



GEORGIA AIRPORTS ASSOCIATION 2026 Legislative Advocacy



Find out more at www.georgiaairports.org

Georgia Airports are **vital economic generators** for communities, yet they are **critically underfunded** regarding infrastructure needs.

Georgia airports (excluding ATL) have **\$380.2 million** in infrastructure funding requests for FY26. The FY26 budget stands at **\$30 million**.

Air Cargo: \$30 billion in commodities move through Georgia airports each year.
\$107 million is needed to fund immediate air cargo improvements across the State.

Georgia's funding of airports is in **critical need of investment** to remain competitive with surrounding States, meet FAA and State safety regulations and continue generating economic benefits to communities statewide.

2026 Priorities



FY26 State Funding



Aviation Funding and Solvency Act

Legislation to ensure that, during any future government shutdowns, the U.S. National Airspace System and those responsible for its safe and efficient operation are protected from any lapses in federal funding. Since 2025, there have been three government shutdowns, during which DHS employees, including aviation-related personnel, went unpaid, underscoring the urgent need for funding certainty and operational continuity.

Increase State Airport Aid

In 2021, the Georgia General Assembly established the *Joint Legislative Study Committee on Airport Infrastructure and Improvements*, which recommended increasing State Airport Aid. Building on this recommendation, GAA continues to actively advocate for sustained growth in State Airport Aid, with the long-term objective of securing a stable **\$80 million annual funding level**.

Statewide Airport Protection

Georgia remains one of only three states without statewide height-restriction legislation. GAA has worked closely with the House Transportation Committee to advance HB 1334, which would establish uniform height restrictions across the state. The bill has passed the Senate Transportation Committee and is continuing through the legislative approval process.

Hangar Funding

Based on GDOT's hangar study released in 2024, GAA is pursuing a State funding program to address the \$450M need for hangars across Georgia.

AAM/UAM

GAA continues to work with the State to ensure that Georgia and Georgia's Airports are best positioned to be on the cutting edge for adoption of electric aircraft and electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft in the near future.

Air Cargo Funding

GAA continues to push for additional State funding to address \$107M in Air Cargo improvements needed at Albany, Savannah, Statesboro and Swainsboro airports.

Commercial Service Funding Gap

Based on GDOT's Commercial Service 5-year CIP study released in 2024, GAA is pursuing State funds to address the \$25M annual gap in funding at Commercial Service Airports in Georgia.