preceding the date of the flight at that

airport; and

(3) Logbook endorsement specifies that the student pilot has received the required ground and flight training and has been found proficient to conduct supervised PIC flight operations at that specific airport.

# Subpart D—Recreational Pilots

### § 61.96 Applicability.

This subpart prescribes the requirement for the issuance of recreational pilot certificates and ratings, the conditions under which those certificates and ratings are necessary, and the general operating rules for persons who hold those certificates and ratings.

#### § 61.96a Eligibility requirements: General.

To be eligible for a recreational pilot certificate, a person who applies for that certificate must:

(a) Be at least 17 years of age;

(b) Be able to read, speak, write, and understand the English language;

- (c) Affix a signed and dated statement to the application certifying the person does not have any known medical limitations that prevents the person from operating the aircraft, for the aircraft category and class rating sought;
- (d) Receive a logbook endorsement from an authorized flight or ground instructor who—
- (1) Conducted the training or reviewed the applicant's home study on the aeronautical knowledge areas listed in § 61.97(b) of this part that apply to the aircraft category and class rating sought; and
- (2) Certified that the applicant is prepared for the required knowledge test
- (e) Satisfactorily accomplish the required knowledge test on the aeronautical knowledge areas listed in § 61.97(b) of this part;

(f) Receive flight training and a logbook endorsement from the authorized flight instructor who—

- (1) Conducted the training on the approved areas of operation listed in § 61.98(b) of this part that apply to the aircraft category and class rating sought; and
- (2) Certified that the applicant is prepared for the required practical test.
- (g) Meet the aeronautical experience requirements of § 61.99 of this part that apply to the aircraft category and class rating sought;
- (h) Satisfactorily accomplish the required practical test on the approved areas of operation listed in § 61.98(b) of this part that apply to the aircraft category and class rating sought; and

(i) Comply with the sections of this part that apply to the aircraft category and class rating sought.

# § 61.97 Aeronautical knowledge.

(a) General. A person who applies for a recreational pilot certificate must receive and log ground training from an authorized flight or ground instructor, or complete a home study course on the aeronautical knowledge areas of paragraph (b) of this section that apply to the aircraft category and class rating sought.

(b) Aeronautical knowledge areas.

- (1) The applicable Federal Aviation Regulations for recreational pilot privileges, limitations, and flight operations that apply to the aircraft rating sought;
- (2) Accident reporting requirements of the National Transportation Safety Board:
- (3) Use of the applicable portions of the "Airman's Information Manual" and FAA advisory circulars;

(4) The use of aeronautical charts for VFR navigation using pilotage with the

aid of a magnetic compass;

(5) The recognition of critical weather situations from the ground and in flight, windshear avoidance, and the procurement and use of aeronautical weather reports and forecasts;

(6) The safe and efficient operation of aircraft, including collision avoidance, and recognition and avoidance of wake turbulence:

(7) The effects of density altitude on takeoff and climb performance;

(8) Weight and balance computations;

(9) Principles of aerodynamics, powerplants, and aircraft systems;

- (10) Stall awareness, spin entry, spins, and spin recovery techniques, if applying for an airplane-single engine rating;
- (11) Aeronautical decision making and judgment; and
  - (12) Preflight action that includes:
- (i) How to obtain information on runway lengths at airports of intended use, data on takeoff and landing distances, weather reports and forecasts, and fuel requirements;

(ii) How to plan for alternatives if the planned flight cannot be completed; and

(iii) Proper planning procedures for possible traffic delays.

# §61.98 Flight proficiency.

(a) General. A person who applies for a recreational pilot certificate must have received and logged ground training from authorized ground or flight instructor, and flight training from an authorized flight instructor on the approved areas of operation of this section that apply to the aircraft class rating sought.

- (b) For an single engine airplane rating. Areas of operation for an airplane category rating with a single engine class rating are the following:
  - (1) Preflight preparation;
  - (2) Preflight procedures;
  - (3) Airport operations;
- (4) Takeoffs, landings, and goarounds;
  - (5) Performance maneuvers;
  - (6) Ground reference maneuvers;
  - (7) Navigation;
  - (8) Stalls and slow flight;
  - (9) Emergency operations; and

(10) Postflight procedures.

- (c) For a helicopter rating. Areas of operation for a rotorcraft category rating with a helicopter class rating are the following:
  - (1) Preflight preparation;
  - (2) Preflight procedures;
  - (3) Airport and heliport operations;
  - (4) Hovering maneuvers;
- (5) Takeoffs, landings, and goarounds:
  - (6) Performance maneuvers;
  - (7) Ground reference maneuvers;
  - (8) Navigation;
  - (9) Emergency operations; and
  - (10) Postflight procedures.
- (d) For a gyroplane rating. Areas of operation for a rotorcraft category rating with a gyroplane class rating are the following:
  - (1) Preflight preparation;
  - (2) Preflight procedures:
  - (3) Airport operations;
- (4) Takeoffs, landings, and goarounds;
  - (5) Performance maneuvers;
  - (6) Ground reference maneuvers;
  - (7) Navigation;
  - (8) Flight at slow airspeeds;
  - (9) Emergency operations; and
  - (10) Postflight procedures.

### § 61.99 Aeronautical experience.

A person who applies for a recreational pilot certificate must accomplish and log at least 30 hours of flight training time that includes at least:

- (a) Fifteen hours of flight training from an authorized flight instructor on the approved areas of operation listed in § 61.98 of this part that consists of at least—
- (1) Except as provided in § 61.100 of this part, 2 hours of flight training to and at an airport that is located more than 25 nautical miles from the airport where the applicant normally trains, which includes at least 3 takeoffs and 3 landings; and
- (2) Three hours of flight training in the aircraft for the rating sought in preparation for the practical test within the 60 days preceding the date of the practical test.