

Repl by 140-313

AC NO: 140-3A

DATE: 6/12/68



ADVISORY CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PILOT TRAINING COURSES
UNDER SUBPART D OF PART 141 OF THE FAR

1. **PURPOSE.** This circular advises operators of certificated pilot schools the procedure for obtaining Federal Aviation Administration approval of pilot training courses under Subpart D of Part 141 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, adopted as Amendment 141-6, effective December 13, 1967. This circular supersedes the previous one and contains additional information on the preparation of pilot training curriculums, and on the recognition of prior pilot training and experience.
2. **CANCELLATION.** Advisory Circular 140-3 dated February 16, 1968.
3. **COURSES APPROVED.** Subpart D of Part 141 contains rules for approval of pilot courses for the following purposes:
 - a. The addition of an aircraft category or class rating, or an original or additional type rating, on a pilot certificate.
 - b. The addition of a rating on a Flight Instructor Certificate.
 - c. The proficiency required of an applicant for an Airline Transport Pilot Certificate.
 - d. The proficiency required of an applicant for a rotorcraft external-load operator certificate or his designated chief pilot.
 - e. The proficiency required of an applicant for an agricultural aircraft operator certificate or his designated chief supervisor.

FAR 141.73(a) requires that each course approved must be given under, and be appropriate to ratings held by the school. The school must hold ratings appropriate to each category of aircraft used in the course. A commercial flying school rating is necessary for a course which trains pilots for operations which require a Commercial Pilot Certificate, and an instrument flying school rating is necessary for a course which includes instrument flight instruction (except for the addition of an airplane category rating to a pilot certificate).

Initiated by: FS-446

6/12/68

4. APPLICATION for the approval of a pilot training course is made in writing to the FAA General Aviation District Office which supervises the school's operations, accompanied by duplicate copies of the curriculum for each course for which approval is sought.
5. CURRICULUM. Evaluation of a course submitted for approval will be based on the curriculum submitted. Pilot schools will be allowed the greatest possible freedom in developing their own curriculums. The use of new procedures and training aids will be encouraged. No "standard" curriculum or set of curriculums has been approved for general use by all schools, because each curriculum is expected to be designed specifically for the facilities, procedures, instructors, and aircraft used by the applicant.
6. CURRICULUM. The content of an approved pilot training course curriculum is prescribed by FAR 141.75 and .77:
 - a. Prerequisites for enrollment. Each curriculum should specify the minimum pilot certificate, rating, and flight experience requirements for entry. FAR 141.75 requires at least a Private Pilot Certificate and a third-class medical.
 - b. Course hours. The curriculum should show the minimum total hours of ground instruction and flight instruction and practice included. The time devoted to each lesson or stage of training need not be specified.
 - c. Lesson and stage content. Each lesson and each stage should be a measurable unit of accomplishment, not merely a flight period or a specified number of hours of training. Lesson and stage completion standards should be simple, understandable levels of performance. For example, the following completion standards might apply to successive lessons on landings: (1) student makes correct landings with the assistance of instructor; (2) student makes safe landings under the direction of instructor; and (3) student consistently makes unassisted safe landings.
 - d. Progress checks. Progress checks at the completion of logical stages of training are recommended, but not required for courses approved under Subpart D.
 - e. Facilities. All facilities to be used for the course should be listed, such as the airport, classrooms, readyrooms, and, when pertinent, radio navigation facilities, aerial applicator strips and loading facilities, and rotorcraft sling operation maneuvering areas.
 - f. Equipment. All special equipment to be used for training should be listed and identified, such as pilot ground trainers, audio-visual training aids or courses, and tape recordings.

6/12/68

- g. Aircraft and flight equipment. The curriculum should specify the types of aircraft to be used for each phase of training, and any special equipment installed which is pertinent to the training in the course, such as radio navigation equipment, dusting or spray equipment, and external-load hoists. Only the aircraft types and minimum special equipment for the course involved need be listed, not the aircraft registration numbers.
- h. Ground and flight instructors. The minimum ratings, experience, and flight time of ground and flight instructors used for each phase of the course should be specified in the curriculum. It is preferable not to name individual instructors, nor to list qualifications beyond those appropriate to the course involved.
7. CREDIT FOR PRIOR TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE. A certificated pilot school may allow credit for previous pilot training and experience toward a course approved under Subpart D in accordance with the following:
- a. Course credits may be transferred from one certificated school to another, based on a flight check or written test, or both, of the student. The student should submit a record of such previous training from the school where he received it.
- b. Other pilot experience and knowledge may be credited for not more than one-half of the lessons in an approved curriculum, based on an appropriate flight check or test by the school. The student should present a reliable record of the experience and training for which credit is sought.
- c. The student's training record should clearly indicate the previous experience and knowledge credited toward his course, and the documents and tests on which acceptance is based.
9. FAILURE TO APPROVE. When approval is not effected for a course, the curriculum submitted will be returned to the applicant with a written statement of the reasons why approval was not granted.
10. CURRICULUM CHANGES. When the holder of an approval for a pilot training course under Subpart D desires to revise his approved curriculum, he should submit copies of the revised pages for approval, just as in the case of the original application.


Director
acting Flight Standards Service