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Subpart A—General

§61.1 Applicability.

- (a) This part prescribes the requirements for issuing pilot, flight instructor, and ground instructor certificates and ratings, the conditions under which those certificates and ratings are necessary, and the authorizations, privileges, and limitations of those certificates and ratings.
- (b) This part prescribes the requirements for issuing pilot, flight instructor, and ground instructor certificates and ratings for persons who have taken courses approved by the Administrator under other parts of this chapter.

§61.1a Clarification of terms.

For the purposes of this part:

(a) Aeronautical experience means pilot time obtained in an aircraft, flight

- simulator, or flight training device for meeting the appropriate training and flight time for an airman certificate, rating, flight review, or recency of flight experience, of this part.
- (b) Airman certificate means all pilot certificates (other than a student pilot certificate), flight instructor certificates, and ground instructor certificates issued under this part.
- (c) Authorized ground instructor
- (1) A person who holds a current ground instructor certificate issued under this part with ratings that apply to the training being given, and that person is authorized by the Administrator to give the training; or
- (2) Any other person authorized by the Administrator to give ground training under this part in accordance with privileges and limitations specified by the Administrator.
- (d) Authorized flight instructor
- (1) A person who holds a current flight instructor certificate issued under this chapter with ratings that apply to the training being given, and that person is authorized by the Administrator to give the training; or
- (2) Any other person authorized by the Administrator to give flight training under this part in accordance with privileges and limitations specified by the Administrator.
- (e) *Cross-country time* means that time obtained in actual flight and, except as provided in paragraph (f)(3) of this section, each flight must include a landing at a point other than the point of departure, and—
 - (1) The person must—
- (i) Hold a private, commercial pilot, or airline transport certificate issued under this part; and
- (ii) Have used dead reckoning, pilotage, electronic navigation aids, or radio aids to navigate to the landing point.
- (2) For the purpose of meeting the cross-country time eligibility requirements for a private or commercial pilot certificate or an instrument rating, the person must have obtained the time in actual flight, and—
- (i) The point of landing must be at least a straight-line distance of more than 50 nautical miles from the point of departure; and
- (ii) Dead reckoning, pilotage, electronic navigation aids, or radio aids were used to navigate to the landing point.
- (3) For a military pilot, who holds or is qualified for a private or commercial pilot certificate under § 61.73 of this part, cross-country time is that time obtained—

- (i) In actual flight in a military aircraft; and
- (ii) On a flight that is at least a straight-line distance of more than 50 nautical miles from the point of departure, and dead reckoning, pilotage, electronic navigation aids, or radio aids were used for navigation.
- (f) Examiner means any person who is authorized by the Administrator to conduct a practical test for an airman certificate or rating issued under this part, or a person who is authorized to conduct a knowledge test under this part
- (g) Flight training means that training, other than ground training, received from an authorized flight instructor in actual flight in an aircraft.
- (h) *Ground training* means that training, other than flight training, received from an authorized ground or flight instructor.
- (i) Instrument approach means an approach procedure, defined in part 97 of this chapter, that is conducted to an established minimum descent altitude (MDA) or decision height (DH), or if necessary, to a higher altitude selected by the air traffic control (ATC) facility with jurisdiction over that airspace for safety reasons.
- (j) *Instrument Training* means that time in which instrument training is received from an authorized flight instructor under actual or simulated instrument flight conditions.
- (k) Knowledge Test means a test on the aeronautical knowledge areas required for an airman certificate or rating that can be administered in a written form or by computer.
- (l) *Pilot Time* means that time in which a person operates as a required pilot, receives training from an authorized instructor, gives training as an authorized flight instructor in an aircraft, or gives training as an authorized flight or ground instructor in an approved flight simulator, or approved flight training device.
- (m) Practical test means a test on the approved areas of operations for an airman certificate, a rating, or an authorization that is conducted by having the applicant respond to questions and demonstrate maneuvers in actual flight, an approved flight simulator, or approved flight training device.
- (n) Supervised PIC time is flight time in an aircraft that applies to either a student pilot or pilot who is not rated in the aircraft flown, but is under the supervision and authorization of an authorized flight instructor to conduct the flight. Depending on the crew compliment specifications set forth in the aircraft's flight manual, the flight