

## Coffee with Controllers at KDPA

Visual clearance is a vital safety practice in aviation and related fields, focusing on maintaining an unobstructed line of sight to prevent collisions. It involves effective visual scanning and situational awareness to identify potential hazards. Essential for pilots under Visual Flight Rules (VFR), visual clearance is enhanced by both traditional methods and modern technologies to ensure safe operations.

Whether you're a student pilot, a seasoned professional, or simply curious about the dynamics of air and ground traffic management, this event offers a unique opportunity to engage with professional air traffic controllers at DuPage Airport (Class D). Gain valuable insights and best practices for flight and ground operations and discover how human factors influence the communication and instructions provided by ATC, TRACON, and Center Controllers. Go beyond the usual FAQs and enhance your understanding of safe aviation operations.

### Event Details

**Sat, Feb 14, 2026 at 09:00 CST**

**DuPage Municipal Airport  
(KDPA)/West Chicago, Illinois**

2700 International Drive  
Main Terminal Flight Center, 3rd FL  
Conference RM

West Chicago, IL



**Contact: Gary M Budzak**

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**Select #: GL03140415**

**Representative Gary M Budzak n/a**

GPS directions to DuPage Airport (KDPA) Main Terminal, Flight Center. Upon parking. Request directions to the 3rd Floor Conference Room.

Ground Traffic: Parking Lot is located Southwest of the Main Terminal with no Priority Signs posted.

Aircraft Traffic: Request Main Terminal Parking.

Event is 2 hours in length.

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**A message from the National FAASTeam Manager**

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The FAA Safety Team (FAASTeam) is committed to providing equal access to this meeting/event for all participants. If you need alternative formats or services because of a disability, please communicate your request as soon as possible with the person in the “Contact Information” area of the meeting/event notice. Note that two weeks is usually required to arrange services.