




# INSTRUMENT RATING QUALIFICATIONS

## INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on applying to receive your Instrument rating! It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to make it to this point. There are several areas of eligibility that must be determined before an FAA examination may be administered:

-  Applicant Eligibility
-  Aircraft Eligibility
-  Conducive Conditions

In order to help the certification process run smoothly and prevent any unpleasant surprises I have attached the qualifications I will be looking for in these three areas. Please review these sections and ensure you have met all requirements.

Please note that all requirements must be met in accordance with the regulating documents cited on the checklist. Please look up the reference and read it carefully! If there are any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at [jqpilot@gmail.com](mailto:jqpilot@gmail.com).

### Special note:

The training requirements of 61.61b (aeronautical knowledge 10 items) and 61.65c (flight proficiency 8 items) must be logged in the applicants logbook (or training record) **word for word with an instructors signature** next to them.

61.65d1 requires 50 hours of **PIC cross country**. Dual cross country performed as a student pilot will not count toward this total.

61.65d2iic Requires **three different kinds** of approaches. Please note which approaches were performed in the remarks section.

Please ensure that all endorsements comply with the recommendations of AC 61.65J

## APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

### General 61.65 (a)

- ☐ **C**urrency – Capable of acting as PIC. 61.57 / 61.87
  - ☐ English – read, write, and converse fluently in English 61.65(a)(2)
- ☐ **L**icense (private or above 61.65(a)(1))
- ☐ **I**dentification Picture ID (AC 61-65H)
  - ☐ Application – 8710.1 review/signed by recommending CFI (IACRA)
  - ☐ Written test results within 24 months (original required)
- ☐ **M**edical (third class minimum) considerations – drug conviction (1 year)
- ☐ **B**FR Current (if applicable)

### Aeronautical Knowledge 61.65 (b)

- ☐ 1. Applicable Federal Aviation Regulations of this chapter that apply to flight operations under IFR.
- ☐ 2. Appropriate information that applies to flight operations under IFR in the Aeronautical Information Manual.
- ☐ 3. Air traffic control system and procedures for instrument flight operations.
- ☐ 4. IFR navigation and approaches by use of navigation systems.
- ☐ 5. Use of IFR en route and instrument approach procedure charts.
- ☐ 6. Procurement and use of aviation weather reports and forecasts and the elements of forecasting weather trends based on that information and personal observation of weather conditions.
- ☐ 7. Safe and efficient operation of aircraft under instrument flight rules and conditions.
- ☐ 8. Recognition of critical weather situations and windshear avoidance.
- ☐ 9. Aeronautical decision making and judgment.
- ☐ 10. Crew resource management, including crew communication and coordination.

### Flight Proficiency 61.65(c)

- ☐ 1. Preflight preparation.
- ☐ 2. Preflight procedures.
- ☐ 3. Air traffic control clearances and procedures.
- ☐ 4. Flight by reference to instruments.
- ☐ 5. Navigation systems.
- ☐ 6. Instrument approach procedures.
- ☐ 7. Emergency operations.
- ☐ 8. Postflight procedures.

### Endorsements AC 61-65H

- ☐ TSA 1552.3(h) A14
- ☐ High performance 61.31(f) A69 (If required)
- ☐ Tail Wheel 61.31(i) A71 (If required)
- ☐ Complex 61.31(e) A68 (If required)
- ☐ High Altitude 61.31(g) A70 (If required)
- ☐ Aeronautical Knowledge Training 61.65 (b) A38 (1)
- ☐ Knowledge Test IRA 61.35(a)(1) and 61.65 (b) A38 (2)
- ☐ Flight proficiency/aeronautical experience 61.65(c) and (d) A39
- ☐ Practical test requirements / Written Review IRA 61.39(a) A40
- ☐ Retest after failure 61.49 A73 (if required)

## Aeronautical Experience

### Part 61 Applicant 61.65(d)

- ☐ 50 Hours PIC X/C
- ☐ 40 Hours Inst Training
  - ☐ 15 Hours from A CFII
    - ☐ 3 Hours Within 2 Calendar Months
  - ☐ Long X/C under Instrument Flight Rules
    - ☐ 250 NM Along Airways or as Directed (Min 100 NM SLD Between Airports)
    - ☐ Instrument Approach at Each Airport
    - ☐ 3 Different Kinds of Approaches

### Part 141 Applicant 61.71(61.141 Appendix C)

- ☐ Graduation Certificate Issued (60 days) & syllabus time fulfilled.
- ☐ 35 Hours Inst Training (Initial)
- ☐ 15 Hours Inst Training (Add ON)
  - ☐ 15 Hours from A CFII
    - ☐ 3 Hours Within Preceding 60 Days
  - ☐ Long X/C under Instrument Flight Rules
    - ☐ 250 NM Along Airways or as Directed (Min 100 NM SLD Between Airports)
    - ☐ Instrument Approach at Each Airport
    - ☐ 3 Different Kinds of Approaches

\*Please remember to provide a copy of your LOA for any SIM/AATD time used to meet requirements\*

## **AIRCRAFT ELIGIBILITY**

### Documents 61.45

- ☐ **A**irworthiness Certificate – Correct Serial Number and Legible Signature
- ☐ **R**egistration – Correct N Number and Unexpired
- ☐ **R**adio Operators Permit (If required)
- ☐ **O**perators' handbook – Approved AFM or POH
- ☐ **W**eight and Balance & Aircraft Performance Accurately Calculated
- ☐ Order 8900.1 VS, C2

### Inspections

- ☐ **T**ransponder (24) 43.AF
- ☐ **H**undred Hour INSP (progressive) 91.409(b)
- ☐ **E**LT INSP (12) 91.207
- ☐ **A**nnual (12) 91.409(a)
- ☐ **A**irworthiness Directives 91.417(a)(2)(v)
- ☐ **V**OR Check (30 D) 91.171
- ☐ **I**nstrument Check (PF) 91.103
- ☐ **P**itot Static Insp (24) 91.411
- ☒ **F**uses (circuit breakers)
- ☒ **L**anding Light (for hire)
- ☒ **A**nti-collision Light
- ☒ **P**osition Light
- ☒ **S**ource of Power

### Equipment 91.205

- ☒ **A**nti-collision Light
- ☒ **T**achometer (each engine)
- ☒ **O**il pressure Indicator (pressure system)
- ☒ **M**anifold Pressure Indicator (altitude engine)
- ☒ **A**ltimeter
- ☒ **T**emperature Gauge (liquid cooled engine)
- ☒ **O**il temperature indicator (air cooled engine)
- ☒ **F**uel quantity gauge (each tank)
- ☒ **F**lotation Gear (over water)
- ☒ **L**anding Gear Position Indicator (retractable)
- ☒ **A**irspeed Indicator
- ☒ **M**agnetic Direction Indicator
- ☒ **E**mergency Location Transmitter
- ☒ **S**eatbelt

## **CONDUCTIVE CONDITIONS**

### Documents

- ☐ **W**eather Report Conductive
  - ☒ TAF
  - ☒ Convective Outlook
  - ☒ Prog Chart
  - ☒ Radar Predictions
  - ☒ AIRMET
  - ☒ SIGMET
- ☐ **A**irspace Concerns
  - ☒ TFRs
  - ☒ NOTAMs
- ☐ **M**inimums Comfortable
  - ☒ Winds
  - ☒ Ceiling
  - ☒ Visibility

### Inspections

- ☐ **I**llness
- ☐ **M**edication
- ☐ **S**tress
- ☐ **A**lcohol
- ☐ **F**atigue
- ☐ **E**ating and drinking

### Equipment

- ☐ **P**apers
  - ☒ Current Aeronautical Charts
  - ☒ Flight Plan Form
  - ☒ Navigation Log
  - ☒ Chart Supplement
  - ☒ Current FAR/AIM
  - ☒ Private Pilot ACS
  - ☒ Aircraft Checklists
- ☐ **A**ccessories
  - ☒ Flight Computer (E6B or CX2)
  - ☒ Navigation Plotter
  - ☒ View Limiting Device
  - ☒ sunglasses (If Necessary)
  - ☒ flashlight (If Necessary)
  - ☒ Knee board (If Desired)
- ☐ **C**oms
  - ☒ Headset
  - ☒ Adapters (If Necessary)
  - ☒ Extra batteries (If Desired)
- ☐ **C**ontingency plan
  - ☒ emergency food, water, clothes, tools

