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CHAPTER 7 – STUDENT PILOT

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STUDENT PILOT

7.1 Piloting an Australian Registered Aircraft



7.1.1 Who May Pilot or Fly an Australian Registered Aircraft?

A person who does not hold any air crew licence may operate the controls of an Australian aircraft if:

- a. He/she is accompanied by a flying instructor.
- b. He/she is receiving flying instruction.
- c. He/she may fly solo/act as pilot-in-command of an Australian aircraft under the supervision of a flying instructor.

7.1.2 Flying Solo or as Pilot in Command

To fly solo or to act as pilot in command the student pilot will need to have:

- a. An aviation reference number (ARN) which you can obtain from CASA or through your school
- b. A proof of your identity (photo ID)
- c. There is no fee for this service and you should receive your ARN within one week of submitting an application and finally
- d. A medical certificate.



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7.1.3 Minimum Requirements to Fly as Pilot in Command

The minimum requirements for a student pilot to fly solo or to act as a pilot in command are as follows:

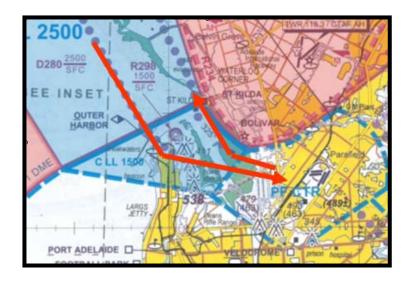
- a. The minimum age is 15 years old (there is no age limit to fly with an instructor).
- b. He or she must hold a current Class 1 or Class 2 medical certificate.
- c. He or she may hold a **Recreational Aviation Medical Practitioner's Certificate** in lieu of a CASA Class 1 or Class 2 medical certificate but he or she will be limited to conducting solo flights in certain aircraft only and some other limitations will also apply.

7.2 Privileges and Limitations of a Student Pilot

7.2.1 Where May a Student Pilot Fly?

A flying instructor **MUST** always authorise the flight for a student pilot and may permit the student to fly:

- a. In the traffic pattern; or
- b. If the student has flown 2 hours of flight time in the traffic pattern as pilot in command (solo) then he or she may be authorised to fly directly to the training area(s) associated with the aerodrome, fly in it and then fly directly back to the aerodrome; or
- c. If the student is carrying out a cross country (navigation exercise) then he or she may fly only along the route specified by the instructor.





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7.2.2 Recency Requirements

A student pilot must not act as pilot in command (fly solo) unless:

Within the previous 14 days the student has completed a dual flight in the same type of aircraft.

7.2.3 Maximum Consecutive Hours as Pilot in Command

A student pilot must not fly more than three (3) hours as pilot in command (solo)

Note: The recency requirements and maximum consecutive hours as pilot in command do not apply to a student pilot undertaking an integrated training course.

7.2.4 Carriage of Passengers as a Student Pilot

A student pilot is not permitted to carry passengers.

7.3 Privileges and Limitations of a Recreational Pilot Licence (RPL) Holder

7.3.1 Limitations on Exercise of Privileges of RPLs – General

7.3.1.1 The Holder of a RPL May:

- a. Pilot an aircraft in a foreign country which is a Contracting State (member of ICAO) only if he or she has permission of the Contracting State.
- b. Carry more than one passenger only if he or she holds either a Class 1 or 2 medical certificate
- Pilot an aircraft above 10,000 ft AMSL only if he or she holds either a Class 1 or 2 medical certificate

Note: For b and c above, the RPL holder without a Class 1 or 2 medical certificate must be accompanied by another pilot who:

- i. Holds a current class 1 or 2 medical certificate; and
- ii. Occupies a flight control seat in the aircraft; and
- iii. Is authorised to pilot the aircraft.



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7.3.2 Limitations on Exercise of Privileges of RPLs - Endorsements

7.3.2.1 Where May A RPL Holders Fly?

The Area Limit of a RPL holder means:

- a. The traffic pattern;
- b. The area within 10NM of the aerodrome from which the flight commenced;
- c. The flying training area associated with the aerodrome.
- d. The direct route between the aerodrome and the training area.

Note: The Area Limit of a RPL holder is the area in which he or she may fly without requiring any authorisation from a flight instructor.

7.3.2.2 Recreational Navigation Endorsement

The RPL holder may pilot an aircraft outside the Area Limit only if he or she holds a recreational navigation endorsement.

7.3.2.3 **Controlled Airspace Endorsement**

The RPL holder may pilot an aircraft in controlled airspace only if he or she holds a controlled airspace endorsement.

7.3.2.4 Controlled Aerodrome Endorsement

The RPL holder may pilot an aircraft at a controlled aerodrome only if he or she holds a controlled aerodrome endorsement.

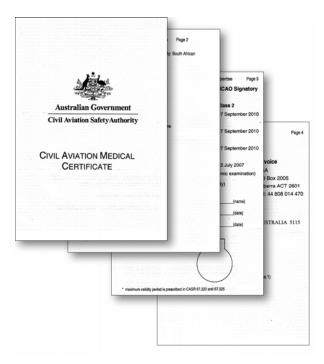


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7.4 Medical fitness

7.4.1 Temporary Medical Unfitness

A pilot must not fly an aircraft unless he or she is medically fit. If a student pilot is temporarily unfit for a period in excess of 30 days, the student must get a medical certificate from a Designated Aviation Medical Examiner (DAME) before he or she can fly again.



7.4.2 Medical Certificate Appropriate to a Licence

The holder of an Airline Transport Pilot Licence (ATPL), a Multi-crew Pilot Licence (MPL) or a Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL) must hold a current Class 1 Medical Certificate.

The holder of a Private Pilot Licence (PPL), a Recreational Pilot Licence (RPL) or a Student Pilot (to fly solo) must hold a current Class 1, Class 2 Medical Certificate or a minimum of the Recreational Medical Practitioner's Certificate (RAMPC)

The holder of an Air Traffic Controllers Licence must hold a current Class 3 Medical Certificate.



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7.4.3 Medical Certificates – period in force (How long is the certificate valid for?)

7.4.3.1 Class 1 Medical Certificate

One year after the appropriate day.

7.4.3.2 Class 2 Medical Certificate

- a. If the holder is less than 40 years old, then 4 years after the appropriate day.
- b. If the holder is 40 years or over, then 2 years after the appropriate day.

7.4.3.3 Class 3 Medical Certificate

Two years after the appropriate day.

7.4.4 Recreational Aviation Medical Practitioner's Certificate (RAMPC)

Valid for up to 24 months from the date it is signed by the medical practitioner. Valid for 12 months if the person is older than 65 years.

If the GP issues the certificate as valid for a certain period only, the certificate will expire at the end of that period.

A copy of the RAMPC will need to be provided to CASA vial email or the post.

7.4.4.1 **Limitations of a RAMPC**

The following conditions apply to the holder of a RAMPC:

- Can only fly below 10,000ft
- Can only fly by day under the visual flight rules (VFR)
- Can only one passenger

Note: the limitations on the number of passengers and flight above 10,000ft will not apply if another pilot holding a current class 1 or 2 medical certificate and is authorised to pilot the aircraft occupies a flight control seat.

7.4.4.2 Limitations of a RAMPC on Aircraft type

Holders of RAMPCs flying solo are limited to flying recreational aircraft only and only by day under the VFR.

7.4.5 **Recreational Aircraft are:**

- a. Single-engine aircraft
- Certified for single-pilot operations b.
- Certified with a maximum take-off weight of no more than 1500 kg C.
- Not rocket or turbine powered.

Note: An ATPL or a CPL holder using a RAMPC will be limited to the privileges of a RPL.