

Fairbanks Flight Service

Spring 2025 Update

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General Aviation Association Meeting

April 22, 2025



Federal Aviation Administration



Agenda

- ESRS Cell Phone
- Two Way Texting
- Garmin InReach
- Staffing/Training Update
- Springtime Reminders



◀ ESRS Cell Phone

- Emergency use capability
- Call or Text
- FSS Notification when you hit “SOS” button on compatible devices
 - Garmin In Reach
 - Find Me Spot
 - Spidertracks
 - Bivy Stick
- Phone number given out when you register eSRS services on MFP
 - Not intended to be a public number
 - Not intended for normal flight plan / weather briefing use



Two Way Texting

- Activate, Amend, or Close flight plans via SMS

Also emergency use FSS contact method

- Limitation - we can NOT give WX/NOTAM over text message
- Requires a Master Flight Plan
 - Matches the phone number or device ID to your aircraft N number
 - Possible for multiple N numbers to use the same phone #
- Compatible Devices:
 - Standard SMS phones
 - SMS – capable satellite tracking devices with assigned phone number
 - Garmin InReach



Garmin In Reach

- Finally compatible with Two Way Texting
- Must have the IMEI number (device I.D.)
 - Look under device settings
 - Normally 15 digits – unique identifier for your device
 - Every computer/phone/tablet/smartwatch has one
- Must update your Master Flight Plan to add your InReach for texting



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Staffing / Training

As of April 11:

- **34 total** controllers based out of FAI Hub
- **9** on remote site rotation
 - 6 at BRW, 3 at ORT (opens May 1)
- **15** full time CPC at FAI -- Min staffing 16 -- Target 22+
 - 2 of those fill in at SCC
- **10** trainees at FAI (2 FD, 6 PF, 2 IF)
 - Preparing take over NOTAMs from lower-48
- 2 Supervisors – Target 4
- 2 trainees at FSS Academy in ENA

We're Hiring!

[USAJOBS.GOV](https://www.usajobs.gov)

Apply by June
25



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Springtime Reminders

- Ice Breakup Season!
 - Submit PIREPs
- Construction Season!
 - Check NOTAMs
- Thunderstorm Season!
 - Check Weather
- Wildfire Season!
 - Submit PIREPs, Check TFR's
- Military Training Season!
 - Check NOTAMs, Stay Vigilant



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◀ **Thank You!**



Contact Info:

FAI FSS Briefing Line:

- Toll Free: (866) 248-6516
- Local #: (907) 474-0137

NATCA Pilot Outreach:

- faifsspilots@gmail.com



 **Place Title Here**


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