

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

CAA Memo

Civil Air Regulations Amendment 20-17

Effective: May 14, 1953
Adopted: May 14, 1953

CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PILOT CERTIFICATES

Currently effective sections 20.3, 20.21, and 20.31 of Part 20 provide that applicants for a student pilot certificate or a pilot certificate with private or commercial rating shall be citizens of the United States or of a foreign government which grants or has undertaken to grant reciprocal pilot privileges to citizens of the United States on equal terms and conditions with citizens of such foreign government.

Recent studies by the Board with respect to the necessity for reciprocity provisions in connection with the issuance of airman certificates indicate that aliens who have immigrated to the United States on a permanent residence visa should, as prospective citizens, be included in the classification of United States citizens for the purpose of obtaining airman certificates. In addition it is considered desirable that the present reciprocity provisions with respect to the issuance of pilot certificates be clarified to indicate that reciprocity consists of not only the privileges of the airman certificate but also the right to engage in gainful employment as a commercial pilot. With regard to those classes of airman certificates which cannot be used for remuneration or hire, no realistic purpose is considered to exist for requiring reciprocity as an element precedent to their issuance.

This amendment removes the requirement for reciprocity with respect to student pilot certificates and pilot certificates with private pilot ratings and permits the issuance of pilot certificates with a commercial pilot rating to individuals who have been admitted to the United States for permanent residence. In addition pilot certificates with commercial pilot rating may be issued to a citizen of any other country whose government grants or has undertaken to grant to citizens of the United States commercial pilot privileges and employment rights equivalent to those which such government grants to its own citizens.

Interested persons have been afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment, and due consideration has been given to all relevant matter presented. Since this amendment imposes no additional burden on any person, it may be made effective without prior notice.

In consideration of the foregoing the Civil Aeronautics Board hereby amends Part 20 of the Civil Air Regulations (14 CFR, Part 20, as amended) effective immediately:

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1. By amending § 20.3 to read as follows:

20.3 Citizenship. An applicant for a student pilot certificate may be a citizen of any country or a person without nationality.

2. By amending § 20.21 to read as follows:

20.21 Citizenship. An applicant for a pilot certificate with a private pilot rating may be a citizen of any country or a person without nationality.

3. By amending § 20.31 to read as follows:

20.31 Citizenship. An applicant for a pilot certificate with a commercial pilot rating shall be:

(a) A citizen of the United States or an individual who has been admitted to the United States for permanent residence, or

(b) A citizen of any other country whose government grants or has undertaken to grant to citizens of the United States commercial pilot privileges and employment rights equivalent to those which such government grants to its own citizens.

(Sec. 205 (a), 52 Stat. 984; 49 U.S.C. 425 (a). Interpret or apply secs. 601, 602, 52 Stat. 1007, 1008; 49 U.S.C. 551, 552)

By the Civil Aeronautics Board:

/s/ M. C. Mulligan

M. C. Mulligan
Secretary

(SEAL)