

# New Student Pilot Checklist

## Medical Certificate: Third/Second/First - Class

- A minimum of a third-class medical is required in order to get the Private Pilot Certificate.
- It is a good idea to get your medical certificate to assure eligibility, before investing too much time and/or money into flying.
- Head on over to: [medxpress.faa.gov](http://medxpress.faa.gov) and create an account. Start a new application and fill all the requested information. Save the confirmation number you receive.
- Go to: [designee.faa.gov/#/designeeLocator](http://designee.faa.gov/#/designeeLocator) and locate a local AME. Schedule an appointment for your medical check.
- Make sure to take the confirmation number to the appointment.

## Student Pilot Certificate

- Go to [iacra.faa.gov](http://iacra.faa.gov) and create an account.
- Start a New Application. Type of application should be pilot, and pilot certifications student pilot.
- Fill all the required information and submit the application.
- Save the Application ID and your FTN.

## Residency status

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

## Knowledge Test

- It is required to take a written test in order to obtain the Private Pilot Certificate.
- I recommend the most current Private Pilot Test Prep by ASA.
- Sporty's, Gleim, King's School offer new pilot packages to study, head over to their website for more information.
- [sportys.com/pilotshop/learn-to-fly/faa-private-pilot-test-prep.html](http://sportys.com/pilotshop/learn-to-fly/faa-private-pilot-test-prep.html) (Free knowledge test practice by Sporty's)

## Ground School

- Besides flying, there is also a lot of information we must learn in order to become pilots.
- Sporty's, Gleim, King's School offer online ground school, head over to their website for more information.
- 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](http://faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation))
- Free Youtube ground school ([Cyndy Hollman](#), [Pilot Training System](#), [MIT Ground School](#), are a notable few)
- I offer one on one instruction at the same rate as a flight rate.

## Renter's Insurance

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

## Accessories

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

## Radio Communications

- I recommend listening to live ATC radio communications via [liveatc.net](http://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.