



# TAKE YOUR FLYING TO NEW HEIGHTS

FLIGHT TRAINING + DURANGO RELOCATION GUIDE | 2026 EDITION



**TRAIN IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS. BUILD THE SKILLS FOR THE REAL WORLD.**

Turbine transition • Mountain flying • Instrument training • Commercial • CFI / CFII •  
External-load foundations



## 01 | THE HIGHLAND EXPERIENCE

Colorado Highland Helicopters is based at Animas Airpark in Durango, Colorado. Our flight-training environment provides access to demanding high-elevation terrain and the changing weather conditions of the Southwest Colorado mountains.



### Built around judgment, not just flight hours

Our emphasis is developing capable, safety-minded aviators. Training is tailored to experience, proficiency and career objectives, with practical attention to power management, performance planning, mountain decision-making and aircraft handling.

### Core training themes

- High-density-altitude aircraft performance and power management
- Mountain weather, terrain and landing-site evaluation
- Risk management, aeronautical decision-making and mission planning
- One-on-one flight and ground instruction with experienced instructors

### TRAINING AIRCRAFT | MD500C / HUGHES 369HS

Aircraft, course availability and any simulator components are confirmed when you enroll.



## 02 | TRAINING PATHWAYS

Whether you are entering aviation for the first time or building specialized helicopter experience, we can develop a path around your qualifications and goals.

|                                 |                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Initial ratings</b>          | Private • Instrument • Commercial • CFI • CFII                                             |
| <b>Turbine experience</b>       | MD500 familiarization and turbine transition                                               |
| <b>Mountain operations</b>      | High-elevation operations, power management, terrain and weather                           |
| <b>Specialized skills</b>       | External-load / long-line introductions and other mission-specific training by arrangement |
| <b>Professional development</b> | Career guidance and pathways toward advanced utility work                                  |

### A sample training progression

- Discovery flight and goal-setting consultation
- Training and eligibility review; customized quote
- Ground instruction, flight lessons and periodic progress evaluations
- Knowledge-test / checkride preparation and next-rating planning



Courses, certificates and regulatory prerequisites depend on each student's experience and the applicable FAA requirements. No training outcome or job placement is guaranteed.



## 03 | PRICING & STUDENT SUPPORT

|                                       |                                                          |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MD500 turbine instruction</b>      | REFERENCE ONLY: \$1,200/hr. including instructor         |
| <b>R44 training</b>                   | REFERENCE ONLY: \$750/hr. including instructor, Raven II |
| <b>MD500 familiarization</b>          | REFERENCE ONLY: 10 hours \$11,000, 20 hours \$20,000     |
| <b>Turbine + mountain package</b>     | REFERENCE ONLY: \$15,000 package                         |
| <b>Instrument / commercial / CFII</b> | Request a personalized, itemized proposal                |

### What we help you navigate

- Training plans and prerequisites
- Checkride and FAA medical process guidance
- Lodging and local transportation ideas
- Career development and instructor opportunities when available
- Financing options and payment structures, subject to lender approval



## 04 | LIVE AND TRAIN IN DURANGO

Your training base is surrounded by Southwest Colorado's distinctive mountain communities. On your days off, explore the San Juan Mountains, Durango's historic downtown and the outdoor recreation that makes the region a destination.



### Outside the cockpit

- Purgatory Resort and year-round mountain recreation
- Historic Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad
- Mesa Verde National Park and nearby cultural attractions
- Animas River, Vallecito Lake and Lake Nighthorse
- Hiking, mountain biking, fishing and scenic drives

### Getting here and finding a place to stay

Durango-La Plata County Airport (DRO) serves the region. Students can consider hotels, extended-stay properties or short-term rentals depending on program length. We can discuss current local options when your training dates are set.



## 05 | THE AIRCRAFT & THE ENVIRONMENT

Real aircraft, real settings. A look at CHH helicopter training environments from the shoreline to the mountains.



**MD500C / HUGHES 369HS**





## 06 | PLAN YOUR NEXT FLIGHT

Ready to talk through your ratings, aircraft experience or a move to Durango? Contact us to develop a training plan matched to your schedule and goals.

### COLORADO HIGHLAND HELICOPTERS

|                 |                                                                                                 |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Location</b> | 59 N Skylane Dr. • Animas Airpark • Durango, CO 81303                                           |
| <b>Phone</b>    | 970-259-1423                                                                                    |
| <b>Email</b>    | JD@highlandheli.com • Nikola@highlandheli.com                                                   |
| <b>Website</b>  | <a href="https://coloradohighlandhelicopters.com/">https://coloradohighlandhelicopters.com/</a> |

**FLY HIGHER. TRAIN SMARTER. GO FURTHER.**