



**England Economic &
Industrial Development District**
1611 Arnold Drive, Alexandria, LA 71303
OFFICE: 318-449-3504 FAX: 318-449-3506
www.englishairpark.org | www.flyaex.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alexandria International Airport Surges into Summer with Passenger Growth, Expanded Service

AEX Prepares for United Airlines' Return and Seamless Summer Travel Experience

ALEXANDRIA, La. (April 30, 2026) – Alexandria International Airport (AEX) is gearing up for a historic summer travel season following a surge in passenger traffic. In March, the airport recorded a four-year record in commercial enplanements, or the number of passengers boarding a commercial aircraft. The total commercial passenger count for the month was 18,372, signaling robust demand for regional connectivity.

Building upon this momentum, AEX is preparing for the May 21 return of United Airlines service to George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) in Houston. These twice-daily flights are open for booking and will be operated by SkyWest Airlines. Complementing existing American Airlines and Delta Air Lines service to Dallas and Atlanta, respectively, the new United flights provide Central Louisiana travelers with another critical gateway to hundreds of domestic and international destinations through one of the world's largest hubs, just in time for the peak summer travel season.

In addition to increased connectivity, AEX travelers can enjoy the enhanced convenience of the airport's new parking provider, Metropolis. Their state-of-the-art, ticketless system allows travelers to drive in and out seamlessly using advanced technology. Special parking privileges are available to eligible active duty and retired military personnel on official travel, as well as to disabled veterans.

"The record growth we saw in March is a testament to the loyalty of our Central Louisiana travelers who understand the value of flying local," said Ralph Hennessy, Executive Director of England Airpark and AEX. "By adding the Houston route, welcoming United back to the market, and simplifying the AEX parking experience, we are making it easier than ever to explore the world, starting right here at home."

With industry sources such as the [U.S. Travel Association](#) predicting a busier-than-usual summer travel season, AEX offers the below travel tips to help ensure a stress-free journey.

Summer Travel Tips

- **Book Strategically** – Flights with earlier departure times offer statistically better on-time performance. Additionally, fares for midweek flights often yield cost savings.
- **Check Flight Status** – Receive real-time updates on flight status by downloading your airline's app and subscribing to their push notifications.
- **Pre-Register for Parking** – If parking at AEX, create a Metropolis account in advance, making your arrival at the terminal completely touchless. Find links to Metropolis at flyaex.org.
- **Arrive Early** – Arrive at least 90 minutes prior to your scheduled flight to allow sufficient time for parking, check-in, and security screening.
- **Pack Essentials** – Pack necessary items, such as medications and device chargers, in your carry-on luggage in case of unexpected delays. Review the Transportation Security Administration's ["What Can I Bring?" webpage](#) to facilitate the screening process.



**England Economic &
Industrial Development District**
1611 Arnold Drive, Alexandria, LA 71303
OFFICE: 318-449-3504 FAX: 318-449-3506
www.Englandairpark.org | www.flyaex.org

For more information on AEX flight schedules and parking registration, visit www.flyaex.org.

About EEIDD

The England Economic and Industrial Development District (EEIDD) is an independent political subdivision of the State of Louisiana. England Airpark encompasses approximately 4,000 acres and includes Alexandria International Airport (AEX). As a mixed-use development offering convenient connectivity through air, interstate highway, rail, and port access, the Airpark features more than 300 residential units and 1.5 million square feet of commercial space, supporting aviation, transportation, manufacturing, education, and engineering sectors. Learn more at www.Englandairpark.org.

###

Contact:

Leigh Ann Purvis, MBA, PHR
Marketing and Air Service Manager
lapurvis@Englandairpark.org
318-427-6410