

Sport Pilot Certification Course

Course Objective:

The objective of this syllabus is for the student to gain the necessary aeronautical skill, knowledge, and experience to become a safe and proficient pilot while meeting the requirements for a sport pilot certificate with a logbook endorsement.

Scenario-based training:

Scenario-based training (SBT) is incorporated into this training system. This is a modern technique that goes beyond typical training programs of learning how to control the aircraft and operate according to the regulations in the airspace. It provides an additional step from how pilots are typically trained, to how they operate in real situations. It adds real-world scenarios early in the training process.

Sport Pilot Prerequisites:

The sport pilot student must be able to read, speak, and understand the English language, meet the physical standards with a valid U.S. driver's license or a third-class airman's medical certificate, and possess a valid FAA student pilot certificate to solo. The student must be 16 years old to solo, and 17 years old to gain sport pilot certification.

Flight Experience Requirements for a Sport Pilot Certificate:

12 hours of flight time including 10 hours of instruction with an authorized instructor and 2 hours of solo instruction. This must include (i) 1 hour of cross-country flight training, (ii) 20 takeoffs and landings to a full stop in a powered parachute with each landing involving flight in the traffic pattern at an airport; (iii) 10 solo takeoffs and landings to a full stop (with each landing involving a flight in the traffic pattern) at an airport, (iv) One solo flight with a landing at a different airport and one segment of the flight consisting of a straight-line distance of at least 10 nautical miles between takeoff and landing locations, and (v) 1 hour of flight training on those areas of operation specified in § 61.311 preparing for the practical test within preceding 2 calendar months before the date of the test.

Sport Pilot Certification Course:

The sport pilot certificate requires appropriate levels of aeronautical skill and aeronautical knowledge. This syllabus is written to satisfy both requirements. The syllabus is divided into four stages. Each stage should be completed within 30 days, and not extended more than 90 days. Each module contains both a flight and ground lesson. This method presents a flight training process and will promote easier learning and a more efficient training program. Ideally, the ground lesson will be completed prior to the flight lesson. Each flight lesson must include a pre- and post-flight briefing.

Lesson Plan and Testing Procedures:

Each module contains homework associated with the ground and flight lesson. The instructor goes through the lesson plans and checks off the specific items the student must accomplish before moving on to the next lesson. A Stage Exam is included with each stage, testing the student on both the ground and flight training material covered throughout the stage. This exam must be passed with a minimum score of 70%, and reconciled to 100%, to proceed to the next stage.

Minimum Requirements:

The training hours listed in the Federal Aviation Regulations for sport pilots, and repeated in this syllabus, are the minimum training hours needed to qualify for a sport pilot certificate. It generally takes more time than this for students to become proficient pilots. Many factors affect the total training flight time needed: frequency of flying, cooperative weather, aircraft/instructor scheduling, and lapses in the flight-training process. It is recommended the student fly at least twice a week. This type of schedule produces the most efficient training and cuts down on review time. If there is a lapse of time between flight-training sessions, it may be necessary to review maneuvers. The student should be proficient in performing each task in all previous lessons before progressing to the next lesson.