

PRIVATE PILOT

I. AREA OF OPERATION: PREFLIGHT PREPARATION

A. TASK: CERTIFICATES AND DOCUMENTS

OBJECTIVE

To determine that the applicant exhibits knowledge of the elements related to certificates and documents by:

1. Explaining:
 - a. Private Pilot certificate privileges, limitations and recent flight experience requirements.
 - b. Medical certificate class and duration.
 - c. Pilot logbook or flight records.
2. Locating and explaining:
 - a. Airworthiness and registration certificates.
 - b. Operating limitations, placards, instrument markings, and POH / AFM.
 - c. Weight and balance data and equipment list.

ELEMENTS

1. To act as PIC, a pilot must carry a pilot certificate, current medical certificate, and photo ID.
2. Student Pilot certificate (airplane) (back of first medical certificate):
 - a. Must be 16, R/S/W/U English (expires in 24 calendar months).
 - b. No passengers, compensation, or international flights allowed.
 - c. Limited solo flights (per CFI endorsements).
 - d. Also must carry logbook, which contains CFI endorsements.
 - e. Basic VFR conditions only:
 - i. Ceilings 3000' AGL or more.
 - ii. Visibility 5 statute miles or more.
3. Private Pilot certificate (ASEL rating - Airplane Single Engine Land):
 - a. Must be 17, R/S/W/U English (no specific expiration date).
 - b. Flight review within 24 months.
 - c. To take passengers:
 - i. At least 3 takeoffs and 3 landings in last 90 days (same category / class / type), to a full stop if in a tail-wheel airplane or at night.
 - ii. Sole manipulator of the flight controls.
 - d. No compensation allowed.
 - e. Marginal VFR conditions:
 - i. 1000' AGL < Ceilings < 3000' AGL.
 - ii. 3 statute miles < Visibility < 5 statute miles.
 - f. Special VFR conditions with ATC clearance:
 - i. Clear of clouds.
 - ii. Visibility > 1 statute mile
4. Medical certificates:
 - a. First-class valid for 6 months (airline transport pilots).
 - i. Expires at the end of the sixth calendar month after the month in which it was issued or renewed.
 - b. Second-class valid for 1 year (commercial pilots).
 - i. Expires at the end of the twelfth calendar month after the month in which it was issued or renewed.
 - c. Third-class valid for 3 years (age < 40) or 2 years (age > 40) (private pilots).
 - i. Expires at the end of the thirty-sixth (age < 40) or twenty-fourth (age > 40) calendar month after the month in which it was issued or renewed.
 - d. After third- or second-class medical certificates expire, they allow the privileges of the next lower class:
 - i. After 6 months, a first-class medical certificate still allows the privileges of a second-class medical certificate, and after 1 year, a first-class medical certificate still allows the privileges of a third-class medical certificate.
 - ii. After 1 year, a second-class medical certificate still allows the privileges of a third-class medical certificate.

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5. Pilot logbook:
 - a. Must log all time required by certificate or rating.
 - b. Must include date, total flight time, location, aircraft type and ID, type of flight (i.e. solo), conditions of flight (i.e. day).
6. Within the airplane must be A.R.R.O.W.:
 - a. Airworthiness certificate: In effect as long as required maintenance is performed.
 - b. Registration certificate: Indicates ownership.
 - c. Radio station license: Needed in some countries (but not the U.S.).
 - d. Operating limitations: POH / AFM or placards with operating limitations aboard.
 - e. Weight and balance data (current).

REFERENCES

1. 14 CFR Part 43, Maintenance, Preventative Maintenance, Rebuilding and Alteration.
2. 14 CFR Part 61, Certification: Pilots, Flight Instructors and Ground Instructors.
3. 14 CFR Part 91, General Operating and Flight Rules.
4. FAA-H-8083-3A, Airplane Flying Handbook, Chapters 1 and 2.
5. AC 61-23 / FAA-H-8083-25, Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge, Chapters 7 and 8.
6. POH / AFM, Pilot Operating Handbook / FAA-Approved Airplane Flight Manual.