



## Tailhook Scholar

Ava Aanestad

Annandale, VA

Sponsor: CAPT Kevin Aanestad

College: Elon University

2023-2024: Sophomore

Major: Elementary Education with minor in Spanish

### Academic & Extracurricular Highlights:

- EU Campus Kitchen Project
- High School Crew Team: 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade captain
- Spanish Nation Honor Society
- Model UN Nations
- Year-Round Employment: Kids First Swim School Instructor
- Summer Work: Culinaria Teen Assistant



I am sincerely honored to be a recipient of the Wings Over America Scholarship. Thank you for your incredible generosity and for supporting my university experience. I am incredibly fortunate to go to Elon University. I love this school and love to tell everyone I meet how wonderful it is here, even if they don't ask :). I have thoughtful professors, dozens of academic resources, weekly movie nights, decadent dining halls and have met hundreds of interesting people. However, one of the reasons this school is so lovely is because it's rather expensive. I have an arrangement with my parents regarding education costs. I am responsible for half of my tuition, so when I get scholarships like the WOA Scholarship, I am especially grateful! Scholarships like this lift some of the stress that comes with future financial burdens, allowing me to focus more on enjoying my experience at school. I'm studying Elementary Education, in hopes of being a kindergarten teacher. Over the last 5 years I've constantly been working closely with kids, as a babysitter, camp counselor, kids swim instructor, and working in elementary schools. This considerate contribution will allow me to better complete my schooling and get to do what I've been dying to do for years. Thank you once more for your generosity.