

New Student Pilot Checklist

Medical Certificate: Third/Second/First - Class

- A minimum of a third-class medical is required 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 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 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 and create an account. Do not fill in your SSN.
- 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 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)

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

- [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, 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.