

## **PRIVATE PILOT**

### **II. AREA OF OPERATION: PREFLIGHT PROCEDURES**

#### **B. TASK: COCKPIT MANAGEMENT**

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To determine that the applicant:

1. Exhibits knowledge of the elements related to cockpit management procedures.
2. Ensures all loose items in the cockpit and cabin are secured.
3. Organizes material and equipment in an efficient manner so they are readily available.
4. Briefs occupants on the use of safety belts, shoulder harnesses, doors and emergency procedures.

#### **ELEMENTS**

1. Ensure all necessary equipment, documents, checklists and navigation charts are on board.
2. Ensure the routing of headset cables and other wires do not interfere with the motion or operation of any control.
3. Organize materials so they are readily available.
4. Check cockpit for items that might be tossed about if turbulence is encountered.
5. Secure loose items (seatbelts from open seats work well).
6. Adjust seat for proper view both inside and outside the cockpit (use cushion if needed).
7. Ensure the safety belts and shoulder harnesses are comfortable and snug.
8. Ensure the seat is locked in position after adjustment (a seat moving during takeoff or landing can cause a pilot to lose control of the airplane).
9. Ensure that each person on board is briefed on how to fasten and unfasten the safety belts and shoulder harnesses (required by 14 CFR part 91).
10. Conduct a passenger briefing - explain the proper use of safety equipment and exit routes.

#### **COMMON ERRORS**

- a. Failure to place and secure essential materials and equipment for easy access during flight.
- b. Failure to properly adjust cockpit items, such as safety belts, shoulder harnesses, rudder pedals and seats.
- c. Failure to provide proper adjustment of equipment and controls.
- d. Failure to provide occupant briefing on emergency procedures and use of safety belts.

#### **REFERENCES**

1. FAA-H-8083-3A, Airplane Flying Handbook, Chapter 2.
2. POH / AFM, Pilot Operating Handbook / FAA-Approved Airplane Flight Manual.