

DATE 12/14/79

# ADVISORY CIRCULAR



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

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WASHINGTON, DC 20591

**Subject:** AIDS AUTHORIZED FOR USE BY AIRMAN WRITTEN TEST APPLICANTS

1. PURPOSE. This advisory circular further clarifies FAA policy concerning aids that applicants may use when taking airman written tests.

2. CANCELLATION. Advisory Circular 60-11, dated August 27, 1974, is canceled.

3. RELATED FAR SECTIONS. Federal Aviation Regulations 61.37, 63.18, 65.18, and 143.18.

4. EXPLANATION. Increasing numbers of manufacturers are producing navigation computers, plotters, flight planning aids, electronic calculators, and other devices containing information not directly related to their operation and use. In many instances, this information pertains to subject matter areas used as the basis for test items in FAA written tests. For this reason, FAA personnel who administer written tests have, in the past, been directed to disallow the use of such aids to ensure compliance with the regulations referenced above which permit the use of material or aids authorized by the Administrator. So that applicants for airman written tests can achieve utilization of the aids in question, it is now permissible to use these aids if the objectionable information is masked out prior to the test period in accordance with the guidelines below.

5. GUIDELINES.

a. Applicants for airman written tests may use scales, straight-edges, protractors, plotters, navigation computers, and electronic or mechanical calculators while taking the written test.

b. Permanently inscribed or printed instructions on such aids which pertain only to their operation and use are permissible.

c. Information not pertinent to the actual operation of the aids mentioned in subparagraph a, such as regulations, signals, cloud data, holding pattern diagrams, frequencies, weight and balance formulas, ATC procedures, etc., must be obscured by suitable masking material. Applicants are responsible for providing the masking material and masking out prohibited information.

d. The use of electronic calculators is subject to the following limitations: (1) prior to, and on completion of the written test, the applicant must actuate the "on/off" switch to ensure erasure of any data stored in memory circuits; (2) the use of electronic calculators incorporating permanent or continuous type memory circuits without erasure capability is not authorized; (3) tape printout of data must be surrendered at the completion of the written test, if the calculator incorporates this design feature; and (4) the use of magnetic cards, tapes, modules, or any other device upon which prewritten programs or information related to the written test can be stored and retrieved, is prohibited.



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