

New Student Pilot Checklist

Medical Certificate: Third/Second/First – Class (Req'd prior to solo)

- A minimum of a third-class medical is required to get the Private Pilot Certificate.
- Get your medical certificate as early as possible to assure eligibility!
- Head on over to: medxpress.faa.gov and create an account. Start a new application and fill all the requested information. Save the confirmation number you receive for your appointment.
- Go to: designee.faa.gov/#/designeeLocator and locate a local AME. Schedule an appointment for your medical check.
- [AOPA – List of FAA allowed/disallowed meds](#)
- [AOPA – Conditions that may affect certification](#)

Student Pilot Certificate (Req'd prior to solo)

- Go to iacra.faa.gov and create an account. Do not fill in your SSN.
- Start a New Application; Type of application - Pilot, Pilot Certifications - Student Pilot.
- Fill all the required information and submit the application.
- Save the Application ID and your FTN.

Residency status (Req'd to start training)

- US citizens need to bring proof of citizenship by the second flight lesson.
- Permanent residents/other visas need to go to: flightschoolcandidates.gov and create an account.

Knowledge Test

- It is required to take a written test to obtain the Private Pilot Certificate.
- I highly recommend the most current *Private Pilot Test Prep* by ASA.
- [Sporty's](#), [Gleim](#), [King Schools](#) offer various packages.
- sportys.com/pilotshop/learn-to-fly/faa-private-pilot-test-prep.html (Free knowledge test practice by Sporty's)
- Written needs to be passed before your first solo cross-country!

Ground School

- Besides flying, there is also a lot of information we must learn to become pilots.
- [Sporty's](#), [Gleim](#), [King Schools](#) offer various packages.
- The FAA provides a lot of handbooks with all the required information for free in a PDF form. *Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge* and the *Airplane Flying Handbook* are HIGHLY recommended. (faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation)
- Free Youtube ground school ([Cyndy Hollman](#), [Pilot Training System](#), [MIT Ground School](#), [UND AeroCast](#), [ERAU SpecialVFR](#), are a notable few)
- I offer one on one instruction at the same rate as a flight rate.

Renter's Insurance (Req'd prior to solo)

- [Avemco](#)
- [AOPA](#)
- [Aviator's Insurance](#)

Accessories

- Logbook
- ASA VFR kneeboard
- Headset
- Los Angeles Sectional and Terminal Charts
- FAR/AIM (Current Edition)
- Navigational plotter, E6B
- Handheld Radio
- (Optional, but *highly* recommended) iPad device + [ForeFlight](#) subscription

Radio Communications

- Listen to live ATC radio communications on liveatc.net in order to become familiar with the radio phraseology in aviation, and be more prepared to talk and listen while flying the airplane.
- Pilot/Controller Glossary available in the FAR/AIM

Private Pilot Requirements

- 40 hours total flight time
 - 20 hours of flight training which includes at least
 - 3 hours of cross-country training
 - 3 hours of night training which includes
 - Cross-country over 100nm total distance
 - 10 takeoff and landings, to a full stop
 - 3 hours under the hood training (ASEL)
 - 3 hours of check-ride prep (ASEL)
 - 10 hours of solo flight which includes
 - 5 hours of cross-country time
 - Cross-country over 150nm total distance, landings at 3 airports, to a full stop
 - 3 takeoff and landings, to a full stop, in a towered airport

Please note: the numbers above are the minimum required. The national average, according to the FAA, indicates most pilots require 60 to 75 hours of flight training.