



**Airlines for America®**

*We Connect the World*

**Nicholas E. Calio**

*President and CEO, Airlines for America*



Nicholas E. Calio is president and CEO of Airlines for America (A4A), the trade association for the country's leading passenger and cargo airlines. Calio leads the organization which advocates for America's airlines as models of safety, customer service and environmental responsibility, and as the indispensable network that drives nearly \$1.5 trillion in U.S. economic activity and more than 10 million U.S. jobs.

Under Calio's leadership, A4A rebranded and honed its focus on being an influential voice in helping to shape legislative and regulatory policies and priorities that improve air travel for everyone. Known for his ability to build consensus, Calio focused the re-launched association on working collaboratively with airlines, labor unions, Congress and the executive branch to promote the safety, security and health of the U.S. airline industry. He has led multiple FAA reauthorization negotiations and was instrumental in avoiding total crisis during the 2022 5G C-Band implementation.

His leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic helped save the industry from ruin, working closely with Congress to create the Payroll Support Program that kept airline employees on the job and pilots certified. Bringing together labor partners and commercial carriers, Calio helped secure nearly \$60 billion in financial assistance as part of the CARES Act.

Simultaneously, Calio partnered with Harvard University's National Preparedness Leadership Initiative and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health to implement a robust, multi-layered strategy to effectively reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 during air travel.

Prior to joining A4A in January 2011, Mr. Calio was Citigroup's executive vice president for global government affairs and a member of its senior leadership committee. He was responsible for the company's government affairs globally.



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Calio served President George W. Bush as assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs from January 2001 to January 2003. As the president's principal liaison to Congress, Calio worked closely with the leadership and members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives and had the primary responsibility for formulating and implementing White House strategy on all legislative issues. He held the same position during the administration of President George H.W. Bush.

Prior to joining the Bush administration, Calio was a partner at O'Brien\*Calio, a law and lobbying firm he co-founded in 1993. A 1998 Fortune Magazine survey of members of Congress, congressional staff, administration staff and Washington lobbyists rated the firm as one of the "Ten Most Powerful" in Washington. Calio started the firm after leaving the first Bush administration.

An active civic leader, Calio was honored with the 2024 Hermes Air Transport Organisation's Katerina and George Iatrou Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the global airline industry. Calio received the 2024 Glen A. Gilbert Memorial Award, presented by ATCA, which celebrates an individual who has made lifelong contributions to advocacy, provided strategic leadership on myriad issues and advanced the U.S. aviation industry. Calio was honored by Vaughn College in 2023 for his efforts during the pandemic and his leadership in the industry. He has also received the Fund for American Studies Business Leadership Award; the Excellence in Business Award from the Sons of Italy Foundation (SIF), the philanthropic arm of the nation's largest and oldest organization for people of Italian heritage; and the People Who Move America Award from the Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Calio is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University and Case Western Reserve University School of Law. He is currently chair of the Ohio Wesleyan University Board of Trustees. He is also a trustee of the Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce.