

Hello!

Thanks for scheduling your check ride with me. Check rides are big milestones in the life of a pilot and I'll do all I can to make it as pleasant and enjoyable as I can!

Of course, things can happen and you may have to cancel. If you do, please let me know as quickly as possible. There is always a waiting list for Examiners, and someone else can benefit with enough advance notice.

We will meet at the airport on the date/time requested. Please make sure you have the following things with you (see Page 3 for some helpful tips):

- Maintenance records for the airplane. Be sure the required inspections are tagged for easy reference.
- Airworthiness and Registration documents
- Your personal logbook with the required items tabbed (long x/c, night landings, etc).
- **Please make sure all columns/pages are totaled and all pages are signed by you.** I suggest that you create a simple spreadsheet with your times and dates. It will save time!
- **IF THIS IS A COMMERCIAL RIDE: Make sure your hood/IFR log book entries reference 61.65 and 61.129. If that wasn't done in the past with previous training, I'm fine if your CFI places an endorsement in your logbook that states that "all IFR training was conducted in accordance with" those two regs.**
- All required endorsements by your CFI. Incorrect or incomplete endorsements will stop the check ride before it starts!
- Your IACRA user name and password so you can log into IACRA
- View limiting device (except for Commercial)
- All reference materials you want to bring, but be sure to have the POH, FAR/AIM, required charts, E6B, and plotter.
- ORIGINAL knowledge test results...the one with the raised seal (Note: if you took the test AFTER 1/13/2020, you **will not** have a raised seal on your test results)

*If you are seeking your Instrument Rating or Commercial Certificate and you currently hold a Private Pilot Certificate based on a Foreign License, I need to know that immediately!*

PLEASE go over your IACRA application and check for errors. Check carefully that your name is spelled correctly and that it appears the same in IACRA as it appears on your government issued photo ID and your Knowledge Test Results. **If it doesn't, it will create problems and we may not be able to complete your check ride.**

**IMPORTANT: Please print, and bring with you, a copy of the 8710 that your instructor has signed electronically. In the event we must revert to paper, having this will be helpful.**

**IMPORTANT:** *If there is a change in the aircraft you will be using (example: Using a 172M instead of a 172N, or a PA-28-161 instead of a PA-28-181) I need to know just as soon as you become aware of the change. It 'can' be a problem, but doesn't have to be as long as I know as far in advance as possible. It affects IACRA as well as internal paperwork I have to provide to the FAA, so it's a big deal. A change in tail number doesn't matter as long as the model number remains the same.*

And, finally, please complete the form on the next page. Scan it and return it to me at [pat@HoustonDPE.com](mailto:pat@HoustonDPE.com). When I confirm your requested date, I will give you the destination for your cross country planning.

Thanks, and I'm looking forward to flying with you.

Pat Brown, DPE  
[Pat@HoustonDPE.com](mailto:Pat@HoustonDPE.com)  
832.654.9831

PS: Please understand that the FAA requires AT LEAST 24 hours notice prior to any check ride and I must receive written permission from the local FSDO before the check ride can begin.

## Check Ride Request Form

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested Check Ride Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Medical Type (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/Basic Med) and date issued: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's FTN: \_\_\_\_\_

IACRA Application ID: \_\_\_\_\_ *(if you've completed the IACRA application)*

US Citizen: Yes / No *(please circle one)* If 'no', nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of ride *(please circle one)*: Private / Commercial\* / Instrument\*

\*Is your Private Certificate based on a Foreign License? Yes / No (please circle one)

Is this a Part 141 ride? Yes / No *(Please circle one. If 'yes', please include the Completion Certificate with this application!)*

Applicant's Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant's Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Certificate Number and type (student/private/commercial): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Instructor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Instructor's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Instructor's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Instructor's Certificate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft/Make/Model: \_\_\_\_\_ N Number: N \_\_\_\_\_ Equipped with shoulder harnesses? Yes / No

Type of Avionics: \_\_\_\_\_

Retake? Y/N *(please circle one)* \_\_\_\_\_

Address of flight school or location where this ride will take place (please include the street address, city and zip code) \_\_\_\_\_

***IMPORTANT: PLEASE SCAN AND SEND ME A COPY OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE TEST WHEN YOU RETURN THIS FORM. THAT MEANS YOU WILL BE SENDING ME TWO PIECES OF PAPER...THIS FORM AND YOUR TEST RESULTS. BRING THE ORIGINAL COPY OF YOUR TEST RESULTS WITH YOU TO THE CHECK RIDE.***

Fee Schedule:

IWS/SGR/DWH/TME: \$700.00

ALL OTHERS WITHIN THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA: \$1000.00

OUTSIDE THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA: COST VARIES WITH DISTANCE

RE-CHECK: \$400.00\*\*

\*\*Applies only if I did the original ride. If another examiner did the original ride, or if the re-check is the equivalent of an entire check ride, then standard fees will apply.

Regarding fee payment, I accept cash or ZELLE. The email I use that's associated with ZELLE is [g.pat.brown@gmail.com](mailto:g.pat.brown@gmail.com) at Bank Of America. If you choose ZELLE, please complete the transfer the evening before your check ride.

Please scan this page and email, ***along with a scan of your knowledge results***, to me at [Pat@HoustonDPE.com](mailto:Pat@HoustonDPE.com)

Thanks.

## CHECK RIDE TIPS

**STUDENT PILOTS...IMPORTANT NOTE:** *If you have not received your green student pilot certificate by the date of your check ride, please notify me at least 48 hours in advance. If you don't, we may have to cancel the ride.*

Here are some things that, over the course of many check rides, I have discovered will make things go much more smoothly on the ground. These are in no particular order but, I promise you, if you pay attention to these details, things will be far less stressful!

**CREATE A LOOSE-LEAF NOTEBOOK.** Here is what should be in that notebook:

- 1) A copy of the airworthiness certificate
- 2) A copy of the registration
- 3) A copy of the weight and balance
- 4) The original copy of your knowledge test results
- 5) A copy of the 8710 that your instructor signed in IACRA
- 6) A simple spreadsheet with the dates/times of those things that are required by the FARs for your certificate or rating. If you use an electronic logbook, it should create this for you and that is acceptable. Alternatively, TAB YOUR LOGBOOK. You would be surprised at how many people do not do this...and we spend 20-30 minutes searching.
- 7) A copy of the logbook entries for the most recent annual inspection and, if required, the 100-hour on the airframe, engine and prop, plus ELT, altimeter and, if required pitot-static and VOR checks.

**BRING YOUR AIRCRAFT LOG BOOKS.** Yes, I've asked for copies above but if any questions arise, we'll need to look at the original logs. I know this sounds obvious, but it wouldn't be on the list if it hadn't happened. **Review the logbooks with your instructor. Do this PRIOR to the check ride!! TAB ALL REQUIRED ENTRIES** to make them easy to find! Make sure there are maintenance entries for:

- 1) the Airframe,
- 2) the Engine, and
- 3) the Propeller

Make sure there are entries that show the ELT has been inspected, and the transponder have been checked. In the case of any IFR check ride, be sure the VORs have been checked (and logged!), and the pitot/static check is current.

*I am required to look at the **current AD list** for your aircraft. A logbook entry that states all ADs have been complied with is **not sufficient**. Make sure you have that list! If you do not have it, your mechanic can print it out for you.*

Make sure you have the correct logbook endorsements for your particular check ride. The FAA publishes an Advisory Circular 61-65. As of 1/23/20, the current version is 61-65H (dated 8/27/18).

**COMMERCIAL PILOT APPLICANTS...this is very important!**

Just because you hold an instrument rating doesn't necessarily mean you meet the instrument requirements set forth by the FARs for the Commercial Certificate. To assure no issues, make sure there is an endorsement in your book stating that your instrument training meets the requirements of CFR 14 61.65 AND 61.129. There is no specific guidance on the wording of this endorsement, but I strongly suggest that you have your instructor place such an endorsement in your log book so we don't have to look at your IFR training line by line. You can read more about this here: <https://www.aopa.org/news-and-media/all-news/2010/december/20/faa-clarifies-commercial-pilot-instrument-requirements>.

### USE OF ELECTRONICS

I know, and so do you, that you'll likely be using GPS (Foreflight, and others) after the check ride! BUT, for the oral portion of the check ride, please plan your cross country on paper charts, and a paper flight log. For the actual flight, you are free to use Foreflight, or other similar apps, however, I'll ask you to disable the GPS functionality. In other words, you can use it as a substitution for a sectional. Instrument students, you may substitute your iPad or Android device for paper approach plates, but I will ask you to disable the GPS function.

### PART 141 CHECKRIDES

If you are testing under a 141 certificate, **I MUST know this** when you book your check ride as the FAA requires notification via the DMS system under which examiners operate. Scan-email the graduation certificate to me along with your check ride application form and knowledge test results.

***If you are seeking your Instrument Rating or Commercial Certificate and you currently hold a Private Pilot Certificate based on a Foreign License, I need to know that immediately!***

***ONE LAST THING...Always remember to SIGN EACH PAGE of your logbook. You are attesting that the information is accurate. Please do not miss this important detail!!***