



Private Pilot Requirements

PAUL ROBERTS CFI



PRIVATE PILOT REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ **You must:**
 - ❖ Be at least 17 years old.
 - ❖ Be able to read, speak, write, and understand English.
 - ❖ Obtain at least a third-class FAA medical certificate.
 - ❖ Pass a 60 question knowledge test with a 70% or better.
 - ❖ Successfully complete a practical (flight) test, which is administered by an FAA-approved Designated Pilot Examiner (DPE).



PRIVATE PILOT TIME REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ **You must:**
 - ❖ Log at least 40 hours of flight time.
- ❖ **This will include**
 - ❖ At least 20 hours of training with an authorized instructor.
 - ❖ 3 hours of cross-country flight training.
 - ❖ 3 hours of night flight training, this includes:
 - ❖ One cross-country flight of over 100 nautical miles total distance.
 - ❖ 10 takeoffs and 10 landings at an airport.
 - ❖ 3 hours of training on flying solely by reference to instruments.
 - ❖ 3 hours of flight training with an authorized instructor in preparation for the practical test, in the preceding 2 calendar months.



PRIVATE PILOT TIME REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

- ❖ You must have at least 10 hours of solo flight training, consisting of:
 - ❖ 5 hours of solo cross-country time.
 - ❖ One solo cross-country flight of 150 nautical miles total distance, with
 - ❖ landings at 3 points, and one segment with a straight-line distance of more than 50 nautical miles.
 - ❖ 3 takeoffs and landings at an airport with an operating control tower.



PRIVATE PILOT AERONAUTICAL KNOWLEDGE

- ❖ A Private Pilot candidate must have received and logged ground training on the following subject matter:
 - ❖ Applicable Federal Aviation Regulations
 - ❖ Accident recording requirements of the NTSB
 - ❖ Use of applicable portions of the AIM and FAA Advisory Circulars
 - ❖ Use of charts for VFR navigation with the aid of a magnetic compass
 - ❖ Recognition of critical weather situations
 - ❖ Safe and efficient operation of aircraft to include:
 - ❖ Collision avoidance
 - ❖ Wake Turbulence



PRIVATE PILOT AERONAUTICAL KNOWLEDGE CONTINUED

- ❖ A Private Pilot candidate must have received and logged ground training on the following subject matter:
 - ❖ Effects of density altitude on aircraft performance
 - ❖ Weight and balance computations
 - ❖ Principles of aerodynamics, powerplants, and aircraft systems
 - ❖ Stall/spin awareness and recovery techniques
 - ❖ Aeronautical decision making and judgement
 - ❖ Preflight actions that include:
 - ❖ Runway lengths, takeoff and landing distances, weather reports and forecasts, and fuel requirements
 - ❖ How to plan for alternatives



PRIVATE PILOT PRIVILEGES

- ❖ **A private pilot certificate allows you to:**
 - ❖ Fly any single-engine land airplane under 12,500 lbs.
 - ❖ Carry as many passengers as the plane can hold.
 - ❖ Travel anywhere you want to, day or night.
 - ❖ Act as the PIC for a charitable, nonprofit, or community event of a flight as described in 91.146, if the sponsor and pilot comply with 91.146.
 - ❖ Be reimbursed for aircraft operating expenses directly related to search and rescue operations, provided the expenses are rental fees, fuel/ oil, airport expenditures.
 - ❖ Demonstrate a plane for a prospective buyer, If the private pilot is a salesperson and they have more than 200 hours of flight time logged
 - ❖ Act as PIC of an aircraft towing a glider / un-powered trike ultra-light if the requirements of 61.69 are met



PRIVATE PILOT LIMITATIONS

- ❖ **A private pilot certificate does not allow you to:**
 - ❖ Carry passengers or cargo for compensation or hire.
 - ❖ Only if the aircraft is in connection to any business and is only incidental to that business or employment, and the aircraft does not carry passengers or property for compensation or hire.
 - ❖ Pay less than the pro-rata share of the aircrafts operating expenses of a flight with passengers provided the expenses are only fuel/ oil, rental fees, or airport expenditures.
 - ❖ Fly through clouds (You need an instrument rating for that.)



PRIVATE PILOT REGENCY REQUIREMENTS (FAR 61.57)

- ❖ Pilots must complete a **flight review every 24 calendar months** – & must include **1 hour ground** and **1 hour flight instruction**.
- ❖ **To act as PIC carrying passengers:** (FAR 61.57a Recent flight experience) Pilot must have made at least:
 - ❖ 3 takeoffs and 3 landings within the preceding 90 days, and
 - ❖ The person acted as the sole manipulator of the flight controls;
 - ❖ Performed in an aircraft of the same category, class, and type.
- ❖ **To act as PIC carrying passengers at night:** (FAR 61.57b) Pilot must have made at least:
 - ❖ 3 takeoffs and 3 landings within the preceding 90 days to a full stop during the period beginning 1 hour after sunset and ending 1 hour before sunrise.
 - ❖ That person acted as sole manipulator of the flight controls; and
 - ❖ The required takeoffs and landings were performed in an aircraft of the same category, class, and type

