by observing (in-person or via video) a minimum of 50 aircraft operations and comparing them to operations reported by the service. The reviewer also monitors services continuously to ensure airport operational data are being captured. If performance requirements are not met, the reimbursement period will be suspended until the vendor restores the product to meet performance requirements.

To request more information, a Memorandum of Agreement or Vendor Prequalification, please contact the [Statewide Airport Programs Manager](#) or call 919-814-0550.