Section 61.81 Applicability

This section is revised to delete the reference to recreational pilot certificates and ratings, which would be incorporated into proposed subpart D.

Section 61.83 Eligibility Requirements for Student Pilots

The significant proposed changes in this section are as follows:

(1) Requires applicants to be able to write in the English language;

(2) Rewords the medical requirements for applicants who desire a rating in a glider or balloon; and

(3) Requires all applicants to meet the English language requirements, which would eliminate the current provision that permits applicants who cannot read, speak, and understand the English language to receive a certificate with an operating limitation as deemed necessary by the Administrator.

Section 61.85 Application

No significant modifications are proposed.

Section 61.87 Supervised PIC Requirements for Student Pilots

The title of § 61.87 would be changed from "Solo flight requirements for student pilots" to "Supervised PIC requirements for student pilots."

The significant proposed changes in this section are as follows:

(1) Replaces the term "solo" with "supervised PIC." The purpose of proposing to replace the term "solo" with "supervised PIC" is to reflect the intention of the FAA to permit student pilots to log PIC time while under the supervision of an authorized flight instructor. The FAA has reconsidered its position on this matter, and has concluded that if a student pilot is the sole occupant of an aircraft and is operating the controls of the aircraft, then that student pilot should be allowed to log PIC time. Throughout the public hearings on this rulemaking review, the public voiced the belief that student pilots should be allowed to log PIC time when they are the sole occupant of an aircraft and operating the controls of the aircraft. This proposal, in effect, would permit student pilots to log PIC time for the furtherance of a pilot certificate or rating. As example, the existing rules for a commercial pilot certificate-airplane category and class rating requires 100 hours of PIC time. Under the provisions of this proposal, PIC time logged as a student pilot would count toward the total PIC time for a commercial pilot certificate-airplane category and class rating;

(2) Establishes student pilot training for the proposed powered-lift category rating;

(3) Establishes student pilot training for the proposed nonpowered and powered class ratings under the glider category;

(4) Replaces the term "written examination" with the term "test," when testing a student pilot on aeronautical knowledge areas prior to a student pilot being authorized to perform a supervised PIC flight. This would permit a school to perform the required test in a format other than on paper, e.g., computer response;

(5) Establishes standardization and clarification for student pilots being authorized to conduct supervised PIC flight at night; and

(6) Includes separate supervised PIC maneuvers and procedures for the airplane category-single engine class rating, airplane category-multiengine class rating, rotorcraft categoryhelicopter class rating, rotorcraft category-gyroplane class rating, glider category-nonpowered class rating, glider category-powered class rating, lighterthan-air category-airship class rating, lighter-than-air category-balloon class rating, and powered-lift category rating.

Section 61.89 General Limitations

No modifications are proposed for this section.

Section 61.91 [Reserved]

The FAA proposes to delete "§61.91 Aircraft limitations: Pilot in command," which permits student pilots to act as the PIC in airships requiring more than one flight crewmember. This section duplicates the requirements in proposed §61.87 which covers all aircraft.

Section 61.93 Supervised PIC Cross-Country Flight Requirements for Student Pilots

The FAA proposes to change the title of § 61.93 from "Cross-country flight requirements (for student and recreational pilots seeking private pilot certification)" to "Supervised PIC crosscountry requirements for student pilots."

The significant proposed changes in this section are as follows:

(1) Changes the term "solo cross country flight" to read "supervised PIC country country flight." (This matter of student pilots logging PIC time was previously discussed in proposed § 61.89, and the FAA proposes to revise this section to reflect the conclusion discussed in that section);

(2) Deletes the provision that a student pilot may land at an airport other than the airport of takeoff in an emergency. This provision already exist in § 91.3, "Responsibility and authority of the pilot in command";

(3) Clarifies the language of the provision for performing supervised PIC flights to and from an airport within 25 nautical miles of the airport from which the flight originated;

(4) Člarifies the provision for performing repeated supervised PIC cross-country flights that are no more than 50 nautical miles;

(5) Clarifies existing requirements for endorsements on the student pilot's certificate and in the student pilot's logbook. The requirement for an endorsement on the student pilot certificate would not apply to a pilot with a pilot certificate who seeks privileges in another aircraft category, because a certificated pilot would not hold a student pilot certificate;

(6) Adds provisions for the use of radios for VFR navigation and two-way communications, procedures for diverting to alternate airports, and windshear avoidance; and

(7) Establishes separate supervised PIC cross country maneuvers and procedures for the—airplane categorysingle engine class rating, airplane category-multiengine class rating, rotorcraft category-helicopter class rating, rotorcraft category-gyroplane class rating, glider category-nonpowered class rating, lighter category-powered class rating, lighter-than-air categoryairship class rating, lighter-than-air category-balloon class rating, and powered-lift category rating.

Section 61.95 Operations in a Class B Airspace Area and at Airports Located Within a Class B Airspace Area

No substantive modifications are proposed. Minor editorial and standardization of terms are contained in this proposal.

Subpart D—Recreational Pilots

The FAA proposes to establish this as a separate subpart for recreational pilot certificates and ratings.

Section 61.96 Applicability

Proposed § 61.96 would describe provisions that are applicable for the recreational pilot certificates and ratings.

Section 61.96a Eligibility Requirements: General

The FAA proposes to add a new section entitled "Eligibility requirements: General." The proposed § 61.96a would:

(1) Requires applicants to be able to write in the English language;

(2) Requires all applicants to meet the English language requirements, which