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# ADVISORY CIRCULAR

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

**SUBJECT:** USE OF APPROACH SLOPE INDICATORS FOR PILOT TRAINING

1. **PURPOSE.** This advisory circular informs pilot schools, flight instructors and student pilots of the recommendation of the Federal Aviation Administration on the use of approach slope indicator systems for pilot training.
2. **BACKGROUND.** Approach indicators are now available at many locations from small general airports to large air terminals. These systems include the VASI (Visual Approach Slope Indicator), the AVASI (Abbreviated Visual Approach Slope Indicator), and the VAPI (Visual Approach Path Indicator.) These indicators consist of colored light displays deployed on the airport surface, or projected to the pilot from a device near the approach end of the runway. At some airports, simple devices which are effective in day-light only are used. All of these provide visual guidance to assist a pilot in maintaining a uniform approach slope throughout his final approach to a landing. Part 1 of the Airman's Information Manual contains a description of the arrangement and use of the VASI system.
3. **RECOMMENDATION.** The Federal Aviation Administration recommends that all student pilots be introduced early in their flight training to the use of any available approach slope indicator, and taught to use it regularly in planning standard, uniform landing approaches. The use of uniform approach angles and descent rates is important to the safe, efficient operation of modern airplanes, especially in congested airport traffic.

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